Proposed Changes to School Transport
Results From The Second Consultation

- Home to school transport policy for students aged 11-14
- Home to school transport policy for students aged 16+
- The proposed transition arrangements

July 2014

Research and Insight Team
Leicestershire County Council
Produced by the Research and Insight Team at Leicestershire County Council.

With support from:

- Environment and Transport, Leicestershire County Council
- Communications Team, Leicestershire County Council

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this report, Leicestershire County Council cannot be held responsible for any errors or omission relating to the data contained within the report.
Introduction

During February and March 2014 Leicestershire County Council ran a consultation on proposed changes to its home to school transport policy. Just over 2,000 responses were received along with a number of alternative policy suggestions. It was clear from these responses that there were a number of concerns about the proposals.

The main concerns voiced were:
- the ability to express preference for a traditional catchment school rather than a nearer school that could be in a neighbouring local authority
- that appropriate transport should be provided when pupils change school, taking into account the different ages at which pupils transfer into secondary education (either at 10 or 11 years old)

These concerns and suggestions were listened to and where possible the proposals were adjusted to accommodate them. A second consultation was then run.

This report sets out the findings from the second consultation on proposed changes to Leicestershire County Council’s transport policy which took place between 28th April and 16th June 2014 in context of the findings from the first consultation.

The aim of this report is to understand different opinions on Leicestershire County Council’s revised proposals for changes to transport policy relating to home to school transport for mainstream schools.

As before, the results from this consultation will be used to inform the recommendations of the Cabinet Report and the subsequent redrafting of the transport policy.

Background

The current policy:
Schools in Leicestershire have two stages of secondary education (covering 11-16 years of age) up to GCSE level, with high schools for 10/11-14 year olds and upper schools for 15-16 year olds.

Transport and catchment areas have developed over time to take account of traditional boundaries and school capacity. This was to ensure that high and upper schools had enough students to fill the school. In practice, this meant that pupils were transported to schools with space and not necessarily their nearest school. The current policy (http://www.leics.gov.uk/school_and_college_transport_entitlement_policy) states that free transport is offered to:
- primary school pupils who attend the catchment area school for their home address (or other nearer school) and the distance is more than 2 miles and
secondary school pupils who attend the catchment area school for their home address (or other nearer school) and the distance is more than 3 miles.

Why the current policy needs to change:
The impact of schools locally moving to academy status and coming out of council control means that Leicestershire County Council is having to consider a change in the current policy. The reasons being:
- Some academies have already changed their admission catchment areas – a decision made independently from the council.
- Some schools and academies have changed already, or are considering a change, to an 11-16 age range. (This means that high schools currently taking 10 or 11 - 14 year olds will also take 15 - 16 year olds and upper schools taking 15-16 year olds will also take 11 - 14 year olds).
- These changes to age ranges mean the catchment area is also changed, resulting in a number of transport eligibility areas overlapping.

The changes we are now proposing:
To take into account the change to traditional catchment areas, we were proposing that free transport for pupils over the statutory walking distances (2 miles for primary age and 3 miles for secondary age) is given only to the nearest school (or educational placement) with available spaces to the pupil’s home address. The nearest school is measured by the shortest road distance over these walking distances.

To take into account key concerns raised in the previous consultation we are now proposing that the policy remains as above but in addition we will provide:

- free transport to the nearest Leicestershire school, with places available. A school will not be seen as appropriate if it doesn’t offer a transfer entry point that is compatible with the current school attended by the pupil

But,
- where there have been no changes to catchments or age ranges since May 2012 to continue free transport to the catchment school in those areas

These new proposals will exceed the legal duty we have to provide transport over the statutory distance to the nearest school. This doesn’t prevent parents from choosing a different school for their child but it does mean that transport will not be free if the school chosen is not the nearest.

The likely impact:
The likely impact of our proposals is that free transport to primary schools will remain largely unchanged. But for areas where age range and/or catchment areas have changed since May 2012 then transport will be provided to the nearest school or nearest Leicestershire school.

For those schools that have not changed admissions areas or age ranges, transport will continue to be provided from their traditional geographic catchment area school or to the nearest school until such time as a change occurs within these areas. This may be either by the school itself or by neighbouring schools at which point transport would be provided to the nearest school or nearest Leicestershire school.
In effect the policy recognises where change has occurred, maintains the same arrangements where change hasn’t happened but is clear what will happen if changes occur in the future.

Under these proposals, primary children who attend a school without a year 6 (age 10+) will be provided with transport to the nearest appropriate secondary school with spaces, and with a year 6. In September 2014, secondary schools accepting children at year 6 are: Shepshed High School, Castle Donington Community College, Gartree High School, Manor High School, Bushloe High School and Abington Academy.

There are extended rights for low income families.

**The current policy for 16+ transport:**
In addition, our current policy says that students who live more than three miles away from either the nearest school sixth form or nearest post 16 further education college are eligible for assisted transport. Currently, students can also get assisted transport if they attend a school or college which is further away if it is the nearest which offers their chosen course.

The charge for 16+ transport for the 2014/15 academic year will be £425 and there is an exemption to this charge for students from a qualifying low income background.

New government guidance has raised the age to which young people have a requirement to stay in education, employment or training. There has been no change in the legislation governing transport for those aged 16+ so this remains a discretionary service that we don’t have to provide.

**The changes to 16+ transport we are now proposing:**
We were proposing to continue to offer transport on a discretionary basis at a charge of £425 to either the nearest school or to the nearest post 16 Further Education college. But to withdraw a “choice”. For example, the policy currently allows a student to travel to the school or college offering their chosen course. In future, we would not transport to a school/college that is further away because the course is not available at the nearest school/college.

