

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,

Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

17/00027

For publication

Subject: Proposed Post-16 Transport Policy Statement

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I agree to the proposed Kent Post-16 Transport Policy Statement

Reason(s) for decision:

- 1.1 KCC has a duty to consider applications for transport and is required to enable access to education. In most circumstances it meets this duty through the 16+ Travel Card. This is a generous discretionary scheme which aids access to both education and employment with training. The card will continue to be made available at the agreed cost of £400 a year with no limit on the use. Learning providers, at their discretion, can subsidise this further using bursary funding and we would expect charges to be reduced by up to 50% for low income families.
- 1.2 KCC has a duty to consult on and publish its Post 16 Transport Policy Statement each year. Whilst there is no statutory duty to provide transport for Post 16 Learners, there is a duty to consider applications for assistance with transport and to enable access to education and training to age18. The transport policy sets out how KCC will meet this duty and what learners can expect by way of support.
- 1.3 The scheme is uncapped and costs will vary marginally depending on take up levels and journeys undertaken by cardholders. We would expect the level of subsidy required for the 16+ Travel Card to be in the region of £440k; with a further £1.5m budgeted to enable 16+ SEN learners to access college.
- 1.4 Schools, colleges and learning providers have been consulted, as have their students. Neighbouring local authorities and Public Transport have also been included in the consultation, as have parents. The consultation on the proposed policy ran until the 23 March 2017.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

RESOLVED - That the proposed decision of the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform to publish by 31 May 2017 be endorsed.

The proposed Post 16 Transport Policy which is currently out to consultation and remains unchanged from 2016/17 be noted.

Any alternatives considered:

All alternatives will be considered following the consultation period.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None

Signed..........

Date.....*26 April 2017*.....