

# Learner Travel Review



Bridgend County Borough Council is currently facing unprecedented cuts to its budget. The council currently faces making required savings of £35.2 million over the period 2019-2023. The council takes pride in the services it provides to its citizens and wants to continue to do as much as possible to support families in a difficult financial climate.

These cuts however, mean that the council must review all of the services that it provides.

This consultation is to invite views on potential changes to the travel arrangements of school pupils and students attending further education colleges. It is important that the council understands how the proposed changes will affect you and your family.

## About you

Your name:

Email address:

Organisation / school (if applicable):

Second organisation / school (if applicable):

**Please tick the option(s) that best describes you as a respondent?**

Please tick all that apply

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/carer      | <input type="checkbox"/> Bus or taxi driver               | <input type="checkbox"/> School worker              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student           | <input type="checkbox"/> Charity / voluntary organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> Police force               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pupil (primary)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Head teacher                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please write below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pupil (secondary) | <input type="checkbox"/> School governor                  |   |

**If you did not answer parent/carer, student or pupil, please go to Proposal 1.**

**How do you or your child(ren) currently travel to school?**

Please tick all that apply

Walk

School bus (free)

School bus (paid place)

Cycle

Public bus

Not applicable

Taxi

Car

Other (please write below)

**Please tick the option(s) that best describes you or your child(ren) as pupils/students? Please tick all that apply**

College student

Secondary school pupil (Year 7-11)

Primary school pupil

Secondary school sixth form pupil (Year 12-13)

Other (please write below)

## Proposal 1

**Withdrawal of transport for all learners benefiting from an available walking routes to school, in line with statutory distances of 2 miles for primary age pupils and 3 miles for secondary age pupils.**

This would mean that from September 2020 the following would apply to the council's provision of free school transport:

- ▶ Pupils attending primary schools living **2 miles** or further from home to their nearest suitable school would receive free transport.
- ▶ Pupils attending secondary schools living **3 miles** or further from home to their nearest suitable school would receive free transport.
- ▶ Pupils attending religious schools in the county borough living **2 miles** or further for primary schools and **3 miles** or further for secondary schools would receive free transport, regardless of whether the school is their nearest suitable school.
- ▶ Pupils attending Welsh language schools in the county borough, living **2 miles** or further for primary schools and **3 miles** or further for secondary schools would receive free transport, regardless of whether the school is considered to be the nearest suitable school.
- ▶ The changes will apply to **all pupils** equally from 1 September 2020.
- ▶ Any previous protection offered to sibling groups benefitting from home-to-school transport at the former distances of 1.5 miles for primary pupils and 2 miles for secondary pupils, will cease from 1 September 2020.
- ▶ Any previous protection offered to pupils under the former distances of 1.5 miles for primary pupils and 2 miles for secondary pupils will cease.

**Do you agree with proposal 1?**

Yes

No

Not sure

**Please let us know the reasons for your choice and what the council might reasonably do to help.**

## Proposal 2

### **Removal of escorts from all taxis and minibuses of less than 8 passengers.**

The change would mean that pupils travelling in smaller vehicles provided by the council would no longer have an escort on board. The driver of the vehicle would act as driver/escort.

However, the local authority will consider the provision of an escort for any child with additional learning needs (ALN) following an assessment of their needs.

#### **Do you agree with proposal 2?**

Yes     No     Not sure

#### **Please give reasons for your choice**

## Proposal 3

### **Removal from the local authority's Home to School/College Transport Policy of specific examples of the special circumstances where the local authority will provide discretionary transport.**

The council may on occasion provide home-to-school transport to pupils who are not currently eligible. The current policy gives specific examples of the circumstances where discretionary transport might be considered.

This proposal will mean that specific examples of the special circumstances where the local authority will provide discretionary transport provided to pupils, will be removed from the local authority's Home to School/College Transport Policy.

#### **Do you agree with proposal 3?**

Yes     No     Not sure

#### **Please give reasons for your choice**

## Proposal 4

To stop providing free transport for learners aged 16 or over, who go to school or college.

Do you agree with proposal 4?

- Yes     No     Not sure

Please give reasons for your choice

Are there any groups of learners aged 16 or over who you believe should continue to receive free transport?

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For example, these might include:    | <input type="checkbox"/> Young people in care                                 | education, employment or training).                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Those attending Welsh-medium schools | <input type="checkbox"/> Those on certain benefits                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled young people      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Those attending faith schools        | <input type="checkbox"/> Those considered at risk of becoming NEET (ie not in | <input type="checkbox"/> Care leavers               |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please write below) |

Please give reasons for your choice

## Proposal 5

To remove of all transport for nursery pupils

Do you agree with the proposal?

- Yes     No     Not sure

Please give reasons for your choice

**Do you have anything else that you would like to say about the proposals?**

Would you like to be emailed once the consultation report is available?

Yes

No

If you have answered 'yes' please provide your email address below

## Equalities monitoring

In order to help us ensure that we are providing services fairly to everyone who needs them, we would be grateful if you could answer a few more questions about yourself.

The information you supply will be kept confidentially and will only be used for the purposes of equalities monitoring.

**Completion of these questions is not required as part of the questionnaire. You do not have to answer any of the questions if you do not wish to do so. Alternatively, you can choose to answer some and not others by selecting the 'prefer not to say' options.**

**Are you happy to answer a few more questions about yourself?**

Yes

No

**Please select your age category. Please select one option only.**

Under 18

35 - 44

65 - 74

18 - 24

45 - 54

75+

25 - 34

55 - 64

Prefer not to say

**Do you consider yourself to be disabled? Please select one option only.**

Yes (please type in box below)

No

Prefer not to say

Please type in the box below

**How would you describe your nationality? Please select one option only.**

Welsh

British

English

Other (please type in the box below)

Scottish

Prefer not to say

Northern Irish

**What is your ethnic group? Please select one option only.**

White

Black/African/Caribbean/black British

Mixed / multiple ethnic groups

Other ethnic group

Asian or Asian British

Prefer not to say

**What is your religion or belief? Please select one option only.**

- |             |                          |                           |                          |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| No religion | <input type="checkbox"/> | Muslim                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Christian   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sikh                      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Buddhist    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please type in the | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hindu       | <input type="checkbox"/> | box below)                |                          |
| Jewish      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Prefer not to say         | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**What is your gender? Please select one option only.**

- |        |                          |                   |                          |
|--------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Male   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transgender       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Female | <input type="checkbox"/> | Prefer not to say | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Are you pregnant? Please select one option only.**

- |     |                          |    |                          |                   |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Prefer not to say | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-----|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|

**Have you given birth within the past 26 weeks? Please select one option only.**

- |     |                          |    |                          |                   |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Prefer not to say | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|-----|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|

**What is your sexual orientation? Please select one option only.**

- |                         |                          |                   |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Heterosexual / straight | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bisexual          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Gay man                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Gay woman / lesbian     | <input type="checkbox"/> | Prefer not to say | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**What is your marital status? Please select one option only.**

- |                 |                          |                   |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Single          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Divorced          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Partnered       | <input type="checkbox"/> | Widowed           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Married         | <input type="checkbox"/> | Prefer not to say | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Civil partnered | <input type="checkbox"/> |                   |                          |

**Are you able to...**

**Please select one option per row.**

|                | Not at all | A little | Fairly well | Fluently | Prefer not to say |
|----------------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------------|
| speaking Welsh |            |          |             |          |                   |
| reading Welsh  |            |          |             |          |                   |
| writing Welsh  |            |          |             |          |                   |

**Thank you**