The new proposals are to provide transport over 3 miles from home as above but in addition to provide
- transport to the nearest Leicestershire Further Education college
  or
- transport to the nearest Leicestershire school sixth form but to continue providing transport to the catchment school with a sixth form in areas where there have been no changes to catchments or age range since May 2012

There will still be a charge for those who are eligible to post 16 transport assistance (unless they are from a low income family).

**The likely impact of changes to 16+ transport:**
Assisted transport for 16+ students would be more limited and these proposals wouldn’t allow for students to attend a school or college which is further away if it offers their chosen course.

There will, however, be a commercial bus service alternative for most students. There will still be a charge for eligible students unless they are from a low income family.
Transitional arrangements:
These proposals remain unchanged by the new proposals. During the transition phase from the old policy to the new, the council is proposing that any change to the policy will only affect pupils entering into primary education or transferring to a secondary school in September 2015.

So a child who is already part way through their education and currently has transport will continue to receive transport until they reach a transfer point where they would have to leave or move to a new school because of their age. Eligibility for free transport would be reassessed at this point - as it is currently.

For 16+ students who qualify for transport assistance under the old policy, the proposal is that they will remain eligible providing they stay on the same course. If they change course, start a new one or their personal circumstances change (move address for example) then they will be reassessed under the new policy.

Methodology
The questionnaire (see Appendix One for a web version and Appendix Two for a paper version) was made available on the County Council’s website and hard copies were available on request.

As before awareness of the online consultation was raised through: a series of press releases which generated coverage in the local and national media; through the council’s twitter feed; a banner which ran on the internet home page at periods throughout the consultation; direct notification to all Leicestershire schools, academies and colleges via Email and hardcopy letter (the same to the main out-of-County schools); direct letter to all neighbouring local authorities; through the county council staff intranet; and through the council’s Members’ Information Service.

Report Overview
This report provides a headline summary for the findings of the consultation. The following sections are reviewed:

1. Home to School Transport Policy for students aged 11 - 16
2. Home to School Transport Policy for students aged 16+
3. The proposed transitional arrangements

The report also identifies the views of different demographic groups and which people are more likely to be concerned about specific policy proposals.

In order to identify difference by demographic groups each of the demographic questions in the ‘About You’ section were cross-tabulated against all the remaining questions in the consultation. Statistical tests\(^1\) were calculated to identify significant differences. Where significant relationships were found they were reported.

The demographic questions included were:
- Gender
- Age
- Long standing illness or disability
- Ethnicity
- Parent or carer of a young person
- Use home to school transport provided by the County council
- Post 16 students use transport provided by the County Council
- County School employee
- School governor
- Religion
- Number of cars or vans in the household

\(^1\) Standardized residuals were calculated as a test of significance along with Chi Square.
Respondents were also asked to include details of their home postcode and this was used to identify the district council and postcode district of respondent’s home address.

Tag Clouds have also been provided to show the frequency of words captured in the open-ended questions.

The full comments received during the consultation were passed onto the service for consideration.

**Headlines Findings**

The second ‘Consultation on Proposed Changes to Home to School Transport Policy’ survey received 398 responses compared to the 2,027 responses received in the first consultation. This would suggest that the new proposals may have succeeded in allaying a high proportion of the concerns raised by respondents in the first consultation.

In summary:

**Home to School Transport Policy for students aged 11 - 16**
- 73% of respondents disagreed with the second proposed policy for the change to home to school transport for students aged 11 - 16 compared to 88% of respondents who disagreed with the first proposed policy change.

**Home to School Transport Policy for students aged 16+**
- 64% of respondents disagreed with the second proposed policy for the change to home to school transport for students aged 16+ compared to 86% of respondents who disagreed with the first proposed policy change.

**The proposed transitional arrangements**
- 57% of respondents disagreed with the proposed transitional arrangements in the second consultation and 60% of respondents disagreed with the same arrangements in the first consultation.

Although the reduction in the number of respondents answering the second consultation suggest that the new proposals have addressed many of the concerns raised in the first consultation. The proportion of respondents who disagreed with the new proposals remain high. The following sections will help determine whether the profile of these respondents remain similar to the previous respondents and whether their concerns are similar or different to those raised before.

**Detailed Findings**

The following sections report the overall summary findings of the second consultation and highlight any significant differences by demographic group. Only where statistical significance was found by different demographic group is it reported. Where appropriate, these results are placed in context of the findings from the first consultation.

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2 Tag Clouds show the most commonly reported words.

3 Throughout the report is agreed is used as a collective term for those that either ‘Strongly Agree’ or ‘Agree’ and disagreed is used as a collective term for those that either ‘Strongly Disagree’ or ‘Disagree’.
Home to School Transport Policy for students aged 11 - 16

Question: Do you agree or disagree with the Council’s proposed policy for the provision of transport to schools and academies?

Headlines:
- Nearly three quarters of respondents disagreed with the new proposed policy change (73.3%), compared with 87.7% in the first consultation.
- Nearly a quarter agreed (22.4%) with the new proposed policy change compared to 9.7% previously.

