

Equality Impact Assessment Chart: ESCC Proposal to Reduce the level of HTST support for pre-school and post-16 students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Proposal	Cohort affected	Potential negative impact on young people and families	Mitigation	Accepted Risks
<p>Proposals to make savings on current post-16 SEND travel assistance.</p> <p>(i) Offering support to those demonstrating the 'highest level of need' only by introducing tighter 'exceptions' criteria for SEND students and offering support which is more cost-effective, e.g. transport at college start/end times, use of Motability vehicle.</p> <p>(ii) increasing the current post-16 transport contribution from £370 to £608.</p> <p>(iii) Introducing a 50% rate of contribution for low income families set at £304.</p>	<p>Post-16 SEND who do not demonstrate the highest level of need under the tighter exceptions criteria.</p> <p>SEND young people aged 16-25 and their families.</p> <p>Low income families with post-16 children with SEND, who require SEND transport assistance.</p>	<p>Not able to achieve aspirations set out in their EHC plan</p> <p>Increased risk of becoming NEET</p> <p>Increased negative impact on the wider family and welfare of the young person.</p> <p>Increased risk of not fulfilling their potential as they cannot attend the college/6th form.</p>	<p>Introduction of a specific and well-signposted post-16 SEND travel assistance policy.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Governance framework / well-defined process for all post-16 SEND travel applications (not just for young people going onto an FE course), with a new online application form and process removes the assumption that funded SEND travel will be provided post-16.</p> <p>Increased use of Personal Travel Budgets and Independent Travel Training (ITT) for post-16 SEND students (as well as ITT for younger students from Year 7) as appropriate.</p> <p>Robust assessment in place to establish those with the highest level of need receive assistance.</p>	<p>Young people may not be able to achieve the aspirations set out in EHC plan which covers an age span of 16-25.</p> <p>Fewer young people with SEND will receive travel assistance.</p>
<p>Proposal to continue to fund pre-school SEND travel on an exceptional basis, but to (iv) introduce a contribution along the same lines as for post-16 travel (£608/304).</p>	<p>Families / low income families of pre-school children with SEND who are granted travel assistance will be asked to contribute 608 / £304 towards travel arrangements.</p>	<p>Increased financial burden on the family.</p>	<p>Communicate clearly to all stakeholders, particularly Early Years staff.</p> <p>Clear financial assessment process in place.</p>	