

COMMITTEE REPORT APPENDIX



Meeting/Date	Children, Families and Schools Sub-Committee 20 Oct 2003
Report of	Director of Children, Families and Schools
Subject	Post-16 Further Education (FE) Student Support
Wards affected	All

Financial implications

The two recommended changes render the City Council's policy less generous than before and may therefore result in a small saving. They are also mainly interim measures pending the national extension of the Education Maintenance Allowance scheme to new students in September 2004. The Special Needs Transport budget, on which there is a potential small reduction, was £44K in 2003 / 04.

Finance Officer consulted: Louise Hoten Date 08 October 2003

Legal implications

Amendments to existing legislation, introduced in the Education Act 2002, require the LEA to publish, not later than 31st May each year, a Transport policy statement for the next academic year for persons of 6th form age. The policy statement must cover (a) the provision of transport and (b) the provision of financial assistance. However, it is permissible for the LEA to make arrangements not specified in the policy statement if satisfied that the new arrangements are necessary for purposes (a) and / or (b). There is discretion as to the levels of assistance the LEA may give.

Lawyer consulted: John Heys Date 08 October 2003

<p>Corporate/Citywide implications The Policy is consistent with the Councils' Transport Policy</p>	<p>Risk assessment There is no legal or financial risk to the Council in the policy amendments set out</p>
<p>Sustainability implications The Local Transport Partnership has the overt task of improving transport links for FE students aged 16 to 18. The policy it has adopted encourages the use of public transport.</p>	<p>Equalities implications Student support plays a vital role in widening participation in education post-16. Provision designed to improve recruitment, retention and achievement in the FE sector also has a knock-on effect for the HE (higher education) sector to which FE students may wish to progress.</p>
<p>Implications for the prevention of crime and disorder Educational opportunities are an important means of harnessing young people's energies and abilities and deterring them from criminal activity. In order to be truly effective, these opportunities need to be accompanied by a sound strategy to provide support for those students with greater financial needs and/or from lower income families.</p>	

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**Background papers**

No unpublished background papers have been relied upon to a material extent in writing this report.

Contact Officer

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