

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2018
<b>Title:</b>	Proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy and Post 16 Transport Policy Statement
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

**Contact name:** Martin Goff (Head of Information, Transport and Admissions)

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#### 1. The decision:

- a) That the updated Home to School Transport Policy, effective from September 2018, is approved. It incorporates the following changes:

Change 1: To stop providing (for new applicants) Home to School Transport to children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) attending nursery placements from September 2018.

Change 2: To only provide Home to School Transport once a child reaches compulsory school age (from September 2019).

Change 3: To implement the walking distance of three miles on a child's 8th birthday. This change to be effective from September 2019.

Change 4: To introduce tiered charges for any exceptions to policy approved from September 2018.

- b) That the updated 2018/19 Post 16-Transport Policy Statement is approved. It incorporates the following changes:

Change 1: To apply a process whereby all families seeking transport support for a child in Post 16 education or training must apply for transport. Transport support would only be provided if it is required to facilitate attendance, with applications considered and based on individual circumstances to determine eligibility.

Change 2: Introduce tiered charges for any Post-16 Transport provided as exceptions to policy to young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities aged 16 years and above with effect from September 2018.

- c) That transport from Ancells Farm to Fleet Infant and Velmead Junior School, becomes subject to the usual statutory distances and therefore from

September 2019 eight year olds will not have transport provided to Velmead Junior School.

d) That the Director of Children's Services:

- Examine with schools through their travel plans the greater provision of school based minibuses
- Examine the opportunities for additional park and stride schemes
- Examine with Fleet Infant and Velmead Junior Schools and with local Councils the possibility of supporting a community transport service which could be used by families living on the Ancells Farm estate.

e) That authority is delegated to the Director of Children's Services in consultation with the Head of Legal Services to make minor amendments, as outlined at the decision day, to the Home to School Transport Policy and to the Post 16-Transport Policy Statement, prior to their publication, for the purposes of accuracy and legal compliance.

## **2. Reason(s) for the decision:**

- 2.1. Previous consultation has shown that for savings in Children's Services, the majority of residents and stakeholders opposed reducing spend on services for children, older people and vulnerable people because these were rated as being the most important services to protect. These proposed savings from a discretionary service would allow other critical services to be maintained.
- 2.2. Other initiatives to save within the Home to School Transport budget are ongoing but cannot make the required scales of savings.

## **3. Other options considered and rejected:**

- 3.1. Continuing to provide the existing Home to School Transport discretionary services and seeking to find savings from elsewhere from other critical Children's Services.

## **4. Conflicts of interest:**

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

**5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.**

**6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**

**7. Statement from the Decision Maker:**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**9 May 2018**

**Executive Lead Member for Children's Services  
Councillor Keith Mans**