

## Appendix C

### Post-16 Transport Policy Statement 2022-23

#### Consultation free text comments

This appendix contains all free text comments made by consultation respondents. The comments are copied directly; spelling and/or factual errors have not been corrected.

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#### **Do you have any comments about the changes included in the Post-16 Transport Policy Statement**

Our students struggle to pay the SEND transport cost anyway. To increase the cost for SEND students just makes it harder for them to attend school beyond statutory school age.

Not sure how this can be afforded unless there is maybe a payment plan. A lot of money to find when most families looking after children with sen do not work due to care commitments or only part time. Wages if working at an all time low and cost of living rocketing along with trying to find money for food to feed children. Families are having to. Rely on hand outs and food banks and now with higher costs to be able to get there children to obtain an education. Not sure what the answer is

Do not up fees

I disagree with the proposed increase to the annual fee for Post-16 SEND Council organised transport from September 2022. Many of these student need all the assistance they can get to continue to receive post 16 education. I think this increase should be removed and opportunities sought to reduce this fee.

SEN transport should not be capped those young adults cannot travel independantly to and from school

Parents should not have to fund transportation to education for children who have SEND's. Their needs reduce accessible educational options massively compared to other children. It is shameful

It is so important for each pupil to be treated on an individual basis when it comes to their transportation needs. Pupils wanting to return to sixth form should be able to receive transport as they previously had in prior years. It puts an awful amount of pressure on parents thinking about how they can juggle their own lives around having to get their son/daughter into school post -16. I live an hour away from my sons school, he is making the wise decision to return to sixth form because he loves his school, and it has miraculously transformed him into a young man striding into his future with goals and dreams. However, if he can not get transport it may not be archivable for him to attend his current school for years 12 and 13. I strongly believe if the law states an individual must stay in education up until the age of 18, the cost of transport should be covered in full for which ever placement best suits the individual.

Suggested alterations in capitals:

section 5.1 - Criteria for travel assistance

The student is unable to travel INDEPENDENTLY on public transport due to their Special Educational Needs, disability or mobility difficulty;

The student lives more than 3 miles walking distance from the school or educational setting as measured by the Council, or they are unable to walk the distance INDEPENDENTLY because of their Special Educational Needs, disability or mobility difficulty

It's unfair, I don't have a choice to send my child somewhere local to school, he has to have transport to get there. I'm a single parent and work full time so I don't have time to take him either. It's not my choice that there isn't a nearer school this should be taken into account!

**Do you have any other feedback that you would like to share with us about the Council's Post-16 Transport Policy Statement?**

Post 16 SEND students should not have to pay for transport, especially as in most cases they are unable to attend a local school.

Don't add extra fees

public transport bus routes need to be reviewed  
the 577 passes Alfriston School but at the wrong time of the day

Please note that it is discriminatory to charge transport for families who live within walking distance of their child's school but where the child is unable to walk independently because of their disability. I have three children who all go to school in Beaconsfield. Two of my children (age 16) are not disabled and walk to school on their own. My other child (aged 18) is disabled and unable to walk independently. I have the choice of walking her to school myself (as if she were a primary school aged child, rather than an adult) or paying £900 per year for council transport. This is clearly discriminatory since the ONLY reason I have to take and collect her myself (thus reducing significantly my employment opportunities) or pay £900 per year is because she is disabled. If she were not disabled she would be able to walk to school on her own. I would like you to review this policy on the grounds of discrimination.