

Report

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Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	24 April 2018
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Enhanced Priorities for Allocation of the Paid Privilege Transport Scheme
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ seek approval to amend the current priorities for paid privilege transport to allow pupils with free school meal entitlement to have a higher priority for allocation, to be implemented from the 2018 school session

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendations:-

- (1) with effect from the 2018 school session, pupils with free school meal entitlement, be considered as a priority 3 for the purposes of allocation of paid privilege transport where available, be approved; and
- (2) that the revised priorities, as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report, be endorsed and referred to the Executive Committee for approval.

3. Background

- 3.1. On 1 February 2010, the Executive Committee approved income generation on dedicated school transport contracts through the introduction of a paid privilege transport scheme. In addition, the privilege scheme has been refined to take account of priority situations.
- 3.2. Currently, paid privilege transport places are only provided where there is spare capacity on an existing dedicated school contract.
- 3.3. Privilege transport operates from the existing designated pick up and drop off points and is not provided where a service bus is used on the school run.
- 3.4. Privilege transport may be withdrawn at short notice in order to cater for an eligible child, and is only valid for the school session for which it is granted. Applications will be held on file and reviewed each year depending on the number of spare seats available.
- 3.5. The average cost of running school transport within South Lanarkshire is £3.62 per day, however, privilege transport is subsidised and charged at a rate of £1 per day.
- 3.6. The current priorities for the allocation of paid privilege transport places are:-
 - **Priority 1** - pupils whose family circumstances have been disrupted due to a health condition which affects their immediate carer. In these circumstances,

supporting documentation from an appropriate agency such as the NHS or Social Work must be provided.

- **Priority 2** - pupils whose family circumstances have been disrupted due to a significant change to the child or young person's home life. In these circumstances supporting documentation from an appropriate agency such as the NHS or Social Work must be provided.
- **Priority 3** - pupils whose permanent home address is within the catchment area. Privilege places will be issued to pupils who live furthest away from the school until all the places have been allocated.
- **Priority 4** - pupils whose permanent home address is outwith the catchment area. Places will be issued to pupils who live furthest away from the school until all the places have been allocated.

4. **Proposals**

4.1. It is proposed to give consideration to families on low income and to change the priorities for the allocation of paid privilege transport to include the following:-

- Where pupils are entitled to free school meals they will now be considered priority 3 for allocation of places where available.
- All other priorities will follow on from the proposed changes within their current order and there will now be 5 priorities within the allocation process of paid privilege transport places.

Therefore the revised priorities for allocation would be as follows:-

- **Priority 1** - pupils whose family circumstances have been disrupted due to a health condition which affects their immediate carer. In these circumstances we will need supporting documentation from an appropriate agency such as the NHS or Social Work.
- **Priority 2** - pupils whose family circumstances have been disrupted due to a significant change to the child or young person's home life. In these circumstances we will need supporting documentation from an appropriate agency such as the NHS or Social Work.
- **Priority 3 – pupils who are entitled to free school meals. Places will be issued to pupils who live further from the school until all the places have been allocated**
- **Priority 4** - pupils whose permanent home address is within the catchment area. Places will be issued to pupils who live further from the school until all the places have been allocated.
- **Priority 5** - pupils whose permanent home address is outwith the catchment area. Places will be issued to pupils who live further from the school until all the places have been allocated.

4.2. This proposal would be implemented from school session 2018 following ratification at a future Executive Committee meeting due to this proposed change being a change to existing policy.

5. **Employee Implications**

5.1. None

6. **Financial Implications**

6.1. None

7. Other Implications for the Council

- 7.1. There are no significant risk implications in terms of the information contained within this report.
- 7.2. There are no implications for sustainability in terms of the information contained within this report.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. An equality impact assessment has been undertaken.
- 8.2. There was no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained within this report.

Tony McDaid
Executive Director (Education Resources)

4 April 2018

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- Raise educational achievement and attainment
- Achieve efficient and effective use of resources

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact Lynn Sherry, Head of Education:-

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