

Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA273936774

Submitted: 20 November 2020 14:30 PM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: Education Travel Contract Extensions and Awards 2021

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): To agree the extension of existing contracts and the procurement of new education transport contracts which along with the provision of travel allowance, hired transport and public transport tickets enable the Council to fulfil its statutory and policy-based obligations to provide transport to school for children meeting the eligibility criteria.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Help people get the best start and age well

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well: Help keep vulnerable children safer and enable them to fulfil their potential

Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?: a new policy (or decision)

Please provide a link to the document / website / resource to which this EqIA relates:

\\Chesfs05\data3\IPTU\Decision process from 2018\0121 - Education Travel Contract Extensions and Awards 2021.docx

Please upload any documents which relate to this EqIA, for example decision documents:

\\Chesfs05\data3\IPTU\Decision process from 2018\0121 - Education Travel Contract Extensions and Awards 2021.docx

Assessing the equality impact

Use this section to record how you have assessed any potential impact on the communities likely to be affected by the policy (or decision): The population affected by this decision is those children assessed as entitled to education transport provided by ECC

Does or will the policy or decision affect:

Service users: Yes

Employees: No

The wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities: Yes

Which geographical areas of Essex does or will the policy or decision affect?: All Essex

Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?: No

Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?: No

Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies?: No

Is the new or revised policy linked to a digital service (website, system or application)?: No

Description of impact

Description of Impact. If there is an impact on a specific protected group tick box, otherwise leave blank. You will be given the opportunity to rate identified impacts as positive, negative or neutral on the next page: Age, Disability - learning disability, Disability - mental health issues, Disability - physical impairment, Disability - sensory impairment

I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics: I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics

Describe any actions that have already been taken to mitigate negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics: Detailed analysis has been undertaken by Integrated Passenger Transport Unit (IPTU) Transport Officers of all the expiring contracts to determine a way forward.

Age

Nature of impact: Neutral

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Transport Provider for students across Essex could change as a result of this decision. It will not affect the statutory duties ECC hold to continue to provide the service.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Pupils accessing transport could be affected but this impact is low with regards to age.

Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: Neutral

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Transport Provider for students across Essex could change as a result of this decision. It will not affect the statutory duties ECC hold to continue to provide the service.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Where there is a medium impact, this will be where a disability affects access to transport. ECC will work with schools and providers to minimise any change and our terms and conditions require action from the provider to manage the change

Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: Neutral

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Transport Provider for students across Essex could change as a result of this decision. It will not affect the statutory duties ECC hold to continue to provide the service.

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Where there is a medium impact, this will be where a disability affects access to transport. ECC will work with schools and providers to minimise any change and our terms and conditions require action from the provider to manage the change

Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: Neutral

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Transport Provider for students across Essex could change as a result of this decision. It will not affect the statutory duties ECC hold to continue to provide the service.

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Transport Provider for students across Essex could change as a result of this decision. It will not affect the statutory duties ECC hold to continue to provide the service.

Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: Neutral

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Transport Provider for students across Essex could change as a result of this decision. It will not affect the statutory duties ECC hold to continue to provide the service.

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Where there is a medium impact, this will be where a disability affects access to transport. ECC will work with schools and providers to minimise any change and our terms and conditions require action from the provider to manage the change.

Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your EqlA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?: Yes

What are the mitigating actions?: Where there is a medium impact, this will be where a disability affects access to transport. ECC will work with schools and providers to minimise any change and our terms and conditions require action from the provider to manage the change.

Date they will be achieved: 01/09/2021

Which characteristics do these mitigating actions apply to?: Age,Disability - learning disability,Disability - mental health issues,Disability - physical impairment,Disability - sensory impairment

Details of person completing the form

I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance: I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

Date EqlA completed: 20/11/2020

Name of person completing the EqlA: Karen Saunders

Email address of person completing the EqlA: karen.saunders@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Place and Public Health

Your service area: Integrated Passenger Transport Unit

Your team: Passenger Transport

Are you submitting this EqIA on behalf of another function, service area or team?: No

Email address of Head of Service: Helen.morris@essex.gov.uk