

## Notice of Meeting

# Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture Select Committee

**Date & time**

Thursday, 7 April  
2022 at 10.00 am

**Place**

Woodhatch Place, 11  
Cockshot Hill, Reigate,  
RH2 8EF

**Contact**

Benjamin Awkal, Scrutiny  
Officer  
Democratic Services  
Tel 07816 091463

[benjamin.awkal@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:benjamin.awkal@surreycc.gov.uk)

**Chief Executive**

Joanna Killian

We're on Twitter:  
[@SCCdemocracy](https://twitter.com/SCCdemocracy)



**If you would like a copy of this agenda or the attached papers in another format, e.g. large print or braille, or another language please either call 07816 091463 or email [benjamin.awkal@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:benjamin.awkal@surreycc.gov.uk).**

**This meeting will be held in public. If you would like to attend and you have any special requirements, please contact Benjamin Awkal, Scrutiny Officer on 07816 091463.**

**Elected Members**

Ayesha Azad (Vice-Chairman), Liz Bowes (Chairman), Fiona Davidson, Jonathan Essex, Rachael Lake, Michaela Martin, Mark Sugden, Alison Todd, Liz Townsend, Chris Townsend (Vice-Chairman), Jeremy Webster and Fiona White)

**Independent Representatives:**

Mr Simon Parr (Diocesan Representative for the Catholic Church), Mrs Tanya Quddus (Parent Governor Representative) and Mr Alex Tear (Diocesan Representative for the Anglican Church, Diocese of Guildford)

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Committee is responsible for the following areas:

- Children's Services (including safeguarding)
- Early Help
- Corporate Parenting
- Education
- Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities
- Adult Learning
- Apprenticeships
- Libraries, Arts and Heritage
- Voluntary Sector

## SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

### 6 PROPOSED CHANGES TO HOME TO SCHOOL TRAVEL ASSISTANCE POLICY

(Pages 3  
- 12)

#### *Purpose of the report:*

To outline the proposed changes to the Home to School Travel Assistance (H2S TA) policy for children and young people in mainstream schools and pupils with additional needs (SEND). This report sets out the rationale for, the objectives of the changes, the changes being consulted on and the intended outcome.

**Joanna Killian**  
**Chief Executive**

Published: Wednesday, 6 April 2022

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*Thank you for your co-operation*



**SURREY**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

**Home to school travel assistance policy refresh consultation  
Final Outturn Summary 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022  
Children, Families, Lifelong Learning & Culture Select Committee – 7 April**

# Final survey results

## As of 1 April 2022

- Total responses at close of consultation 31 March 2022 = 694
- Respondents are represented in multiple categories

## Who responded?

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	Parent/carer of young person(s) with SEND	Parent/carer of young person(s) without SEND	Surrey residents	Education professional or governor	Young person with SEND	Young person without SEND	Other	Transport provider
No. of respondents	490	127	64	34	14	12	12	9
% of respondents	70.6%	18.3%	9.2%	4.9%	2.0%	1.7%	1.7%	1.3%

# Final survey results

## Who responded? (continued)

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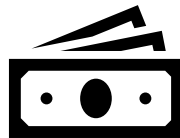


**79%** currently receive home to school travel assistance

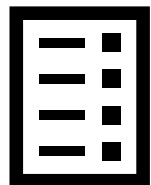


**84%** of respondents said their children do not use public transport to get to school or college

**52%** of respondents receive the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independent Payment



Nearly **50%** of respondents had children aged 11 to 16



**73%** of respondents' children have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)



**70%** were applying for home to school travel assistance for the next academic year

### Equality monitoring

- Most survey respondents were aged **between 45 and 54** (40%).
- **70%** of respondents did not have a long-term health problem or disability, nearly **20%** did.
- **78%** of respondents were female, 15% male.
- Nearly **80%** were White British. The largest non-White ethnic minority group was Indian or Indian British (2%)
- 61% of respondents declared their income. Most responses came from households with **annual incomes between £25,000 and £49,000** (21%). Nearly **17%** of respondents earned between £10,000 and £24,000.

# At a Glance...

**H2S TA Policy Changes at a Glance**  
Total Surveys as of 01/04/22: 694

**In Support (9 of 13 topics)**

- ✓ Change ITA from Straight Line to Road Route
- ✓ Simplify mileage reimbursement
- ✓ Clarify reasons for withdrawal of transport
- ✓ Add info on Medical and Health interventions
- ✓ Reduce reliance on 1 child- 1 vehicle
- ✓ Clarify conditions of transport withdrawal
- ✓ Travel assistance under 5s
- ✓ Introduce post-16 bursaries
- ✓ Change in travel appeals

