

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Home to school transport policy 2019 Post 16 transport policy statement 2019
Date of decision:	20/5/19
Decision maker:	Head of Transportation and Access
Authority for delegated decision:	This is an operational decision with regard to Part 3 Section 7 para 3.7.5 of the constitution
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	<p>Feedback from parents and schools and other stakeholders on the 2018 policy has been taken into account and informed this policy update.</p> <p>An officer consultation has been undertaken with the childrens and families directorate, finance and legal.</p> <p>Member briefings have been undertaken with portfolio holders for transport and regulatory services and children and families.</p>
Decision made:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To adopt and publish the home to school transport policy 2019 (copy attached to this decision), placing a copy on the council's website in accordance with statutory requirements. 2. To adopt and publish the post 16 transport policy statement 2019 (copy attached to this decision), placing a copy on the council's website in accordance with statutory requirements.
Reasons for decision:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Herefordshire council has a statutory requirement to review and publish its home to school transport policy and post 16 transport policy statement each year by the 31 May. 2. The policies set out how the council applies its statutory responsibilities relating to the provision of transport for entitled riders and discretionary policies relating to non-entitled riders. 3. Whilst no substantive changes have been made to established policy, the 2019 updates provide greater clarification to assist parents and guardians in making decisions relating to choice of schools and colleges.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>There are no direct risks associated with the updating of the policies and ensuring compliance with the council's statutory responsibilities. In providing greater clarification over the application of discretionary provision the updated policies will reduce financial and reputational risks relating to possible confusion and misinterpretation of adopted policy.</p> <p>An equality impact assessment has been undertaken of the updated policies and is included as an attachment.</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	There would have been an option to re-publish the previous policies for 2019 but this was rejected on the basis of the anticipated benefits for all stakeholders by providing clearer explanation of how policies are applied.

Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed...Head of Transportation and Access Date: 20-5-19