

CABINET

11 FEBRUARY 2014

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT – TRANSFER TO MEDWAY NORSE ADDENDUM REPORT

Portfolio: Councillor Mike O'Brien, Children's Services (Lead Member)
Holders: Councillor Phil Filmer, Front Line Services

Report from: Barbara Peacock, Director of Children and Adults Services
Robin Cooper, Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture

Author: Steve Hewlett, Head of Integrated Transport
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Summary:

This addendum report provides Cabinet with an update on discussions between the Council and Medway Norse regarding the proposed transfer of staff.

1. Background

- 1.1 Since publication of the Cabinet agenda on 3 February 2014, officers have initiated the first mobilisation meeting for the commencement of transport at Warren Wood School, Brompton Academy and Rivermead School with Medway Norse. At this meeting Medway Norse colleagues confirmed that it will no longer be necessary for Council Transport Procurement Unit (TPU) staff to second to Medway Norse, as issues concerning pension transfer which prevented immediate TUPE transfer have now been resolved.
- 1.2 TPU staff responsible for the management of SEN transport contracts will now be able to TUPE to Medway Norse on 1 April 2014 in line with the proposed transfer of SEN transport management to Norse.
- 1.3 It is necessary to set out a revised recommendation below to reflect the revised position regarding the transfer of staff to Medway Norse on 1 April 2014.

2. Revised recommendation

2.1 That Cabinet agrees to:

- Transfer SEN transport route management and notes the transfer of associated TPU staff to Medway Norse with effect from 1 April 2014.
- The novation or assignment to Medway Norse of existing contracts for SEN Transport
- The commencement of a procurement for Write Trak transport, Respite transport and a new Spot Purchase Transport Framework.

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