



COUNCIL CABINET 26 April 2005

Report of the Education Commission

## Changes to Education Transport Policy and Procedures

### RECOMMENDATION

1. The Commission recommends that if the revised policy and procedures are adopted:
  - a) Cases which are deemed to exhibit circumstances not adequately covered by the policy should be investigated by an Assistant Director in liaison with the Cabinet member'
  - b) The working of the revised policy and procedure should be reviewed after three full school terms.

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

#### Background

2.1 At its meeting on 4 April 2005 the Education Commission considered the Director of Education's report to the Council Cabinet meeting on 26 April 2005 on the proposed changes to Education Transport Policy and Procedure. The Commission were informed by Simon Longley, Assistant Director of Education of the reasoning behind the proposed changes to the policy and procedure.

#### Issue(s)

2.2 Having considered the report and the information provided by the Assistant Director, members were generally supportive of the proposals although concern was expressed by some that the public would not, under normal circumstances, be able to have their appeal heard by elected members. Councillor Allen, the Council Cabinet Member for Lifelong Learning pointed out that parents would be able to use the Council's Complaints Procedure if they felt that the officer review had made the wrong decision.

2.3 One member asked about the situation concerning St Chad's Church of England (Controlled) Nursery and Infant School. and pointed out that parents could request on faith grounds that their child attend that school. It was considered that section 2.2 of the revised policy should be amended to include reference to Voluntary Controlled Schools.

2.3 Commission members considered that the working of the revised policy should be reviewed and Councillor Allen said that it was intended to do this

after about 12 months. A Commission member suggested that it might also be helpful for Assistant Directors to discuss the working of the revised policy with the Cabinet member. The Assistant Director agreed in principle with the suggestion.

### **Conclusions of the Commission**

2.6 Having considered the report, the Commission were generally supportive of the proposed revisions to the Education Transport Policy and Procedure.

### **Recommendations of the Commission**

2.7 The Commission recommended that:

- a) 'Cases which were deemed to exhibit circumstances not adequately covered by the policy' should be investigated by an Assistant Director in liaison with the Cabinet member'
- b) The working of the revised policy and procedure should be reviewed after three full school terms.

### **Reasons for Commission's Recommendations**

2.8 The reasons for the Commission's recommendations were:

- a) That the Cabinet member would be kept informed of the cases which were not covered by the policy
- b) A review after three full school terms would enable the effectiveness of the policy and procedure to be examined and for it to be amended in the light of any deficiencies that were identified.

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<b>Background papers:</b>	Background Papers - None
<b>List of appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

1. None arising from this report.

**Legal**

2. None arising from this report.

**Personnel**

3. None arising from this report.

**Equalities impact**

4. A fair and effective transport policy and appeals process will be of benefit to all Derby people.

**Corporate Objectives, Values and Priorities**

Objectives:

- A stimulating and high quality learning environment

Values

- Be open, transparent and honest in everything we do
- Adopt new ways of working wherever these will help us do things better and provide value for money, customer focussed services

Priorities

- Raising educational achievement