HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Officer Decision Record

(Executive Decision)

Decision Maker	Director of Children's Services
Title	Proposed Changes to Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2020
Date	27 May 2020

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1. The decision

- 1.1 That the Director of Children's Services approves the 2020 Post 16 Transport Policy Statement (Appendix D in the report) which incorporates the following changes:
- More detail and improved clarity for how the Council will consider applications and the type of travel support available for young persons under 18 years of age, those aged 18, and those 19 year of age and older (and considered under adult duty).
- The Council will only provide transport assistance where the child is aged under 18 and parents and carers evidence that there is no other means by which their child could get to their place of education.
- 1.2 That the Director of Children's Services notes that within the policy cases will be considered individually but the Council will not consider that the following circumstances are likely to be exceptional on their own:
- Parents and carers work hours or childcare arrangements not fitting in with public service transport times or college times; or
- Parent and carers needing to get other children to and from school; or
- Having to use the family vehicle (including mobility vehicle provided for the student) for other purposes.

2. Reason(s) for the decision

- 2.1. The proposed 2020 Policy Statement sought to clarify the circumstances which would normally not be considered as exceptional, and therefore would not warrant transport being provided.
- 2.2. A consultation on the proposed statement ran from January 2020 until April 2020. Based on the responses to the consultation it has been understood that the circumstances presented may, in some cases, be justified in warranting assistance with transport and that these should be considered on a case by case basis. This is reflected in the proposed Post 16 Transport Policy Statement.
- 2.3. The proposed Post 16 Transport Policy Statement for September 2020 also reflects the feedback from respondents for the policy to be clear and easy to understand. Phrasing and wording have been improved from previous policy statements to provide that clarity.
- 2.4. The Post 16 Transport Policy Statement recommended for approval ensures that Hampshire County Council would continue to meet its statutory requirements.

3. Background to the decision

3.1. The decision is required to establish the County Council's 2020 Post 16 Transport Policy Statement in line with statutory requirement to publish the Statement by 31 May each year.

4. Other options considered and rejected

4.1. None

5. Conflicts of interest:

To record conflicts of interest declared by any Member who is consulted in the process of taking this decision:

5.1. None

6. Dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service

6.1. None

7. Supporting information

7.1. None

Approved by:

1.

Steve Crocker Director of Children's Services

Date: 27 May 2020

Officer Decision Supported by:

Cllr Patricia Stallard

Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People

Date: 27 May 2020