
Report to Council

Date: 3 June 2010

Subject: Home to School Transport Policy (Cambus Amendment)

Report by: Interim Head of Education

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. This report describes an unsustainable anomaly in the Council's Home To School Transport Policy. It recommends that Council should amend its School Transport Policy to remove this anomaly.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that Committee approve the amendment to the Council's Home to School Transport Policy proposed in this paper at Paragraph 3.7.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. In December 2004, the Council, through its then Learning and Leisure Committee, approved a Home to School Transport Policy. The Policy was approved with an amendment that maintains the provision of free home to school transport to Lornshill Academy for pupils resident in Cambus.
- 3.2. The provision of free home to school transport to Lornshill Academy for pupils resident in Cambus is inconsistent with the rest of the Home to School Transport Policy in that all other pupils who attend schools in Clackmannanshire are only entitled to free home to school transport if they live more than a certain distance from school, or if there is no suitable walking route to school.
- 3.3. There are no residential properties in Cambus that are more than 2 miles from Lornshill Academy and a suitable walking route exists. Recently traffic lights and a Pelican Crossing were installed at the Cambus junction with the A907 which increases pupil safety when crossing the A907.
- 3.4. Free school transport from Cambus to Lornshill is no longer justifiable on grounds of distance or suitability. There is no longer any clear justification based on local or other guidance for its specific inclusion in the Council's Home to School Transport Policy.

3.6 It is proposed therefore that the amendment included in the Home to School Transport Policy approved in December 2004 should be removed from the policy and that the provision of free home to school transport for pupils resident in Cambus attending Lornshill Academy is withdrawn from the start of the school session 2010/2011

3.7 It is proposed that the amended Policy should read:

Lornshill Academy: any pupil resident in the catchment areas of Clackmannan PS, Craigbank PS, Fishcross PS or Deerpark PS, or who is resident in the catchment areas of Abercromby PS, Banchory PS or St. Serfs PS and his/her residence is over two miles from the school, or nearest designated transport pick-up point, by the shortest suitable walking route will be entitled to free home to school transport.

3.8 It is proposed that the service will be maintained for existing pupils for the remainder of the 2009/10 session, but should cease from August 2010. Parents will be notified accordingly. Current arrangements apply to 10 pupils.

3.9 Officers are conducting a wider review of the current Home to School Transport Policy, and further reports on this will be presented to Council.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

4.1. There are no direct and significant implications for sustainability although the overall carbon footprint of the Council may be reduced slightly by the withdrawal of this provision

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

The proposed amendment to the Council's Home to School Transport Policy would result in a full year saving of approximately £12,000.

5.2. Staffing

5.3. The report has no staffing implications

6.0 Exempt Reports

6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities 2008 - 2011** (Please tick)

- The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses
- Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive
- People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment
- Our communities are safer
- Vulnerable people and families are supported
- Substance misuse and its effects are reduced
- Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing
- The environment is protected and enhanced for all
- The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence

(2) Council Policies (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes No

9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

None

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes (please list the documents below) No

Home to School Transport Policy; Clackmannanshire Council 2004

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Approved by

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