

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,

Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

14/00051

For publication

Subject: Proposed Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2014

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I agree to: the proposed Kent Post 16 Transport Policy Statement (appendix 1)

Reason(s) for decision:

- 1.1 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. The transport policy sets out how KCC will meet this duty and what learners in special circumstances can expect by way of support. This report sets out the proposed Post 16 Transport Policy Statement to enable the LA to meet its statutory duty in relation to transport for Post 16 learners.
 - 1.2 The attached policy makes it clear that in the first instance there is an expectation that learners will make use of the discretionary Kent 16+ Travel Card, seeking bursary funding support where necessary to access this as a preferred means of accessing their education or training provider but also sets out the duties on the LA to consider requests for transport from students in special circumstances. It remains broadly similar to the existing policy.
 - 1.3 The policy has been extended to enable the LA to assist (where appropriate) young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEETs) to access time limited support with transport to enable NEETs to attend interviews with prospective employers and learning providers. Transport has been identified as a barrier to this group who cannot currently access a 16+ Travel Card.
- 2. Financial Implications**
- 2.1 At this time we do not know what the final costs will be as the discretionary scheme is uncapped and reimbursement of operators is based on travel patterns of users. The reduction in cost to the discretionary scheme will have an impact on the costs of the statutory policy on transport for young people in special circumstances.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

22 April 2014

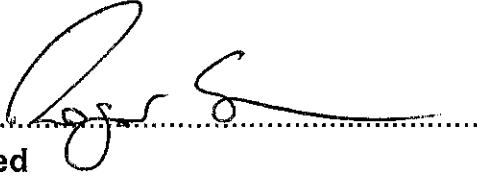
The Education and Young Peoples Services Cabinet Committee considered the proposed decision and discussed the concerns raised. The majority of the Committee voted in favour of the proposal and resolved to recommend to the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform he agree to decision to approve the Post 16 Transport Policy Statement to be published by June.

Any alternatives considered:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2013-18 explored all options and the expansion of this school was deemed the suitable option.

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

None

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. S.', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Signed

A handwritten date '27 May 2014' in black ink, written over a horizontal dotted line.

Date