



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

DECISION MADE BY: Cabinet DATE DECISION MADE: 19th May, 2015.

Agenda Item 2

SUBJECT:

Home to School Transport: Maintaining the existing service but reducing the subsidy for discretionary travel – A public consultation on a proposed new policy.

**Cabinet Members Present
County Borough Councillors:**

A.Morgan (Chairman), R.Bevan, A.Crimmings, M.Forey, E.Hanagan,
G.Hopkins, K Montague and M.Webber.

**Apology for absence
County Borough Councillor:
P Cannon**

**Other Member(s) in attendance
County Borough Councillor(s)
J Rosser, E Webster, M Weaver & P Griffiths.**

1. DECISION MADE:

- **Cabinet AGREED –**
- To initiate a consultation with interested parties and relevant stakeholders in respect of the proposed new Home to School Transport Policy as outlined within the report, based on taking the following proposals forward for consultation:-
 - The introduction of a charge towards the discretionary elements of Home to School Transport provision, being the main amendment to the existing Home to School Transport Policy.
 - That the proposed charge in respect of the new Home to School Transport Policy be set as £1.75 per day.
 - The introduction of an assessment of a parent's ability to pay the proposed charge towards the discretionary elements of Home to School Transport provision, based on a child's receipt of Free School Meals and agreed that the proposed reduced level of charge should be £1.00.
 - That as part of the proposed new Home to School Transport Policy, a cap on the proposed charges payable for families with more than two children using Home to School Transport be introduced.
 - That the consequent full year savings (income) would be £2.048M (£1.280M part-year effect in 2016/17).
 - That under the proposed Home to School Transport Policy the discretionary elements of Special Educational Needs transport would continue as an entirely subsidised, non-charged service.

Cabinet also **AGREED** to receive a further report detailing the results and feedback from the consultation process, an Equality Impact Assessment and any necessary further information in order for Cabinet to determine whether and, if so, how it wishes to progress with the proposed new Home to School Transport Policy.

N.B With the permission of the Chair, Father R Davies Chair of Governors at St John's Baptist Church in Wales High School addressed the Committee on behalf of the 8 Faith Schools.

2. REASON FOR THE DECISION BEING MADE:

- The need to initiate a consultation with interested parties and relevant stakeholders in respect of a proposed new Home to School Transport Policy which maintains the existing service provision, but reduces the subsidy provided, through introducing a new charge to protect the discretionary elements of the service.

3. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO DECISION BEING MADE:

- N/A

4. PERSONAL INTERESTS DECLARED:

- County Borough Councillor Andrew Morgan declared a personal and non prejudicial interest “I am the Chair of Governors at Glenboi Primary and Darren Las Primary School.
- County Borough Councillor K Montague declared a personal and non prejudicial interest “I am a Governor at Maerdy Primary and Ferndale Community School and my niece may also be affected”.
- County Borough Councillor Bevan declared a personal and non prejudicial interest “I am a Chair of Governors of Tylorstown Primary School. “County Borough Councillor A Crimmings declared a personal interest “I am employed at Coleg y Cymoedd and also I’m the Chair of Governors of Aberdare Park Primary School”
- County Borough councillor M Forey declared a personal and non prejudicial interest “I have Grandchildren who may be affected”
- County Borough Councillor E Hanagan declared a personal and non prejudicial interest “ I am on the Governing Bodies of Tonyrefail comprehensive School and Tonyrefail Primary School and also have grandchildren who may be affected”
- County Borough Councillor G Hopkins declared a personal and non prejudicial interest “ I am a Governor of Llanharan Primary School”
- County Borough Councillor Webber declared a personal and non prejudicial interest “I am the Vice Chair of Governors on Heol Y Celyn and Governor of Hawthorn High School”.

5. DISPENSATION TO SPEAK (AS GRANTED BY STANDARDS COMMITTEE):

N/A

6. (a) IS THE DECISION URGENT AND NOT TO BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

YES NO ✓

Note: This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 5 clear working days after its publication i.e. **28th May 2015** to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

6. (b) IF YES, REASONS WHY IN THE OPINION OF THE DECISION-MAKER THE DECISION IS URGENT:

N/A

6. (c) SIGNATURE OF MAYOR OR DEPUTY MAYOR OR HEAD OF PAID SERVICE CONFIRMING AGREEMENT THAT THE PROPOSED DECISION IS REASONABLE IN ALL THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR IT BEING TREATED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULE 17.2:

N/A

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(Mayor)

.....
(Dated)



.....
(Proper Officer)

19.05.15
(Dated)