

## Risks for post-16 SEND and LIF students combined

Risk	Impact	Initial risk score (5 is high, 1 is low)			Proposed mitigation	Score following action to mitigate		
		Impact	Likelihood	Result		Impact	Likelihood	Result
1. Withdrawal of free transport for students from low income families, and increasing restrictions and travel charges for students with SEND, may deter or prevent them from continuing in post-16 education	Negative impact on driving economic growth, in particular increasing the numbers of NEETs, and lowering educational aspirations for young people. Economic gains (particularly via removal of free transport for over 470 post-16 students from low income families) may not be worthwhile in a context of increased costs elsewhere.	5	4	<b>20</b>	Hardship fund to support the most needy LIF students in continuing in education. Rolling communications plan to reach young people approaching the transition in good time to allow sensible post-16 choices without the assumption that transport will be provided. Provision of Independent Travel Training for students with SEND.	4	4	<b>16</b>
2. Changes have a negative impact on the wider family and welfare of the young person	Some families could fall into crisis and in the most extreme cases this could result in a child needing to become looked after	5	1	<b>5</b>	Oversight by Governance Panel, close liaison with SEND practitioners and colleges	3	1	<b>3</b>
3. Colleges with the most LIF students are adversely affected regarding the demand for bursary support	Demand for financial support outstrips resources	3	3	<b>6</b>	5 colleges with high numbers of LIF students receive a proportionate share of the hardship fund	2	2	<b>4</b>

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4. Reduction in enrolment numbers on certain courses	Impact on the viability of some colleges and sixth form courses. Likely to be greater impact on Plumpton College given their cohort and their rural location	3	3	<b>9</b>	We will monitor the impact of any changes in provision over time, with close monitoring of impact on Plumpton College in particular (see Appendix 7)	3	2	<b>6</b>
5. Policy changes in SEND travel, e.g. pick up at start or end of day only, cause issues with safety	The safety of vulnerable pupils could be impacted	4	2	<b>4</b>	Thorough risk assessments are undertaken, discussion and negotiation with colleges to clarify the terms of their provision	2	1	<b>2</b>
6. Parents of SEND students may produce a strong case for Independent provision if they feel that travel support to the named provider is limited	Increase in placement provision costs	2	3	<b>6</b>	Good communication with practitioners and parents regarding the revised offer, and potential for independent travel training if appropriate	2	2	<b>4</b>
7. A number of those affected by proposed changes are ESCC looked after children or care leavers	ESCC do not meet our duty as corporate parents / transport costs are met via another budget (cost shunting)	4	2	<b>8</b>	The budget for LAC and care leaver transport (SEND students) to be managed via a LAC budget in order to ensure efficiency	2	1	<b>2</b>
8. Some parents may use legal processes to challenge decisions as well as the robustness of the consultation process	Negative impact on staff time and ESCC costs	4	3	<b>12</b>	Robust legal advice, communications and consultation plan. Introduction of a specific and well-signposted post-16 SEND travel assistance policy	3	2	<b>6</b>