

TO: EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE & LEARNING
DATE: 26 APRIL 2016

MAINSTREAM SCHOOL EDUCATION TRANSPORT POLICY
Director Children, Young People & Learning

1 PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1 To agree the Mainstream School Education Transport Policy 2017/18.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **To approve the mainstream school education transport policy 2017/18 attached as Appendix A.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To ensure compliance with statutory requirements to publish the mainstream education transport policy.
- 3.2 There are no changes to the policy from previous years apart from statutory amendments to ensure clarity.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 No alternative option was considered.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 5.1 The Council's Education Transport Policy is a statutory document which has been split into three sections for ease of use for parents..
- 5.2 The Mainstream Education Transport Policy sets out the arrangements for providing assistance with education transport for mainstream children and young people who are resident in the Borough. The main body of the policy has no significant changes apart from ensuring clarity on certain points. As there are no substantive changes there has been no need to consult on the policy. The revised policy is attached as Appendix A for approval.
- 5.3 The other two sections of the policy, the SEN Education Transport and the Post 16 Transport Policy, are managed by the SEN team and are presented separately for approval, when required.

Financial implications

- 5.4 The Children, Young People & Learning department is responsible for the cost impact from policy or legislative changes. Corporate Services are responsible for costs due to demographic changes. Any pressures would need to be considered as part of the Council's normal budget setting process.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The policy follows s509 and schedule 35B of the Education Act 1996 and confines compulsory school transport to 'eligible children' as defined under the Act.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The Borough Treasurer is satisfied that no significant financial implications arise from this report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 An EIA was completed in December 2013 on the previous occasion when there was consultation on the policies.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 Significant risks include:

ISSUE	RISK	COMMENT
1. Risk of parents/carers lodging transport appeals	LOW	Publishing transport policies which set out our approach and processes in detail protects the Council from appeals.
2. Risk of incurring home to school transport costs	LOW	The transport policies clearly set out the circumstances under which transport would be payable which are in line with the government's guidelines.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Policies were not consulted on this year as they remain unchanged from last year.

Background Papers

Home to School Travel and Transport Guidance

Contacts for further information

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