Demographic differences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% proposal</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
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<td>2.1</td>
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</table>

- In the first consultation those whose nearest school was in the county (9.8%) and those living in Charnwood Borough (18.5%) were more likely than others to disagree with the proposed policy change.
- In the second consultation those in Blaby were more likely than others to strongly disagree with the proposed policy change (90.4%).
- In the first consultation those living in Harborough (88.6%) and those whose nearest school was in the city (89.0%) were more likely than others to strongly disagree to the proposed policy change.
- In the second consultation no groups were more likely than others to strongly agree to the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation those who were not a parent or carer of a child (10.2%) and those living in North West Leicestershire (10.1%) were more likely than others to strongly agree with the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation those whose nearest school was in the county (7.4%) and those living in North West Leicestershire (11.1%) and Charnwood Borough (10.2%) were more likely than others to agree with the proposed policy change.
- In the second consultation those in Harborough were more likely than others to strongly agree (33.8%) to the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation those whose nearest school was in the county (7.4%) and those living in North West Leicestershire (11.1%) and Charnwood Borough (10.2%) were more likely than others to disagree with the proposed policy change.
- In the second consultation no groups were more likely than others to agree nor disagree with the proposed policy change.
- In the second consultation no groups were more likely than others to don’t know to the proposed policy change.
The table below provides a count and percentage ‘disagreed’ for the second and first consultation by postcode district.

### Count and Percentage Disagreed by Postcode District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postcode District</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Disagreed April(%)</th>
<th>Disagreed February(%)</th>
<th>Change</th>
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<td>14.3%</td>
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</table>

288 68.1% 187.6%

The following set of maps give an indication the geographical location of respondents for the second and first consultation.

### Map of Number of respondents by Postcode District

**April 2014**

**February 2014**

**Map of Leicester and Leicestershire LE postcode districts (for reference)**

1 Percentage Disagreed is based upon those respondents that provided a valid postcode therefore the figure may vary slightly from the overall figure
The table and maps show the highest concentration of respondents to the second consultation live in LE3 which includes Leicester Forest East, Braunstone and Glenfield, LE7 which borders the north east edge of Leicester City and includes towns and villages such as Thurnby, Houghton on the Hill, Scraptoft and Anstey and LE17 which covers Lutterworth Town and surrounding villages.

Of these, LE7 shows a marked reduction in the percentage of respondents that disagreed with the new proposals (94.9% down to 66.7%), whereas LE3 and LE17 remained consistently high in the proportion of respondents that disagreed with the new proposals.

Comments that were particular to LE3 made reference to South Charnwood High School and Martin High School. Both sets of respondents were in the main concerned about the loss of school bus transport to their traditional catchment school.

Comments emanating from LE7 mentioned Gartree High School and Beauchamp College and tended to express a high level of uncertainly about what the new proposals would actually mean in their particular circumstances.
The above question received 194 (48.7%) responses.

Comments made included three main points of view:

Those that generally agreed with the new proposals and saw them as a positive change, incorporating the concerns expressed in the previous consultation.

Those that disagreed with the new proposals as they believed these extra concessions should not have been made, instead saying the original proposals should have been implemented as they were. Also those that disagreed with the new proposals as they believed they did not restrict school transport provision far enough, stating if some parents were now to be charged than all parents should be charged.

Those that disagreed with the new proposals for being too restrictive for at least one of the following reasons:

- Traditional catchments should be maintained to ensure continuity for pupils and to capitalise from the proven working relationships between feeder schools and high schools.
- The impact on faith schools
- Society should invest in school transport now so that pupils could maximise their potential and so benefit society later.
- Parental choice would be curtailed. Parents expressed a desire to send their child to the best not the nearest school without incurring a cost to do so.
- The impact on the road network and environment of parents having to transport their own children.
- The safety of the child. Some high schools were within the three mile cut off but were not accessible by public footpaths or were only accessible along busy main roads.
- The new proposals were seen as unfair because they did not offer the same level of provision to all pupils/ families.
- The new proposals were deemed unclear. Some parents remained uncertain as to whether pupils would be able to choose their nearest Leicestershire School now and/or would be able to do so in the future.
Age 16+ transport

**Question:** Do you agree or disagree with the Council’s proposal to remove the subsidy from post-16 transport to colleges?

Headlines:
- Nearly two-thirds of respondents disagreed with the new proposed policy change (64.1%) compared to 85.7% of respondents in the first consultation.
- Two out of ten agreed (22.0%) with the new proposed policy change compared to 7.0% previously.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Proposal</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Don’t Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Second</td>
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<td>5.7</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>75.0</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Demographic differences:

**Strongly Disagree …**
- In the second consultation those living in Blaby (58.9%) were now more likely than others to strongly disagree with the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation those whose nearest school was in the city (81.8%) and those living in Harborough (81.0%) were more likely than others to strongly disagree with the proposed policy change.

**Disagree …**
- In the second consultation no groups were more likely than others to disagree.
- In the first consultation those whose nearest school was in the county (14.2%), those that had the use of two or more cars or vans (13.3%) and those living in Charnwood Borough and Melton Borough (25.5%, 17.6%) were more likely than others to disagree with the proposed policy change.

**Agree …**
- In the second consultation those living in North West Leicestershire (33.8%) were again more likely than others to agree with the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation those whose nearest school was outside of the county (10.1%) and those living in Hinckley and Bosworth District and North West Leicestershire (9.4%, 9.3%) were more likely than others to agree with the proposed policy change.

**Strongly Agree …**
- In the second consultation those living in Harborough (33.8%) were now more likely than others to strongly agree with the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation Males (4.8%), those aged 45-64 (4.6%), those who were not a parent or carer of a child (7.9%), those who did not use the transport to education (5.3%), those that were a governor (7.2%) and those living in North West Leicestershire (9.3%) were more likely than others to strongly agree with the proposed policy change.

**Neither Agree nor Disagree …**
- In the second consultation those aged 65 years or over (33.3%) were more likely than others to neither agree nor disagree to the second proposed policy change.

