

Diversity impact assessment

TITLE: Proposals to amend the Education Travel Assistance Policy and Post-16 Transport Policy Statement

DATE: 4 July 2025

LEAD OFFICER: Adrian Hall – Head of Education Access

1. Summary description of the proposed change

The proposed changes will make it clearer and easier for parents and carers to access the information relevant to them and understand the criteria used to assess eligibility for travel assistance, with use of two separate policies for mainstream and SEND. It will reiterate the council's responsibility to carry out its statutory duties ensuring that eligible children are given travel assistance to the nearest suitable school, at the start and end of the normal school day. It will also ensure fairness for those who comply with the policy and make the agreed parent contributions for post-16 transport.

2. Summary of evidence used to support this assessment

As part of the formal consultation all responses received were taken into consideration and reported as part of the determination process. After considering the feedback we will be recommending taking forward all options proposed.

3. What is the likely impact of the proposed change?

Is it likely to:

Adversely impact on one or more of the protected characteristic groups

Advance equality of opportunity for one or more of the protected characteristic groups

Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't

(insert Yes when there is an impact or No when there isn't)

Protected characteristic groups (Equality Act 2010)	Adverse impact	Advance equality	Foster good relations
Age	NO	NO	NO
Disability	NO	NO	NO

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Gender reassignment	NO	NO	NO
Marriage/civil partnership	NO	NO	NO
Pregnancy/maternity	NO	NO	NO
Race	NO	NO	NO
Religion/belief	NO	NO	NO
Sex	NO	NO	NO
Sexual orientation	NO	NO	NO
Other (e.g. low-income groups)	NO	YES	YES

4. Summary of the likely impacts

The proposals will promote and support children and young people to attend their nearest suitable school, in most cases this will be beneficial due to shorter journey times. The proposal will also ensure fairness for parents who make parent contributions towards post-16 transport.

5. What actions can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impacts, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations?

No impacts are expected to be negative, but all responses to the subsequent consultation period were considered within the criteria set out above to assess any potential negative impacts.

6. Action plan

Actions to mitigate adverse impact, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations and/or obtain new evidence

Action	Lead	Deadline or review date
Monitor outcomes of the changes in ETAP and assess their benefits and take action as appropriate	Laura Phillips	July 2026
Monitor outcomes of the changes to Post 16 transport parental contributions and assess their benefits and take action as appropriate	Laura Phillips	May 2027

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7. Recommendation

Continue with the implementation of the five recommended options.

8. Authorisation

The authorising officer is consenting that the recommendation can be implemented, sufficient evidence has been obtained and appropriate mitigation is planned, the Action Plan will be incorporated into the relevant Service Plan and monitored

Assistant Director: Celia Buxton

Date of authorisation: