

Appendix of Cabinet Consultation report

The following is a collection of common themes that have been received by non on-line responses (email and letter) relating to the transport consultation(s).

Home to School (related to Voluntary Aided Schools only)

- 1) A further financial burden will be placed on parents of students attending Voluntary Aided schools, considering that the subsidy had already been reduced a few years ago. As a result, students may have to change schools and there may not be spaces available at their nearest catchment school.
- 2) There will be a removal of a Catholic / Denominational / Parental choice, and may even be a case against human rights (of denying a Catholic child the right to a Catholic education).
- 3) There is a historical covenant for the local authority to provide student transport to Voluntary Aided schools, which by their nature have a wider catchment area and therefore rely on school transport.

Home to School (related to all Schools)

- 4) Withdrawal of school transport buses will mean more peak time car traffic on the roads as parents will take their children to school, it will also affect the environment and impact on the local road networks.
- 5) The education of those students that will need to move schools as a result of the proposals will be disrupted.
- 6) The transport arrangements for those schools/colleges that are not changing their catchment areas should not be changed. The proposal to only provide transport to the nearest school/college will have a negative effect on student numbers and the longer term viability of certain schools/colleges.
- 7) The government wants more students to stay in education for longer, and will raise the compulsory age over the coming years, the removal of (subsidy for) 16+ transport will make it difficult for students to stay in education.
- 8) Parents have now received confirmation of school places for next year, many of whom will have used the current transport availability to inform their choices. Now there is uncertainty about transport to their allocated schools and consequently doubt about whether they will be attending there or not.

Concessionary Travel

- 1) Half-fare travel before 09.30am helps to maintain independence for many people. For example to allow disabled people to travel to or look for work.
- 2) Vouchers are useful for people who are unable to use bus services
- 3) Half-fare subsidy for Community Transport is vital to keep the services running, removing the subsidies may mean that the services will have to stop.