**Don’t Know …**
- In the second consultation those who did not use the transport to education (11.2%) were more likely than others to say don’t know with the proposed policy change.
The following table gives a count and percentage ‘disagreed’ for the second and first consultation by postcode district for those respondents who provided a valid postcode (69%).

**Count and Percentage Disagreed by Postcode District**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postcode District</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Disagreed Apr(%)</th>
<th>Disagreed Feb(%)</th>
<th>Change</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>le3</td>
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<td>71.2%</td>
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<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>85.0%</td>
<td>▲</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>88.5%</td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ng32</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>64.3%</td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>de74</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
<td>▲</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le65</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le93</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ng12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>282</strong></td>
<td><strong>56.7%</strong></td>
<td><strong>84.3%</strong></td>
<td>▼</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Percentage Disagreed is based upon those respondents that provided a valid postcode therefore the figure may vary slightly from the overall figure.

The following set of maps give an indication the geographical location of respondents for the second and first consultation.

**Map of Number of respondents by Postcode District**

**Map of Leicester and Leicestershire LE postcode districts (for reference)**
This second set of maps show the percentage of respondents who disagreed with the proposed changes to the home to school policy for post 16 transport.

Map of the percentage of respondents who 'disagreed' by Postcode District

Map of Leicester and Leicestershire LE postcode districts (for reference)

The table and maps again show the highest concentration of respondents who answered the question about the post 16 transport proposal in the second consultation live in LE3 which includes Leicester Forest East, Braunstone and Glenfield, LE7 which borders the north east edge of Leicester City and includes towns and villages such as Thurnby, Houghton on the Hill, Scraptoft and Anstey and LE17 which covers Lutterworth Town and surrounding villages.

Of these, LE7 shows a marked reduction in the percentage of respondents that disagreed with the new proposals (93.2% down to 23.0%), whereas LE3 and LE17 remained consistently high in the proportion of respondents that disagreed with the new proposals.
The above question received 128 (32.2%) responses.

Comments were mainly from those that disagreed with the new proposals for being too restrictive for at least one of the following reasons:

- Students now have to continue in some form of education or training until they are 18 years old therefore the government should also legislate so that post 16 transport provision matches that of secondary schools.
- The proposal will impact a student’s choice of career as not all courses are offered at all colleges.
- Students in full-time education receive no benefits and do not work therefore they cannot afford to pay for transport.
- The policy remains ambiguous
- If students wish to continue in the 6th form of the same school they already attend they should not have to pay. To change school would be detrimental to their progress and impact attainment levels.

A ‘tag cloud’ showing the top 50 mentioned most often words is shown below

The proposed transitional arrangements

**Question: Do you agree or disagree with the Council’s proposals for transitional arrangements if this revised home to school transport policy is adopted?**

**Headlines:**
- Three-fifths disagreed with the new proposals (57.0%) similar to the results from the first consultation (59.9%).
- Just over a quarter of respondents agreed with the new proposals 28.2% compared to 26% in the first consultation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Proposal</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Don’t Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>46.6</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>52.1</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Demographic differences:**

**Strongly Disagree ...**
- In the second consultation men (56.0%), BME (70.7%) and those living in Blaby (51.3%) were more likely than others to strongly disagree with the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation men (57.2%), ‘other’ religion (62.0%), those with either one car or no cars (56.0%, 65.6%), those whose nearest school was in the city (56.0%, 65.6%), those whose nearest school was in the city (59.1%) and those living in Harborough (60.4%) were more likely than others to strongly disagree with the proposed policy change.

**Disagree ...**
- In the second consultation no groups were more likely than others to disagree with the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation those living in Charnwood Borough (14.2%) were more likely than others to disagree with the proposed policy change.

**Agree ...**
- In the second consultation those living in Hinckley and Bosworth Borough (44.4%) were more likely than others to agree with the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation women (18.6%), those whose nearest school was in the county (23.8%), those who were not a parent or carer of a child (14.2%), those with two or more cars or vans (19.1%) and those living in North West Leicestershire, Charnwood Borough and Melton Borough (26.5%, 25.5%, 24.6%) were more likely than others to agree with the proposed policy change.

**Strongly Agree ...**
- In the second consultation Those living in Harborough (30.8%) were more likely than others to strongly agree with the proposed policy change.
- In the first consultation those that were a governor (17.9%), and those living in Blaby District (16.3%) were more likely than others to strongly agree with the proposed policy change.

**Neither Agree nor Disagree ...**
- In the second consultation no groups were more likely than others to neither agree nor disagree with the proposed policy change.
In the first consultation no groups were more likely than others to say don’t know to the proposed policy change. The above question received 100 (25.4%) responses.

Open ended question: Do you have any alternative suggestions for a revised home to school transport policy?

The above question received 267 (67.1%) responses.

A ‘tag cloud’ showing the top 50 mentioned most often words is shown below:

```plaintext
able age ansley area arrangements attend catchment change choice city clear continue cost council county current different education families feel free funding gartree glenfield going keep lcc leave leicestershire live local miles money nearest needs offer parents pay people primary provided range scraptoft secondary service state traditional walk work year
```


The following table provides a summary of the number of responses that mentioned a specific secondary school within one of the open ended questions in the second or the first consultation. Primary schools were also mentioned but usually in context of a transition to a higher school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secondary School</th>
<th>Second consultation</th>
<th>First consultation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gartree High/Beauchamp College</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin High</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Charnwood High/Winstanley</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutterworth High /College</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Market Bosworth School</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brockington High &amp; Community College</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belvoir High</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kibworth High</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newbridge Academy</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humphrey Perkins</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table gives an indication of which secondary schools the proposed change to home to school transport policy was most likely to affect on either of the consultations. It shows that the frequency of mention of Gartree High and Beauchamp College, and Lutterworth High and Lutterworth College (areas that generated relatively high response rates last time) has greatly reduced. Whereas the frequency of mention of Martin High, and South Charnwood High and Winstanley remain a comparably high across both consultations.
**Respondent profile**

The demographic profile of respondents shows that there is an over representation of responses to the second consultation from county residents who are:

- Living in Blaby and Harborough
- Female
- Those aged 25-64
- Those **without** a long standing illness or disability
- Those with two or more cars

Further, there is a under-representation from county residents who are:

- Living in Charnwood, Melton, Hinckley & Bosworth and NWL
- Male
- Those aged under 25 and those aged 65 or over
- Those with a long standing illness or disability
- Those with no cars

A breakdown of the respondents to the survey follows. Each table reviews the demographic profile of respondents against that of the latest information (where available) and compares responses from the first consultation in February.

There has been an increase in respondents from parents/carers of a child or young person (7%) and parents whose children who use home to school transport (19%). There has been a dramatic increase in the number of respondents in Blaby (from 17.5% to 42%). There has been a decrease in the number of respondents in Harborough and Melton.

### Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Mid-2012 population estimates (%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>49.4</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>31.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>50.6</td>
<td>67.7</td>
<td>68.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age band</th>
<th>Mid-2012 population estimates (%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 25</td>
<td>29.7</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-44</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>52.7</td>
<td>55.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-64</td>
<td>27.4</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>40.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Parent/Carer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are you a parent/carer of a child or young person?</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>84.1</td>
<td>90.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Employed by a school in Leicestershire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are you employed by a school in Leicestershire</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>12.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>82.4</td>
<td>87.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### School governor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School governor</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>92.0</td>
<td>89.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Children use Home to School Transport

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you or your children use Home to School transport provided by Leicestershire County Council</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>53.2</td>
<td>63.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>46.8</td>
<td>36.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Post 16 students in household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are there any post 16 students in your household who currently use our transport to voluntary aided schools</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>86.2</td>
<td>86.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Long standing illness, disability or infirmity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011 Census</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 2014</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>83.8</td>
<td>93.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>2011 Census (%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 2014 (%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>91.4</td>
<td>88.4</td>
<td>87.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Religion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>2011 Census (%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No religion</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>35.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian (all denominations)</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>57.5</td>
<td>57.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhist</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikh</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any other religion or belief</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Geography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Mid-2012 estimates (%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blaby</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>42.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charnwood</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harborough</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>48.4</td>
<td>29.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinckley and Bosworth</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melton</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West Leicestershire</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oadby and Wigston</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Number of cars or vans in household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of cars or vans in household</th>
<th>2011 Census (%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Feb 14(%)</th>
<th>Transport Consultation Apr 14(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>41.3</td>
<td>37.3</td>
<td>33.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>56.1</td>
<td>60.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Consultation on proposed changes to Home to School Transport Policy

The Council is proposing a new policy for home to school transport. For pupils aged between 5 and 16 we will still provide the legal minimum of free transport for pupils over the statutory walking distances (2 miles for primary age and 3 miles for secondary age) from home to the nearest school (or educational placement) with available spaces.

The new proposals are to provide transport as above but in addition to provide:

- free transport to the nearest Leicestershire school, with places available. A school will not be seen as appropriate if it doesn’t offer a transfer entry point that is compatible with the current school attended by the pupil.

or

- where there have been no changes to catchments or age ranges since May 2012 to continue free transport to the catchment school in those areas.

Question 1 on page 3 asks for your views on these proposals.

Similar proposals are also being made for post 16 students. To continue to provide assisted transport for those students living more than three miles away from either the nearest school sixth form or nearest post 16 Further Education college.

The new proposals are to provide transport as above but in addition to provide

- transport to the nearest Leicestershire FE college.

or

- to provide transport to the nearest Leicestershire school sixth form or to continue providing transport to the catchment school with a sixth form in areas where there have been no changes to catchments or age range.

Question 2 on page 4 asks for your views on these proposals.

The Council is proposing that there be no change to the policy in relation to pupils for whom there is an available walking route below two miles (for primary) or three miles (for secondary). Free transport is not provided to this group of pupils and that will continue to be the case.

Before completing the survey please read the supporting information (which also includes answers to frequently asked questions).

Your views

We are now asking for your views about this revised proposal to make changes to Home to School transport.

Question 1

Q1 Do you agree or disagree with the Council’s proposed policy for the provision of transport to schools and academies?

Please tick ONE box only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither agree or disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Q1b Please use the space below to let us know any other comments on our proposed policy for the provision of transport to academies:

Question 2

Q2 Do you agree or disagree with the council’s proposed policy for the provision of post 16 transport to schools, academies and colleges?

Please tick ONE box only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither agree or disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Q2b Please use the space below to let us know any other comments on our proposed policy for the provision of post 16 transport:
Question 3
Transport for children who are part way through their education will continue until they transfer or move to another school because of their age. Eligibility for free transport would then be reassessed against the proposals in question 1 and 2.

Q3 Do you agree or disagree with the Council’s proposals for transitional arrangements if this revised home to school transport policy is adopted? Please tick ONE box only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q3b Please use the space below to let us know any other comments on our proposals for transition arrangements:

Q4 Do you have any alternative suggestions for a revised home to school transport policy?

