

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

POST 16 TRANSPORT

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update on the Post 16 Transport provided for students in North Lincolnshire.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The council has a duty to help post 16 students access further education, but not to provide free transport. The Education and Skills Act 2008 states that by 2013 all young people have to stay on in education or training at least part-time, until they are 18 years old.
- 2.2 The current policy provides a travel pass to enable eligible students to access subsidised transport between home and college or sixth form during term time. The charge for a travel pass is currently £30. This compares favourably with charges in other local authority areas. The current contribution has remained at the same level for a number of years.
- 2.3 During the academic year of 2014/15 the council provided transport for 1,161 students attending Post 16 establishments. For the academic year of 2015/16 the council provided transport for 1,116 students.
- 2.4 The council has continued to support this post 16 policy where other local authorities only provide post 16 support on a means tested basis. The benefits for students in North Lincolnshire are:
- Encourage public transport use at a young age.
 - Reduce cost barriers to further education
 - Encourage enrolment to the Humber UTC
 - Recognising limited transport options in rural areas
- 2.5 The post 16 transport provided by the council contributes to the low numbers of NEETS (Not in Education, Employment or Training) in North Lincolnshire as outlined below:

National data and comparison for August 2015

August 2015	NEET	Not Known	In Learning
North Lincolnshire	5.5%	8.8%	83.6%
National	6.4%	24.2%	65.3%
Yorkshire and Humber	6.8%	16.8%	75.2%
Statistical Neighbours	5.9%	17.3%	72.6%

2.6 Where possible we have integrated post 16 travel with registered public transport routes. Through the Quality Bus Partnership we have worked with bus operators to provide flexibility in using buses at any times (including weekends) during term time for the students.

3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 That Cabinet welcomes the continued success of the councils approach to the provision of Post 16 transport.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 Not applicable

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 Not applicable

6. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

6.1 Not applicable

7. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

7.1 Not applicable

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That Cabinet welcomes the continued success of the councils approach to the provision of Post 16 transport.

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

- NEET/In Learning Report: September 2015