South Gloucestershire Council

Delivering for you

Transport from home to school for young people who have a disability or who need extra support

Please tell us what you think about some changes we want to make





South Gloucestershire Council

Delivering for you

About this document

We are South Gloucestershire Council.



This document is about support for some young people to get to school or college.



This is when we pay for transport to help some young people to get to school or college and back.

For example, we pay for some young people to get a taxi or a minibus.



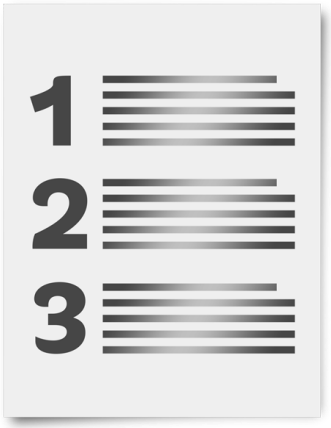
The support is for some young people over 16 years old.

It is for young people who cannot get to school or college on their own.

That means young people who have a disability or who need extra support.



That includes young people who have a plan about their support called an EHCP plan.



We need to make some changes to the support that we give some young people to get to school or college.

This document is about the changes we want to make.



Please tell us what you think of the changes if you can.



There are some questions for you to answer in this document.



Please give us your answers by **1 December 2024.**

You can find out how to give us your answers on page 18.

What is happening at the moment.

And why we need to change things.



The law says that we have to pay for some children to get to school if they cannot go on their own.

This is for children aged 5 to 16 years old.



But we are also paying for some other young people to get to school or college if they cannot get there on their own.

They are some young people over 16 years old.



They are young people who have a disability or who need extra support.

The law says we don't have to give these young people support with transport.



But we have been helping them so they can get the education and training they want.



But this transport to school or college is costing us more and more money.

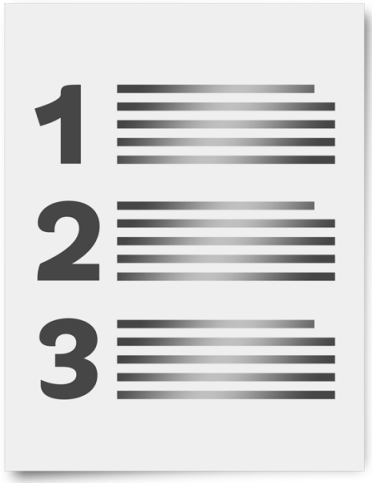
And it will cost us more in the future.

This is not something we can keep paying for.



That is because we must be very careful with the money we have to spend.

And we have to save lots of money.



That means we need to make some changes to the support that we give some young people to get to school or college.

What we have done so far



We looked at lots of choices for support first.

For example, we looked at how we give young people support with transport now.

This showed that we are already spending money in the right way.



We found ways to save some money.

But that is not enough. We still need to save more money.



We think that we have found a way to save the money we need to.

We think this change would not cause too many big problems for young people and their families.



We would like to know what you think of the changes we want to make.

And what the changes may mean for you and your family.

Some choices we have to help young people like you to get to school or college



This means support for young people over 16 if:

- The young person cannot get training to travel on their own.

  There would be a meeting in year 11 to decide about that.



- The young person goes to a school or college that is right for their needs.

- The school or college is the nearest one to their home.

1 Choice 1.

Giving families back 45p a mile for transport they pay for.

This is the choice that we think works best.



We think it would be best for families to sort out how their children get to school or college.



For example, they could drive the young person to school or college themselves.

Or the young person could go by bus.



Families would pay for this transport.

But we would give families back 45p for every mile they travel to school or college.

This means going to school and college. And coming back from school and college twice a day.



This is how much the government says people should be paid for travel.



Some families are already getting support from us in this way.

But we want to give most families support in this way.



We would see first if the young person could go on school transport that we already run.



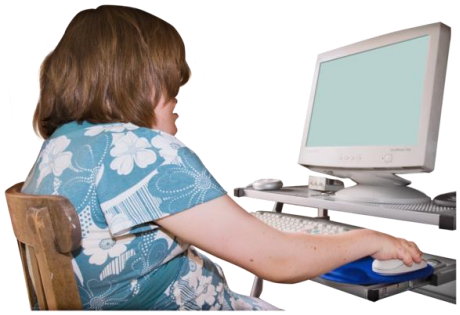
If there was room for the young person on transport that we already run

We would ask families if they want that choice.

We would charge them a lower cost for the transport.



This change would start from **September 2025.**



This would be for young people over 16 who are going into education or training from that date.



There will be no change for young people over 16 who are already in education or training.

But they could choose to be paid 45p a mile for travel instead.

