

Home to School Transport Consultation

8th January 2018 – 2nd April 2018

North Yorkshire County Council provides travel assistance from home to school or college, for children eligible for help and we are required to do this by law. We also provide extra travel assistance for some children; this is in addition to the help which we must give and is discretionary. We are currently consulting on changes to these discretionary areas of our services and we are consulting on how we should provide travel assistance in future.

Since March 2015, there has been a 22 per cent increase in the numbers of children and young people being transported and there has been a steep increase in the number of post 18 students requiring transport assistance (66 per cent increase) and a 36 per cent increase in primary aged children.

Based on current trends, the cost for transport will reach an annual cost of £30m by 2025, which is significantly more than our current budget of £5m. In 2017/18, we will spend £8m, which will overspend the budget by £3m.

Unfortunately we are unable to sustain this level of budget pressure and therefore elected members have given approval to consult on 3 proposals –

Proposal 1

The removal of the free transport statement, for special educational needs and disability (SEND) students aged post 16 to 18, with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) from September 2018, to bring it in line with mainstream transport arrangements.

Proposal 2

Recognise SEND post-19 students as adults in education, and identify unmet transport needs in line with the council's adult social care assessment. (This proposal does not affect mainstream students.)

Proposal 3

Increase Parental Transport Allowance to 45 pence per mile for all school aged children, when no other transport option is available.

Promote an Enhanced Parental Transport Allowance to parents whose children or young people have additional transport needs due to their SEND and would be travelling alone if the local authority had to commission their transport.

As mentioned, we are currently consulting on the proposals in relation to the Home to School transport provision that we currently provide. This consultation will run until 2nd April 2018 and we would encourage both school and parents to engage with the process to express their views with regards to this matter.

I have attached the link to the webpage which host the consultation, we are also holding a number of public events shown in the table below.

We also have paper version and easy read available on request via our contact centre on 01609 780780
Webpage: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/home-school-transport-including-children-and-young-people-send>

Public Events Date	Time	Location
29th January 2018	9:30 – 12:30	Allerton Court Hotel, Darlington Road, Northallerton, DL6 2XF
30th January 2018	5pm -7pm	The Forum, Bullamoor Road, Northallerton, DL6 1LP
31 st January 2018	2-4 & 5-7	Lakeside, National Agri-Food Innovation Campus, Sandhutton York YO41 1LZ
2 nd February 2018	2-4 & 5-7	Sneaton Castle Centre, Whitby YO21 3QN
6th February 2018	2-4 & 6-7:30	The Esplanade Hotel, Belmont Road, Scarborough YO11 2AA
21st February 2018	2-4 & 5-7	Cedar Court, Park Parade, Harrogate, HG1 5AH
13th March 2018	2-4 & 5-7	Herriott's Hotel, Skipton BD23 1RT
23 rd March 2018	2-4 & 5-7	Council Chambers, Selby District Council, Civic Centre, Doncaster Road, Selby, YO8 9BX