

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMUNITIES AND PLACE COMMITTEE**UNDER-16 HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY AND POST-16
TRANSPORT POLICY STATEMENT – 2019/2020 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 2019/2020 academic year.

Information

2. Nottinghamshire County Council is required to publish its 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.
3. 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.
4. The Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy sets out the County Councils provision of school transport services and travel assistance for pupils aged 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
5. It is not proposed to make any amendments to the Post-16 Transport Policy Statement for the 2019/20 academic year, other than amending dates to reflect the change in academic year and updating contact details for FE colleges. The Statement has been formatted to reflect the new statutory guidance from DfE.
6. It is not proposed to make any amendments to the Home to School Transport Policy for the 2019/20 academic year.

Other Options Considered

7. No other options have been considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. 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

9. 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

10. There are no anticipated additional costs relating to the proposal not to make any changes to the Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy and the Post-16 Transport Policy.

Human Rights Implications

11. 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

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

12. An Equality Impact Assessment has previously been undertaken and there are no changes being proposed to the policies for the 2019/20 academic year.

Implications for Service Users

13. None

RECOMMENDATION

That Committee approves the Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy and the Post-16 Transport Policy Statement for the 2019/20 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 977 2448

Constitutional Comments (SLB 23/04/19)

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

Financial Comments (SES 23/04/19)

15. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

For context, the total SEND/Home to School Transport budget for 2019/20 is £11,949,728 this is split £6,784,685 for SEND and £5,165,043 for mainstream Home to School Transport.

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.

- Post 16 Transport Policy Statement
- Under-16 Home to School Transport Policy

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All