

Action Card

Action Card number	004
Project	SEND Transport
As a	Group of families with children with additional needs who are eligible for home to school transport
We want	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To have clarity on the new policy on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Independent Travel Allowance and assurance that the process is in line with statutory guidance – specifically: that unless a parent agrees to transport their child, the LA has to provide appropriate transport. <i>“Examples of other bodies or persons making travel arrangements might include: a parent consenting to use their car in return for a mileage allowance... On condition that the relevant parental consent has been obtained (annually or, if a child moves school, at that point too) by the local authority, a number of alternative arrangements might be considered to meet the local authority duty relating to travel arrangements. Examples include: A mileage allowance paid to a parent driving their eligible child to school in lieu of the local authority making arrangements for a taxi to transport the child.”</i> DFE Statutory Home to school Guidance 2014 - Assurance that a parent who cannot accept an ITA in lieu of transport will not be asked to appeal the decision. - For ALL families who accept an ITA to be paid for the 4 trips they make a day to transport their child or young person to their setting NOT just when the CYP is in the vehicle. This ensures that they are not at a financial disadvantage to those who are transported in a LA funded vehicle. - Families who have been in receipt of an ITA since September have their allowance recalculated to reflect 4 journeys a day instead of 2 and are reimbursed the deficit based on the current calculation. 2) To have clarity on the new arrangements for post 16 transport and an understanding of how extenuating circumstances are taken into consideration. 3) To have clear guidance on how you intend to adhere to the recommended statutory timescales (max journey of 45 mins for primary and max 75 mins for secondary) whenever possible, and assurance that these times won't be exceeded by adding too many children to a route. 4) To have clear guidance on applying with clear timescales and key dates. 5) To have clear guidance on late applications particularly when they are late as a result of a school being named in a plan after the deadline. 6) To have a clear and robust roadmap of how the current application/assessment and delivery processes are going to be significantly changed to ensure that families are not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Left without transport at the start of term - That families are given a fair and timely decision

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That families know the arrangements well ahead of the start of term so that they can prepare their child or young person. - That families are able to contact the transport team and get a timely response.
So that	<p>Children and young people with additional needs can attend the setting named in their EHC plan and be prepared well in advance.</p> <p>So that they are transported to their setting in a safe and timely manner and arrive ready to learn. <i>“ For arrangements to be suitable, they must also be safe and reasonably stress free, to enable the child to arrive at school ready for a day of study.”</i> DFE Statutory Home to school Guidance 2014</p> <p>For families to feel confident in the transport arrangements and feel informed and in control of the process.</p>
Allocated to	Leanne Henderson
Accepted by	Gerry Hughes
Outcome measure	SCC will provide their plans to improve the experience for families and how they will go about this. SCC will provide clarity on the above points and detail how it is in line with the national statutory guidance.
Date Received	October 2022 – this has come about after an unprecedented amount of parents contacted us between August and now.
Dates of updates	Please provide an initial response by the end of October 2022 and then quarterly updates
Date Closed	
Publishable response	