About you
Leicestershire County Council is committed to ensuring that its services, policies and practices are free from discrimination and prejudice and that they meet the needs of all sections of the community.

We would be grateful if you would answer the questions below. You are under no obligation to provide the information requested, but it would help us greatly if you did. Information will be used to inform service development to ensure that what we are providing is fair and effective.

Q5 Are you male or female?
- Male
- Female

Q6 What was your age on your last birthday?
- Under 15
- 15-24
- 25-44
- 45-64
- 65-84
- 85 and over

Q7 Do you have a long-standing illness or disability?
- Yes
- No

Q8 What is your ethnic group?
- White
- Mixed
- Asian or Asian British
- Black or Black British
- Other ethnic group

Q9 Are you a parent/carer of a child or young person?
- Yes
- No

Q9a If yes, what are the ages of the children in your care? Please tick all applicable
- 0-4
- 5-10
- 11-15
- 16-18

Q10  Do you or your child(ren) make use of the home to school transport provided by
Leicestershire County Council?
    Yes ☐
    No ☐

Q11  Are there any post 16 students in your household who currently use our transport to
education?
    Yes ☐
    No ☐

Q12  Are you employed by a school in Leicestershire?
    Yes ☐
    No ☐

Q13  Are you a school governor?
    Yes ☐
    No ☐

Q14  What is your religion? Please tick one box only
    No religion ☐
    Christian (all denominations) ☐
    Buddhist ☐
    Hindu ☐
    Jewish ☐
    Muslim ☐
    Sikh ☐
    Any other religion or belief ☐

Q15  What is your full postcode?

Q16  In total, how many cars or vans are owned or available for use by members of your
household? Please tick one box only
    None ☐
    One ☐
    Two ☐
    Three ☐
    Four or more ☐
    Don’t know ☐

Following the consultation period, your views will be considered by the County Council.

If you have any questions about this consultation please contact: 0116 305 0002 or email:
transportassessments@leics.gov.uk

Data Protection: Personal data supplied on this form will be held on computer and will be used in accordance with the Data
Protection Act 1998. The information you provide will be used for statistical analysis, management, planning and the provision
of services by the County Council and its partners. Leicestershire County Council will not share any personal information
collected as part of this survey with its partners. The information will be held in accordance with the Council’s records
management and retention policy.
Appendix Two - Paper version of the Questionnaire

Leicestershire’s future
The plan for change

Have your say on
proposed changes to
home to school transport

Tell us how this might affect you
Online: www.leics.gov.uk/school_college_transport
For general enquiries or comments phone 0116 305 0002
or email transportassessments@leics.gov.uk

Public consultation: Submit your views by June 15, 2014

Leicestershire’s future

What are we consulting on?
We are asking for views on proposed changes to our home to school transport policy for mainstream schools – this covers schools and academies but not special schools.

Why are we consulting again?
During February and March, we asked for your views on proposals to change the existing policy. Just over 2,000 responses were received along with a number of alternative policy suggestions. It was clear from these responses that there were concerns about appropriate transport being provided when pupils change schools. Another key concern was that Leicestershire residents wanted the ability to express a preference for their traditional catchment school, instead of the nearest school which could be in a neighbouring local authority.

We have responded to this feedback and are now proposing a new policy which aims to address many of the concerns raised by parents and schools.

Why does the policy need to change?
The Government has encouraged schools to become academies and these national changes have altered the education landscape significantly and mean that there are now a number of academies in Leicestershire.

Academies and free schools can choose to change their age ranges and their catchment areas, and a number have chosen to do this. This means that many catchment and transport eligibility areas overlap.

The council’s transport policy needs to reflect these changes where they have occurred and be clear on the transport arrangements should areas that haven’t changed, change in the future.

You may already be aware that we need to save over £110 million over the next five years. Although these latest proposals are not expected to save money now, they may reduce the risk of increasing costs in the future by avoiding multiple transport eligibility when academies have overlapping catchment areas.

Details of the previous consultation are available at: www.leics.gov.uk/school_college_transport

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Leicestershire’s future

Proposed changes to home to school transport

What does the current policy say?

Our current policy [link] fits the more traditional high school (10-11-14 year-olds) and upper school (15-16 year-olds) model. This policy was frozen to reflect admission and age range rearrangements in place on 31st May 2012. Transport and catchment areas have developed over time to take account of traditional boundaries and school capacity. This was to ensure that high and upper schools had enough students to fill the school. In practice, this meant that pupils were transported to schools with space and not necessarily their nearest school.

It says that free transport is offered to:

- primary school pupils who attend the catchment area school (or other nearer school) and their home address is more than two miles away
- secondary school pupils who attend the catchment area school (or other nearer school) and their home address is more than three miles away

What are the changes we are now proposing?

Following your feedback, we’ve changed our proposals.

For pupils aged between 5 and 16 we will still provide the legal minimum of free transport for pupils over the statutory walking distances, 2 miles for primary age and 3 miles for secondary age from home to the nearest school (or educational placement) with available spaces.

The new proposals are to provide transport as above but in addition to provide:

- free transport to the nearest Leicestershire school, with places available. A school will not be seen as appropriate if it doesn’t offer a transfer entry point that is compatible with the current school attended by the pupil
  but
- where there have been no changes to catchments or age ranges since May 2012 to continue free transport to the catchment school in those areas.

Leicestershire’s future

Proposed changes to home to school transport

What is the likely impact?

Free transport to primary schools is likely to be largely unchanged.

The impact of this policy is that for areas where age range and/or catchment areas have changed since May 2012 then transport will be provided to the nearest school or nearest Leicestershire school.

For those schools that have not changed admissions areas or age ranges, transport will continue to be provided from their traditional geographic catchment area school or to the nearest school until such time as a change occurs within these areas. This may be either by the school itself or by neighbouring schools at which point transport would be provided to the nearest school or nearest Leicestershire school.

In effect the policy recognises where change has occurred, maintains the same arrangements where change hasn’t happened but is clear what will happen if changes occur in the future.

Under these proposals, primary children who attend a school without a year 6 (age 10+) will be provided with transport to the nearest appropriate secondary school with spaces, and with a year 6. In September 2014, secondary schools accepting children at year 6 are: Shepheld High School, Castle Donington Community College, Gains High School, Manor High School, Eshfloe High School and Abington Academy.

There are extended rights for low income families – please see the frequently asked questions.

What about 16+ transport?

New guidance has raised the age to which young people have a duty to stay in education, employment or training. There has been no change in the legislation governing transport for those aged 16+ so this remains a discretionary service that we don’t have to provide. However, the new proposals below will still provide a limited choice of transport options for 16+ students.

What does the current policy say about 16+?

Our current policy says that students who live more than three miles away from either the nearest school sixth form or nearest post 16 further education college are eligible for assisted transport. Currently, students can also get assisted transport if they attend a school or college which is further away if it is the nearest which offers their chosen course.

The charge for 16+ transport for the 2014/15 academic year will be £425 and there is an exemption to this charge for students from a qualifying low income background.

What are the changes we’re proposing for 16+ transport?

To continue to provide assisted transport for those students living more than three miles away from either the nearest school sixth form or nearest post 16 Further Education college.

The new proposals are to provide transport over 3 miles from home as above but in addition to provide

- transport to the nearest Leicestershire Further Education college
  or
- transport to the nearest Leicestershire school sixth form but to continue providing transport to the catchment school with a sixth form in areas where there have been no changes to catchments or age range since May 2012.
What is the likely impact?
Assisted transport for 16+ students would be more limited and these proposals wouldn’t allow for students to attend a school or college which is further away if it offers their chosen course.

There will still be a charge for eligible students unless they are from a low income family – please see frequently asked questions.

Local bus company season tickets may offer better value and more flexible bus travel options.

When would the changes take place and are there any transitional arrangements?
We are proposing that any change to the policy will only affect pupils starting at primary school or transferring to a secondary school in September 2015.

If a child is already part way through their education and they currently have transport, this will continue until they have to leave or move to a new school because of their age. Eligibility for free transport would be reassessed at this point, as it is currently.

For 16+ students who qualify for transport assistance under the old policy, the proposal is that they will remain eligible providing they stay on the same course. If they change course, start a new one or their personal circumstances change (move address for example) then they will be reassessed under the new policy.

How do I respond to the consultation?
Your views are important and help us to understand what effect the proposed changes might have on you. Please send us your views by filling in our questionnaire by Sunday, 15th June 2014. This can be accessed:

Online
www.leics.gov.uk/school_college_transport

By post
Cut off the questionnaire attached to this leaflet and return to the following freepost address (no stamp required):
School Transport Policy Consultation (Room 700)
Leicestershire County Council
Have Your Say
FREEPOST NAT16685
Leicester
LE3 8XT

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How do we determine the nearest school?
For distances which are less than the statutory walking distances of two or three miles, we measure the shortest available walking route. Over these distances, we measure using the shortest available road route. This is because over three miles, a walking route may not exist.

We would assess your nearest school at the same time as the normal school admissions application process and would take account of available space in schools. This means that if the nearest school was full, transport would then be provided to the next nearest school with space.

Please note that under the new proposals, the ‘nearest school’ and ‘nearest Leicestershire school’ may be the same – this is most likely for addresses in the central part of Leicestershire. In some cases, but not all, the school may also be the traditional catchment school.

On the other hand, for families living close to the county border – near Leicester city or neighbouring counties - the nearest school may be in that other local authority area. In these cases, transport would be provided to either that nearest school or to the nearest Leicestershire school and this would be by parental preference. Again, the nearest Leicestershire school in some cases, but not all, may also be the traditional catchment school.

How do we measure distance?
We use a highly accurate software programme for measuring distances called Mapinfo.

Is this about saving money?
During a recent consultation into our future spending plans, residents listed home to school transport as a service that could be reduced.

The proposals, however, are not expected to save money now, they are designed to reduce the risk of increasing costs in the future by preventing pupils becoming eligible for multiple transport options. This policy proposal is more generous than the statutory requirements and if implemented, it is expected that there will still be large numbers of children entitled to transport because they live over the statutory distance.

Are there any alternatives to the proposed policy?
Yes. This consultation is important as it enables your views to help shape the changes. Your views count and have resulted in this fresh round of consultation.
How does it affect parental preference for school places - this restricts choice doesn’t it?

No - parental preference for admission to a particular school or academy is unaffected by these proposals. It has never been the case that eligibility to free transport is based on the parental choice of school. There has always been a policy setting out the criteria for eligibility to free transport and under the new proposals, this would generally focus on the distance between home and the nearest school or nearest Leicestershire school with places, rather than to the traditional catchment area.

What happens if the school my child attends changes its age range or admissions area in future?

This may affect a child’s eligibility to free school transport. If this happens, we would need to review transport in that area and apply the new policy. We would also consider what transition arrangements would be put in place.

What happens if a new school opens up in my area?

Similar to the above, this may affect a child’s eligibility to transport assistance. For example a new free school opening may become a nearer school than the one previously used to assess transport eligibility. If this happens, we would need to review transport in that area and apply the new proposed policy. We would also consider what transition arrangements the council would put in place.

