



Post 16 Transport Policy for Central Bedfordshire

Central Bedfordshire

The Council is proposing to change the eligibility criteria for free or subsidised transport to assist 16-18 year old learners to access education.

Please take a few minutes to read the attached Post 16 Transport Policy Consultation Document, which details the proposals and then give us your views by completing this questionnaire.

Please return your completed questionnaire to the freepost address provided at the end of this form by 17th December 2010.

Alternatively you can complete this questionnaire online at: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/surveys/transport/post16.htm

Q1 Please indicate your interest in this consultation (Please pick one)

- Currently receiving free or subsidised transport for Further Education (aged between 16-18 years old)
- Parent or Carer of someone receiving free or subsidised transport for Further Education
- Under 16 year old considering free or subsidised transport for Further Education
- Employee or Governor of a mainstream secondary school
- Employee or Governor of a college or place of Further Education
- Employee or Governor of a special school
- Central Bedfordshire resident
- Other (please specify below)

Q2 If you or your child currently receive free or subsidised transport to access further education or post 16 learning, please tell us why this is. (Please tick all that apply)

- Distance travelled from home to place of further education exceeds 3 miles
- Special Educational Need or Disability
- In receipt of benefit(s)
- Other (please specify below)

Please read the proposals outlined in the consultation document before answering the next questions.

Proposal 1 - Mileage

The Council proposes that irrespective of the criteria used to assess entitlement to subsidised transport, the maximum distance between home and school or college for which subsidised transport will be provided will be 15 miles.

Q3 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 1? (Please pick one)

- Agree Disagree Don't know

Proposal 2 - Low income

The Council proposes that the benefits taken into account when assessing entitlement to free transport should be the same as for under 16 year old pupils applying for transport on low income or concessionary grounds. Families with a low income are defined as those whose children are entitled to free school meals or whose family is in receipt of maximum working tax credit.

Q4 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 2? (Please pick one)

- Agree Disagree Don't know

Proposal 3 - Medical needs

The Council proposes no change to the current arrangement for free or subsidised transport on medical grounds where a student attends the nearest school or college. Transport is considered on medical grounds, irrespective of distance between home and college. The medical condition can be temporary or long term and each application is considered on an individual basis.

Q5 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 3? (Please pick one)

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Proposal 4 - Road safety

The Council proposes to no longer provide subsidised transport for students on road safety grounds where the student is capable of travelling independently and living within a 3 mile distance of school or college.

Q6 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 4? (Please pick one)

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Proposal 5 - Special Education Needs

The Council proposes that post 16 students with special education needs will be eligible for transport if they attend the nearest school or college that is more than 3 miles from their home address or they have transport needs specifically identified in their statement of special education need, or within the assessment carried out under the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act (2009) relating to Further Education providers. Charges for transport for students with special education needs will be assessed in the same way as all other students.

Q7 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 5? (Please pick one)

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Proposal 6 - Looked After Children, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

The Council proposes that Looked After Children including Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children are supported to attend schools that best meet their needs. This may mean that transport will be provided to schools or colleges where the distance criteria are not met.

Q8 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 6? (Please pick one)

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Proposal 7 - Assessment of Course Content

The Council proposes that post 16 students will be eligible for free or subsidised transport where learners attend the nearest school or college which offers a qualification at the same level and in the same subject area as the course of choice.

Q9 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 7? (Please pick one)

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Q10 Do you have any comments about the changes to the post 16 transport eligibility criteria? Please write these below.

About You

The following information will help us when considering your opinions and will ensure that we are getting the views of all members of the community. The answers will not be used to identify any individual.

Q11 Are you male or female?

Male Female

Q12 What is your age?

Under 13 yrs 13-15 yrs 16-18 yrs 19-29 yrs 30-44 yrs
 45-59 yrs 60-64 yrs 65-74 yrs 75+

Q13 Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 a person is considered to have a disability if he/she has a physical or mental impairment which has a sustained and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

Yes No

Q14 To which of these groups do you consider you belong? (Please pick one)

White British Black or Black British
 Asian or Asian British Gypsy/ Romany/ Irish Traveller/ Show People
 Mixed Chinese
 Other (please specify below)

Q15 What is your home postcode?

Thank you for your response

Please return your response form by 17th December 2010 to the freepost address below (you do not need to use a stamp)

**FREEPOST RSJS GBBZ SRZT
Post 16 Transport Consultation
Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House, Monks Walk
Chicksands, Shefford
SG17 5TQ**

Data Protection Act 1998

Please note that your personal details supplied on this form will be held and/or computerised by Central Bedfordshire Council for the purpose of analysing the responses to the consultation on the home to school transport policy for Central Bedfordshire. The information collected may be disclosed to officers and members of the Council and its partners involved in this consultation. Summarised information from the forms may be published, but no individual details will be disclosed under these circumstances. Your personal details will be safeguarded and will not be divulged to any other individuals or organisations for any other purposes.

