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Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation

Introductory Information

Reference number

1197

Budget/project proposal name

Post 16 Home to school transport

Entered on Q Tier

Yes No

Budget/project proposal status

Project

Years

12/13 13/14 14/15 15/16 16/17 17/18 18/19 19/20 20/21 21/22

EIA date

16/01/2017

EIA lead

Bashir.Khan@sheffield.gov.uk

EIA contact

Lead corporate plan priority

Better Health and Wellbeing

Portfolio, Service and Team

Cross portfolio

Yes No

Communities

Yes No

CYPF

Yes No

Place

Yes No

Resources

Yes No

PPC

Yes No

Health (including Director of Public Health)

Yes No

Brief aim(s) of the proposal and the outcome(s) you want to achieve

To cease the non statutory elements of Home to School Transport for post 16 students and to charge a contribution of £540 for families to access post 16 SEND transport.

This means that we will cease to provide a zero fare bus pass once students reach post 16 education and instead ensure that they use the 16-19 bursary to help with the cost of transport.

Specialist Provision

Proposal impacts on or relates to specialist provision

Yes No

Impact on specialist provision

The proposal relates to ceasing the non statutory elements of Home to School Transport for post 16 students by charging a contribution.

There is no change proposed to the statutory elements of Home to School Transport for post 16 students.

Poverty (Financial Inclusion)

Proposal has an impact on poverty or financial inclusion

Yes No

Customer impact

Negative

Level

Medium/High

Summary of impact

There is a tapering negative impact on poverty and social inclusion for working low income families and/or carers who have an income above the discretionary bursary threshold income of £16,190 but with incomes beneath £21,000 as they will have to contribute financially to their child's transport.

Supporting evidence

Information is not obtainable regarding working tax credit levels so we are not able to model or demonstrate families exact income.

Action plan bring drawn up

Yes No

Action and mitigation summary

The consultation asked families directly to describe how this proposal will impact them, the consultation also asked families to identify how they would best meet the payment, in terms of frequency.

88% families supported the contribution towards the total cost of SEND transport being deducted at source for those who received the discretionary bursary and then any remainder funds from the bursary to be given to families.

To ensure that this change in policy does not prevent SEND students from accessing post 16 education, it is proposed that a hardship fund is set up to support our most vulnerable students and families. This fund will take individual family circumstances, such as whether a family has more than one child in Post 16 education at any given time. It will also ensure that students from low wage working families living in poverty will be supported by the Council to help ensure that all its children are able to reach their full potential.

Where students have to travel outside of South Yorkshire due to no specialist educational provision meeting their needs being available within the city region, the charge will be the same as for those travelling within South Yorkshire.

Families with students who are currently in their post 16 education, who are eligible to access the bursary fund who would historically have also received a discretionary bus pass will be asked to contact the Local Authority if they are eligible but not in receipt of the bursary, of if the bursary fund does not cover the cost of their bus fare.

Free travel training will continue to be provided to support young people coming off of transport

After mitigation, there a residual medium/high impact

Yes No

Health

Proposal has significant impact on health and well-being (including effects on the wider determinants of health)

Yes No

Public Health Leads has signed off the health impact(s) of this EIA

Yes No

Health lead

Bethan Plant

Age

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Impact

Neutral

Level

None/Low

Details on impact

The proposal relates to provision that is age specific.

There is no impact on the child/young person who are accessing SEND transport, however there is a financial impact on the parents/carers of children and young people within Post 16 education. The impact would be a tapering negative impact for working low income families and/or carers who have an income above the discretionary bursary threshold income of £16,190 but with incomes beneath £21,000 as they will have pay for provision.

Regarding the proposal to cease to provide a discretionary buss pass, Sheffield City Council are aware that students are currently getting and/or are eligible for a discretionary bursary intended to support the cost of travel.

Supporting evidence

Action plan

Yes No

Action and mitigation

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Where students have to travel outside of South Yorkshire due to no specialist educational provision meeting their needs being available within the city region, the charge will be the same as for those travelling within South Yorkshire.

Families with students who are currently in their post 16 education, who are eligible to access the bursary fund who would historically have also received a discretionary bus pass will be asked to contact the Local Authority if they are eligible but not in receipt of the bursary. If the bursary fund does not cover the cost of their bus fare, they should contact the Council to see if they can access the hardship fund.