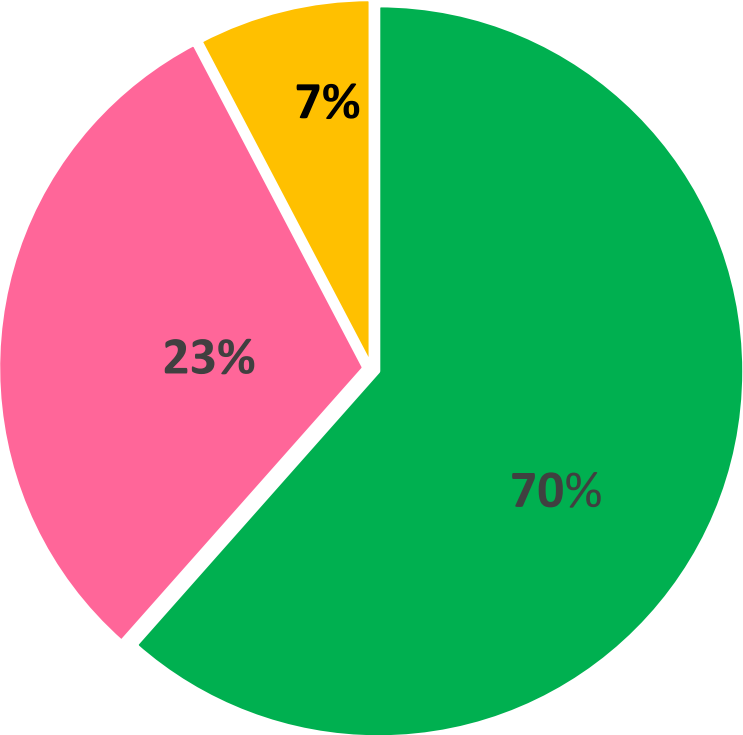
**Against (3 of 13 topics)**

- ✗ Collection points – beneficial for travel independence
- ✗ Notice period for removal of TA
- ✗ Change maximum journey times

**NEUTRAL 1/13**

- Updated Post-16 Statement

Proportion of votes  
For 70%, Against 23%, Neutral 7%  
Proposed Changes to H2STA based on 694 survey responses as of 1 April 2022



# Independent travel. Respondents said:

## Three **most important objectives** for independent travel:

- Being able to share school transport with other children and young people (45%)
- Being able to travel without a parent or carer in attendance (35%)
- Being able to plan and undertake any journey independently using public transport (24%)

## Three **biggest benefits** of independent travel on public transport:

- Increased self-esteem and confidence (55%)
- Improved access to friends and social or leisure activities (39%)
- Reduced reliance on family members or friends to assist with travel needs (39%)

## Three **biggest benefits** for families from young people travelling independently:

- Family members having more time to do their own thing, e.g., study or employment (40%)
- Less need for an adult to accompany a young person to and from places (39%)
- Reduced dependency on family or friends financially (33%)

## Three **biggest barriers** to independent travel on public transport:

- Children and young people's limited awareness of danger or unable to keep safe (63%)
- Children unable to manage situations that aren't planned or are out of routine (53%)
- Risk of children getting lost or missing their stop (48%)

PROPOSED CHANGES	SURVEY RESPONSES			HIGHLIGHTS FROM SURVEY	SOUND BITES (from Survey)
	FOR	AGAINST	NEUTRAL		
<p><b>1. Collection points beneficial to travel independence</b></p>	<p><b>32%</b> Down 1%</p>	<p><b>54%</b> Down 1%</p>	<p><b>14%</b> Up 1%</p>	<p><b>Breakdown votes AGAINST:</b> 88% with SEND 5 % without SEND 3.7% Educ Prof/Gov 3.3% Other</p>	<p><i>“My son would need to sit somewhere, as he has Cerebral palsy, he would become fatigued and this would then result in a meltdown, due to his autism, lash outs, and a disastrous day ahead at school. I would then be called to collect him from school, as he would not be able to continue the day at school, with all this stress to start with. If however he were picked up from his home, then he is in a safe environment, calm and at ease before getting into his taxi, with the help of myself.”</i></p>
<p><b>2. Change measuring Independent Travel Allowance from straight line to road route</b></p>	<p><b>70%</b> Down 3%</p>	<p><b>12%</b> Up 1%</p>	<p><b>18%</b> Up 2%</p>	<p><b>Breakdown of votes FOR:</b> 70% with SEND 20.1% without SEND 6.2% Educ Prof/Gov 3.7% Other</p>	<p><i>“The travel allowances should be paid at actual mileage rates for the time the young person is in the car and for the return journey. Mileage rates should also increase with inflation, as there has been no change in a number of years, but the price of fuel has increased significantly.”</i></p>
<p><b>3. Simplified mileage reimbursement system</b></p>	<p><b>47%</b> Down 3%</p>	<p><b>20%</b> No Change</p>	<p><b>33%</b> Up 2%</p>	<p><b>Breakdown of votes FOR:</b> 68% with SEND 20% without SEND 8% Educ Prof/Gov 4% Other</p>	<p><i>“Mileage rates need to cover when the travel to and return journey from the school in both the morning and afternoon.”</i></p>
<p><b>4. Notice period for removal of Travel Assistance</b></p>	<p><b>23%</b> Down 1%</p>	<p><b>47%</b> No Change</p>	<p><b>30%</b> Up 1%</p>	<p><b>Breakdown of votes AGAINST:</b> 72% with SEND 15% without SEND 9% Educ Prof/Gov 4% Other</p>	<p>Not available</p>



