

**Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services**

Report to:	<b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>29 November 2013</b>
Subject:	<b>Home to School and College Transport Policy</b>

**Summary:**

This report provides a summary of the current Home to School and College Transport Policy.

**Actions Required:**

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider and comment on the Home to School and College Transport Policy.

## **1. Background**

The Education transport policy for 2013/14 is unchanged from 2012/13 in nearly every respect.

### **Basics**

Transport is provided free of charge to children of school age in Lincolnshire to their designated or nearest school or college of further education if the school or college is further than the 'statutory walking distance' from their home. This is the distance within which the Council is not expected to have to offer transport, and is set by the government at 2 miles for children up to age 8 and three miles for children from 8-16.

Lincolnshire offers transport to primary-school children if their designated or nearest school is over two miles from home, and for secondary school children and students in further education aged 16-18 (and to age 21 for students with LDDs) if their designated or nearest school/college is over three miles from the home.

There is also a legal right to free transport for pupils aged 11-16 from low income families to a school of choice provided the school is one of the three nearest to the home and lies between 2 and 6 miles from the home.

Primary-age children can be expected to walk up to one mile and secondary -age children up to two miles, to or from a bus pick up point, if the route to the pick-up point is assessed as suitable for a school-age child, accompanied by an adult if

necessary, to walk. The stipulations relating to suitable walking routes do not apply to students who have passed school leaving age, and they may be asked to make their own way, up to three miles, to a bus pick up point.

All transport for entitled pupils and students of school-age is provided free of charge. Transport for entitled post 16 students is provided subject to a student/parental contribution, currently £399 p.a. This increased in 2013 from the previous charge of £390 p.a.

There are special arrangements applying in some parts of Lincolnshire, due to geographical considerations.

The policy booklet can be accessed at: [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooltransport](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooltransport). Copies of the policy booklet have been circulated to the Committee with the agenda.

## **2. Conclusion**

This report provides a summary of the home to school and college transport policy and invites the Committee to comment on it.

## **3. Consultation**

### **a) Policy Proofing Actions Required**

n/a

## **4. Background Papers**

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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