What do the frozen policy and no change to admission catchment or age range refer to?

For schools where there has been no change in the admissions catchment area or age range we will continue to provide transport to the catchment school in line with the policy adopted by the council in September 2012 i.e. using the Local Authority catchment areas as at 31st May 2012; until such time as changes affecting catchment area or age ranges occur (whether by the school itself or surrounding school changes).

Are there any extra rights for low income families?

Yes, the current extended rights for low income families are not affected by this consultation and continue to be available as required by statutory guidance and law. Details are in paragraph 6.0 of the current policy www.leics.gov.uk/mainstream_policy_2014-15_final_april_2014_v1.0.2.doc

What other transport is available?

Some schools have bus services organised by parents or the school itself, other schools have commercial ‘school specials’ and student season tickets are also available on most commercial bus services in Leicestershire.

The main commercial bus operators of Leicestershire also have student season tickets of various types that offer very flexible travel and, for post 16 students, can offer good value for money.

You can view the latest information in a number of ways

Visit us online www.leics.gov.uk/haveyoursay/school_college_transport

Our web pages will be kept up to date with the latest information and developments. You’ll also be able to access the survey here.

Send an email to transportassessments@leics.gov.uk to register for the latest news and updates.

Follow us @leicscounthyhall for general updates from the council, including the developments on the budget.

Alternatively, you can telephone 0116 305 0965 to ask for information in printed or alternative formats including Easy Read.
Leicestershire’s future

In summary: proposed changes to mainstream home to school transport policy

For pupils aged between 5 and 16 we will still provide the legal minimum of free transport for pupils over the statutory walking distances (2 miles for primary age and 3 miles for secondary age) from home to the nearest school (or educational placement) with available spaces.

The new proposals are to provide transport as above but in addition to provide:

- free transport to the nearest Leicestershire school, with places available. A school will not be seen as appropriate if it doesn’t offer a transfer entry point that is compatible with the current school attended by the pupil.

but

- where there have been no changes to catchments or age ranges since May 2012 to continue free transport to the catchment school in those areas

Similar proposals are also being made for post 16 students.

To continue to provide assisted transport for those students living more than three miles away from either the nearest school sixth form or nearest post 16 Further Education college.

The new proposals are to provide transport over 3 miles from home as above but in addition to provide

- transport to the nearest Leicestershire Further Education college

or

- transport to the nearest Leicestershire school sixth form but to continue providing transport to the catchment school with a sixth form in areas where there have been no changes to catchments or age range since May 2012

Your views

We are now asking for your views about this revised proposal to make changes to home to school transport.

Following the consultation period, your views will be considered by the County Council. If you have any questions about this consultation please contact 0116 305 0002 or email: transportassessments@leics.gov.uk

Return this consultation form to:
School Transport Policy Consultation (Room 700), Leicestershire County Council, Have Your Say, FREEPOST NAT18685, Leicester, LE3 8XT.

Alternatively you can complete an online version at www.leics.gov.uk/school_college_transport

Q1: Do you agree or disagree with the council’s proposed policy for the provision of transport to schools and academies?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Any other comments on our proposed policy for the provision of transport to academies:


Q2: Do you agree or disagree with the council’s proposed policy for the provision of post 16 transport to schools, academies and colleges?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Any other comments on our proposed policy for the provision of post 16 transport:


Q3: Do you agree or disagree with the council’s proposals for transitional arrangements if this revised home to school transport policy is adopted?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Any other comments on our proposals for transition arrangements:


Q4: Do you have any alternative suggestions for a revised home to school transport policy?
About You
Leicestershire County Council is committed to ensuring that its services, policies and practices are free from discrimination and prejudice and that they meet the needs of all sections of the community.
We would be grateful if you would answer the questions below. You are under no obligation to provide the information requested, but it would help us greatly if you did. Information will be used to inform service development to ensure that what we are providing is fair and effective.

Q5: Are you male or female?
   Male ☐ Female ☐

Q6: What was your age on your last birthday?

Q7: Do you have any long-standing illness, disability or infirmity?
   Yes ☐ No ☐

Q8: What is your ethnic group? (Please tick one box only)
   White ☐ Mixed ☐ Asian or Asian British ☐ Black or Black British ☐ Other ethnic group ☐

Q9: Are you a parent/carer of a child or young person?
   Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes, what are the ages of the children in your care? (Please tick all applicable)
   0-4 ☐ 5-10 ☐ 11-15 ☐ 16-18 ☐

Q10: Do you or your child(ren) make use of the home to school transport provided by Leicestershire County Council?
   Yes ☐ No ☐

Q11: Are there any post 16 students in your household who currently use our transport to education?
   Yes ☐ No ☐

Q12: Are you employed by a school in Leicestershire?
   Yes ☐ No ☐

Q13: Are you a school governor?
   Yes ☐ No ☐

Q14: What is your religion?
   No religion ☐ Christian (All denominations) ☐ Buddhist ☐ Hindu ☐
   Jewish ☐ Muslim ☐ Sikh ☐ Any other religion or belief ☐

Q15: What is your full postcode?

Q16: In total, how many cars or vans are owned or available for use by members of your household?
   None ☐ One ☐ Two ☐ Three ☐ Four or more ☐ Don’t know ☐

Data Protection: Personal data supplied on this form will be held on computer and will be used in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. The information you provide will be used for statistical analysis, management, planning and the provision of services by the council and its partners, Leicestershire County Council will not share any personal information collected as part of this survey with its partners. The information will be held in accordance with the council’s records management and retention policy.