PROPOSED CHANGES				HIGHLIGHTS FROM SURVEY	SOUND BITES (from Survey)
	FOR	AGAINST	NEUTRAL		
5. Clarify reasons for withdrawal of transport	39% Down 1%	27% Up 1%	34% No Change	<b>Breakdown of votes FOR:</b> 65.4% with SEND 23% without SEND 8.2% Educ Prof/Gov 3.3% Other	Not available
6. Medical and health interventions in TA policy	74% No Change	4% No Change	22% No Change	<b>Breakdown of votes FOR:</b> 73.2% with SEND 16.1% without SEND 6.3 % Educ Prof/Gov 4.4 Other	Not available
7. Reduce reliance on one child : one vehicle transport	59% No Change	28% No Change	13% No Change	<b>Breakdown of votes FOR:</b> 66.7% with SEND 21.1% without SEND 5.8% Educ Prof/Gov 6.3% Other	Not available
8. Transport withdrawal in case of safeguarding concern	54% Down 1%	31% No Change	15% Up 1%	<b>Breakdown of votes FOR:</b> 60.5% with SEND 25.1% without SEND 5.3% Educ Prof/Gov 9.1% Other	<i>“If a child with SEND is displaying dangerous behaviour, then the first step should be to consider unmet needs and try to meet those needs better, rather than the removal of transport assistance.”</i>

PROPOSED CHANGES	SURVEY RESPONSES			HIGHLIGHTS FROM SURVEY	SOUND BITES (from Survey)
	FOR	AGAINST	NEUTRAL		
9. Updated <b>post-16 statement</b>	<b>39%</b> Down 1%	<b>39%</b> No Change	<b>22%</b> Up 1%	<p>For the previous count, it was an even split of 39% between For and Against and was counted as NEUTRAL.</p> <p><b>Breakdown of votes:</b></p> <p><b>FOR</b> 53.8% with SEND 28.8% without SEND 7% Educ Prof/Gov 10.1% Other</p> <p><b>AGAINST</b> 88.20% with SEND 6.6% without SEND 4.1% Educ Prof/Gov 1.1% Other</p>	<p><i>"There needs to be more support for post-16 transport for specialist provision. There are so few specialist post-16 provisions."</i></p>
10. <b>Post-16 bursaries</b>	<b>44%</b> Down 1%	<b>30%</b> No Change	<b>26%</b> Up 1%	<p><b>Breakdown of votes FOR:</b> 59% with SEND 26.5% without SEND 6.5% Educ Prof/Gov 8% Other</p>	<p><i>"It's all well and good offering a travel bursary, but in reality it only works if they are an only or youngest child."</i></p>
11. Changes to <b>travel appeals process</b>	<b>30%</b> No Change	<b>27%</b> No Change	<b>43%</b> No Change	<p><b>Breakdown of votes for NEUTRAL:</b> 72.6% with SEND 16.2% without SEND 3.2 % Educ Prof/Gov 8.2 % Other</p>	<p><i>"The appeals process is hideous and needs an overhaul."</i></p>

PROPOSED CHANGES	SURVEY RESPONSES			HIGHLIGHTS FROM SURVEY	SOUND BITES (from Survey)
	FOR	AGAINST	NEUTRAL		
12. Change <b>maximum journey times</b> for primary aged children to 75 minutes	<b>20%</b> Down 1%	<b>62%</b> Down 1%	<b>17%</b> Up 1%	<b>Breakdown of votes Against:</b> 75% with SEND 16.3% without SEND 5.5% Educ Prof/Gov 3.2% Other	<i>"The proposed journey times are far too long for children, particularly the proposed increase for primary school children. This is often even more difficult for children with SEND."</i>
13. Provision of travel assistance <b>for under 5s</b>	<b>63%</b> No Change	<b>10%</b> No Change	<b>27</b> No Change	<b>Breakdown of votes FOR:</b> 71.2% with SEND 18.5% without SEND 6.2% Educ Prof/Gov 4.1% Other	<i>"It is positive that you offer transport to 4 year olds entering primary school in extenuating or exceptional circumstances, but this should be more widespread rather than having to go through the extenuating circumstances route."</i>

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