What happens if this change would not work for some families



We may be able to give some families extra support with transport.

That could happen if the change we want to make would not work for them at all.

For example, if a young person needs special transport or equipment.



Families like this could ask us for extra support with transport.

We would see if this was possible.



Some families may not be happy with the decision we give them.

They could ask for the decision to be looked at again.

A group of people who do not work for us would do that. This is called an **appeal**.

There are more choices starting on the next page.

Other choices for saving money

2

Choice 2.

Not paying for any transport for young people over 16



That means transport for young people over 16 who cannot get to school or college themselves.

That is because they have a disability or need extra support.

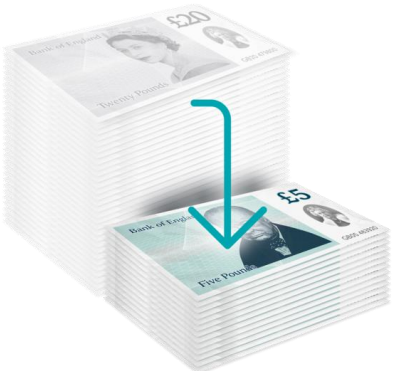


Some councils have stopped all support with transport for these young people.



But we did not want to do that.

We looked at how we can keep the support in some way.



But we may have to change that in the future if we still have to save more money.

3

Choice 3.

Keeping the support the way it is for a very short time.

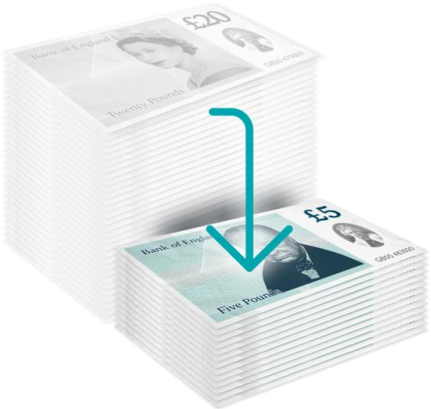


We could give the same support with transport that we do now for young people over 16.



But we do not think we can do that for a long time.

This is because the cost for transport has gone up a lot.



We would need to save money from other places.



There are some questions for you to answer on the next page.

Please tell us what you think about the choices

1

Choice 1.



Paying families back 45p a mile for transport they pay for.

This is the choice that we think works best.

There is more information about this choice on page 8.



How do you feel about this choice?

I agree with this choice ☐



I don't agree with this choice ☐



I don't know ☐

2

Choice 2.

Not paying for any transport for young people over 16.



That means young people who cannot get to school or college themselves.

There is more information about this choice on page 12.



How do you feel about this choice?

I agree with this choice ☐



I don't agree with this choice ☐



I don't know ☐

3

Choice 3.



Do nothing. Keep the support the way it is for a very short time.

There is more information about this choice on page 13.



How do you feel about this choice?

I agree with this choice ☐



I don't agree with this choice ☐



I don't know ☐



Is there anything you want to say about the change we want to make and how it would work for you and your family?

The change we want to make is Choice 1 on page 8.

Or you can tell us about other ideas to save money and still give young people over 16 support with transport.

About you



Who is filling in this document?

I am a child or young person.
I have a disability or I need extra support. ☐

This support is called special educational needs.



I am a parent or carer of a child or young person. ☐

The child or young person has a disability or needs extra support.



How to send us your answers

Please send us your answers by **1 December 2024.**



You can print this document off and fill in your answers.



Then you can send the document with your answers by post to:

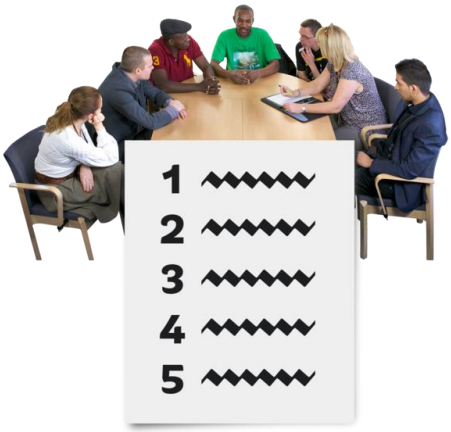
South Gloucestershire Council
Insight and Engagement Team
Home to school transport consultation
PO Box 1953
Bristol
BS37 0DE



Or you can scan the document with your answers onto your computer.

You can then email the document with your answers to:

consultation@southglos.gov.uk



What happens after you give us your answers

We will look at what everyone says.

We will write a report about this.

The report will be on our website.



We will then decide what changes to make and how they will work.

The changes would start from September 2025.

Thank you!

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