

## COMMITTEE REPORT APPENDIX



<b>Meeting/Date</b>	14 June 2004
<b>Report of</b>	Director of Children, Families and Schools
<b>Subject</b>	Post-16 Further Education Student Support
<b>Wards affected</b>	All

### **Financial implications**

The cost of Education Maintenance Allowances (EMA) does not impact on the Council's budget as they are funded and administered directly by LEA'S as Capita is the assessment and payment body.

The demand upon the Schools Access Fund will reduce as this was previously used to fund maintenance grants for sixth form students, which will now be replaced by EMA. As this is specific funding, discussions are ongoing with the Learning Skills Council as to how the authority can best utilise the grant in future.

The other amendments on the policy of supporting 16-18 year olds, which include travel costs that exceed £10 per week and increasing threshold limits will be funded from within the current budget of £43,600.

*Finance Officer consulted: Paul Brinkhurst Date 27 May 2004.*

### **Legal implications**

The report explains how the Council currently exercises its powers to give assistance to further education students and proposes amendments to the Council's scheme in the light of (1) the national extension of the Education Maintenance Allowance in September and (2) the detail of the current local arrangements

*Lawyer consulted: John Heys*

*Date: 25 May 2004*

### **Corporate/Citywide implications**

The extension of EMAs supports the corporate objective of engaging more young people in education and training.

### **Risk assessment**

EMAs are funding by DfES and administered by CAPITA. Proof of regular attendance is required. Some students currently in receipt of support from the City Council may fail to meet the standards required to continue to draw the EMA. It is the responsibility of schools and colleges to secure attendance.

### **Sustainability implications**

The EMA is funded by central government directly and is not subject to the vagaries of local grant formula, of

### **Equalities implications**

EMAs extend further the support given to students from low income families and increase equality of opportunity.

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this stage.	
<b>Implications for the prevention of crime and disorder</b> EMAs in pilot areas nationally have demonstrably increased post-16 participation in education and training. Education, training and subsequent employment have a positive benefit in reducing crime and disorder.	
<b>Background papers</b> None	
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