Free Independent travel training is available so that in the longer term the child/young person is able to increase their independence and ability to self travel in order to maximise their lifelong learning, skills and opportunities.

Disability

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Impact

Neutral

Level

Medium/High

Details on impact

We are not proposing to change our post 16 transport provision, therefore, the child/young person will not be impacted on by the changes.

There is no statutory duty for the local authority to provide transport, and instead a duty to facilitate attendance at school,

Sheffield City Council are not proposing to cease SEND transport for eligible young people, however, we want to to charge a contribution for the service, this will be met by the parent carer, with a financial impact which would be a tapering negative impact for working low income families and/or carers who have an income above the discretionary bursary threshold income of £16,190 but with incomes beneath £21,000 as they will have pay for provision.

Free Independent travel training is available so that in the longer term the child/young person is able to increase their independence and ability to self travel in order to maximise their lifelong learning, skills and opportunities.

Supporting evidence

If a child or young person receives travel training this will increase their independence which has a postive impact.

Action plan

Yes No

Action and mitigation

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Where students have to travel outside of South Yorkshire due to no specialist educational provision meeting their needs being available within the city region, the charge will be the same as for those travelling within South Yorkshire.

Pregnancy/maternity

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Race

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Impact

Neutral

Level

None/Low

Details on impact

Some BME groups have a higher representation within the SEND special school cohort.

We want to charge a contribution for the service, this will be met by the parent carer. This would be a tapering negative impact for working low income families and/or carers who have an income above the discretionary bursary threshold income of £16,190 but with incomes beneath £21,000 as they will have pay for provision.

Supporting evidence

Action plan

Yes No

Action and mitigation

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Where students have to travel outside of South Yorkshire due to no specialist educational provision meeting their needs being available within the city region, the charge will be the same as for those travelling within South Yorkshire.

Families with students who are currently in their post 16 education, who are eligible to access the bursary fund who would historically have also received a discretionary bus pass will be asked to contact the Local Authority if they are eligible but not in receipt of the bursary. If the bursary fund does not cover the cost of their bus fare, they should contact the Council to see if they can access the hardship fund.

Religion/belief

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Sex

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Sexual Orientation

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Transgender

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Carers**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Impact

Negative

Level

Medium/High

Details on impact

There will be a financial impact on carers, as the provision that is available is not changing, however this will now come at a cost.

This would be a tapering negative impact for working low income families and/or carers who have an income above the discretionary bursary threshold income of £16,190 but with incomes beneath £21,000 as they will have pay for provision.

Supporting evidence

See attached information on costs/income

Action plan

Yes No

Action and mitigation

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Voluntary/Community & Faith Sectors**Staffing**

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Cohesion**Customers**

Yes No

Partners

Customers

Yes No

Armed Forces

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Other/Additional

Staffing

Yes No

Customers

Yes No

Supporting Documentation

Copy of Household Incomes 2015 - Summary only.xlsx

Summary of Impact

Overall summary of possible impact

It is proposed to cease the non statutory elements of Home to School Transport for post 16 students. This means ceasing the provision of a zero fare bus pass once students reach post 16 education and instead to ensure that they use the 16-19 bursary to help with the cost of transport.

There are neutral impacts on age, disability and race. We are not proposing to change or cease transport, so there will be no impact on the child/young person, however, there will be charging a contribution for the service.

There will be a tapering negative impact on poverty and social inclusion for working low income families and/or carers who have an income above the discretionary bursary threshold income of £16,190 but with incomes beneath £21,000 as they will have pay for provision.

To ensure that this change in policy does not prevent SEND students from accessing post 16 education. It is proposed that a hardship fund is set up to support our most vulnerable students and families.

Where students have to travel outside of South Yorkshire due to no specialist educational provision meeting their needs being available within the city region, the charge will be the same as for those travelling within South Yorkshire.

Proposal has geographical impact across Sheffield

Yes No

Which local partnership area will be impacted

All Partnership Areas

Proposal has a cumulative impact

Yes No

Summary of evidence

Review**Review date**

30/04/2017

Risk rating

None

Decision Type**Type of decision**

Individual Cabinet Member

Lead cabinet member

Drayton Jackie (LAB-CLLR)

Staff**Staff who may be affected by these proposals are aware** Yes No**Consultation****Consultation required** Yes No**Manager and Approval****Lead officer**

Sleath Dominic

EIA approved Yes No**EIA escalated due to significant poverty impact and sign-off agreed** Yes No

Form complete

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