

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
CABINET MEMBER**

**POST 16 STUDENT TRANSPORT POLICY – MAINSTREAM EDUCATION**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet Member's approval regarding the council's post 16 Mainstream student transport policy.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 There are 2 policies in place currently, one for students with special and additional needs who require extra support to get to their courses and one for mainstream Post 16 students, the policies are reviewed and published every year. This paper covers the Mainstream attended students
- 2.2 During the academic year 2022/23 we are providing transport support for 784 students who live more than 3 miles from their institution to travel between home and college or 6<sup>th</sup> Form during term time.
- 2.3 The council has a statutory duty to facilitate the attendance of people of 6<sup>th</sup> form age to education or training, but not to fund it, parents can be expected to make a contribution or cover the full cost. Comparisons regionally confirm our policy is generous and we would wish to continue to financially support Post 16 Transport in line with our broader Council goals of maintaining Connectivity.
- 2.4 The provision seeks to give choice and control to students and families, enabling flexible transport
- 2.5 North Lincolnshire Council have produced a Grant Offer Letter for the Council and both the Colleges to sign setting out the terms and conditions for the grant.

### 3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

#### Policy Proposal:

- 3.1 To award a travel grant of £315 per student for those who are eligible; live more than 3 miles from their institution to travel between home and their college or sixth form during term time.
- 3.2 The £315 grant will be paid termly at a rate of £105 per term by North Lincolnshire Council to the Colleges. The grant must be used for public transport where there is a public transport service operating. If there is no public transport service operating, then it can be used flexibly for other transport options ie The Wheels to Education Scheme or own transport solutions. The colleges will also contribute £35 per student per term and the parent £30 per student per term towards their travel.
- 3.3 A 'Grant Offer Letter' to be signed by North Lincolnshire Council and the Colleges to agree the terms and conditions of the grant, which will include regular monitoring meetings between all parties.

### 4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

#### 4.1 Option 1: Approval of Policy

- 4.1.1 North Lincolnshire students will continue to receive transport support as a result from contributions from North Lincolnshire Council, respected colleges and parents.
- 4.1.2 This policy supports the council's commitment to subsidise post 16 transport with a grant.
- 4.1.3 A Grant Offer Letter to be signed by all parties.

### 5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc)

- 5.1 **Finance** – Costings can be met from existing budgets. Agreement has been reached with John Leggott College and North Lindsey College.
- 5.2 **Staffing** – Nil

### 6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

- 6.1 None

## **7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

- 7.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has been undertaken for this policy. The two key features to note from the assessment provided below:
- 7.2 **Environmental** - The scheme encourages students to travel by bus rather than in their own cars. It also seeks to support the public transport network.
- 7.3 **Statutory** - The council has a duty to help post 16 students access further education, but not to provide free transport.

## **8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

- 8.1 Informal meetings have taken place with John Leggott College and North Lindsey College who are supportive of the scheme.
- 8.2 There have been no conflicts of interest either identified or declared.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 That Cabinet Member resolves to award a £315 travel grant to all eligible students as per the above mainstream policy.
- 9.2 That a Grant Offer Letter is signed by all parties.

DIRECTOR: ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

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## Post-16 student transport policy

If you are applying to a college or school sixth form to continue your education post 16 you may be eligible for help with your transport.

This provision seeks to give choice and control to students and families, enabling flexible transport options during this time of uncertainty with social distancing requirements and as yet unclear college attendance times.

## Courses covered

The course of study must be a further education course at a publicly funded institution. Students attending work based learning programmes must apply to their employer for transport support.

## School/College attended

It is possible for nearly all students who live in North Lincolnshire to pursue their intended career path by attending a course at a college or school sixth form in North Lincolnshire.

The council's policy is therefore not to provide transport support for attending a course outside North Lincolnshire apart from in the following exceptional circumstance:

- If the course is unavailable in North Lincolnshire and is essential to the student's career progression. If there is a course in North Lincolnshire (which may not be exactly the same as the student's preferred course elsewhere) that provides the student with the same opportunity to follow a higher education course or entry criteria for their chosen career, transport support will not be provided to the course elsewhere.

The distance from home to the out-of-area college should be no more than 25 miles (except for students with learning difficulties and disabilities whose placement has been agreed by the council, and it is the nearest suitable course).

If the college you are proposing to attend provides its own transport that it is reasonable for students living in North Lincolnshire to use, you will not be eligible to receive any support from North Lincolnshire Council.

## Personal Eligibility

- a) Residence

You must be living in North Lincolnshire when you are enrolled on the course. Anyone who moves to North Lincolnshire for the purpose of receiving full-time education may not be eligible for support from North Lincolnshire Council.

b) Three Year Limit

Unless you have special educational needs or disabilities and are eligible for support under the post 16 SEND student transport policy, we will only give support for a maximum of three years.

c) Age

You must be under 19 on 31<sup>st</sup> August before the start of your course.

d) Distance

You must live more than three miles walking distance from the school sixth form or college.

### Transport support awarded

You will receive a travel grant of £315 for an academic year, paid termly at a rate of £105 per term by North Lincolnshire Council to the college or sixth form where you study. The grant must be used for public transport where there is a public transport service operating. If there is no public transport service operating then it can be used flexibly for other transport options ie The Wheels to Education Scheme or own transport solutions. The colleges will also contribute £35 per student per term and the parent £30 per student per term towards their travel.

If you are staying on at your school into the sixth form, please contact your school for further information.

If a grant is approved for study outside North Lincolnshire it will be paid directly to you by the council.

### How to apply

To apply for the grant you should contact the college or sixth form you will be studying at.

To apply for support to travel outside North Lincolnshire, please contact the School Transport Office by calling 01724 297218 or emailing [school.transport@northlincs.gov.uk](mailto:school.transport@northlincs.gov.uk)

### Raising a concern

Any person wishing to make a formal complaint, or appeal a decision on transport should contact the School Transport Office by calling 01724 297218 or emailing [school.transport@northlincs.gov.uk](mailto:school.transport@northlincs.gov.uk)

