

Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive
Forward Plan
Reference**

E 3529

SEND Home to School Travel Policy Review

Decision maker	Cllr Paul May, Cabinet Member for Children's Services
The Issue	The implementation of a new SEND Home to School Travel Policy
Decision Date	10 th June 2024
The decision	The Cabinet Member agrees the implementation of the new SEND Home to School Travel policy.
Rationale for decision	<p>The B&NES Home to School Transport Policy required updating due to new statutory guidance issued in January 2024. The policy had become outdated, causing confusion for parents and operational difficulties within the team.</p> <p>The Policy has been updated to meet this new guidance, and to allow for consistent decision making under the policy. This will allow the Council to better manage our resources.</p>
Financial and budget implications	DfE Travel to school for children of compulsory school age – Statutory guidance for local authorities Jan 2024 states that Local Authorities should make the most efficient use of council resource when allocating suitable travel provision
Issues considered	Social Inclusion; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation) ; Corporate; Other Legal Considerations
Consultation undertaken	Cabinet colleagues; Overview & Scrutiny Panel; Staff; Service Users; Local Residents; Community Interest Groups; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
How consultation was carried out	<p>We have consulted with Cllr. Paul May, the Section 151 officer and the Monitoring Officer.</p> <p>All parent/carers of children with SEND school travel support were written to. An email was sent to all schools and settings with SEN placements, all Rainbow Resource card holders, Bath Parent Carer Forum members and taxi companies. There were posts on social media (Live Well B&NES, Corporate & Bathnes Parent Carer Forum) and a press release. There were 6 in-person drop-in events across the Authority area. The policy was also discussed at the CAHW PDS Panel in May.</p>
Other options considered	None

Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision:	None
Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:	None

Name and Signature of Decision Maker/s	Cllr. Paul May Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Date of Signature	10 th June 2024
Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision	