

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMUNITIES AND PLACE COMMITTEE****UNDER-16 HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY AND POST-16  
TRANSPORT POLICY STATEMENT – 2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR****Purpose of the Report**

1. To approve the County Council's Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy and Post-16 Transport Policy Statement for the 2020/2021 academic year.

**Information**

2. Nottinghamshire County Council is required to publish its Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy and Post-16 Transport Policy Statement in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006, which built on provisions in the Education Act 1996. If amendments are proposed, these must be subject to consultation and the agreed new policies published by 31 May each year.

**Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy 2020/2021 academic year**

3. The Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy sets out the County Council's provision of school transport services and travel assistance for statutory school aged pupils (4-16 years) in relation to qualifying criteria and processes as follows:
  - eligibility for travel assistance
  - how parents/carers may apply
  - how decisions are made
  - the type of assistance that may be available
  - how parents/carers may appeal against decisions they are unhappy with.
4. It is not proposed to make any material amendments to the Home to School Transport Policy for the 2020/21 academic year which will affect a young person's entitlements to travel assistance. It is proposed however to make some clarification and administration changes to the Policy.
  - Section 2 of the Policy will be amended with the aim to inform parents and carers more clearly on the provisions made in the Policy for travel assistance, distinguishing those entitlements that are statutory and those which are provided by the Council on a discretionary basis.
  - Appendix B will be amended to reflect the changes that have occurred within education with regards to those young people who are being educated out of a school at an alternative education provision.
  - All dates will be amended to reflect the 2020/21 academic year.

## **Post-16 Transport Policy 2020/21 Academic Year**

5. The Post-16 Transport Policy consists of a travel scheme which aims to enable post-16 students to access education. The scheme is available to all Nottinghamshire County residents who meet the qualifying criteria. Where the County Council determines that a student has a special transport need, transport will be provided.
6. It is not proposed to make any amendments to the Post-16 Transport Policy Statement for the 2020/21 academic year, other than amending dates to reflect the change in academic year, updating contact details for FE colleges and transport providers and updating details on government schemes which were already included in the 2019/2020 statement.

### **Consultation process**

7. As there are no material changes being proposed to the policies for the 2020/21 academic year, public consultation has not been undertaken.

### **Other Options Considered**

8. None.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

9. It is a requirement that the local authority reviews the Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy and the Post-16 Transport Policy each year, although it is not a requirement to make any changes to the policies if it is not felt necessary to do so. The two policies have been reviewed and they meet the statutory requirements of the local authority to provide transport to pupils and students in Nottinghamshire.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Financial Implications**

11. There are no anticipated additional costs relating to the proposal.

### **Legal Implications**

12. There are no anticipated legal implications relating to the proposal not to make any changes to the Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy and the Post-16 Transport Policy.

## **Implications for Service Users**

13. It is anticipated that the effects, if any, of these recommendations on service users will not be significant in the 2020/21 academic year.

## **Public Sector Equality Duty Implications**

14. As there are no changes being proposed to the policies for the 2020/21 academic year, an Equality Impact Assessment has not been undertaken.

## **Human Rights Implications**

15. The provisions of the Equality Act 2010 and the European Convention on Human Rights are recognised throughout and in particular in sections relating to Special Educational Needs and Disability.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That Committee approves the Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy and the Post-16 Transport Policy Statement for the 2020/21 academic year.

**Councillor John Cottee**  
**Chairman of the Communities and Place Committee**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Janie Goodman, Transport Solutions Manager, Tel: 0115 9939394**

## **Constitutional Comments [EP 19/05/2020]**

16. Policy Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

## **Financial Comments [RWK 06/05/2020]**

17. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy 2020/21
- Post-16 Transport Policy Statement 2020/21

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.