

Place Scrutiny Panel Task and Finish Group – Home to School Transport

Meeting 14.10.24

Terms of Reference

At the Teams meeting we agreed on the following terms of reference;

1. To establish the nature of the Home to School Transport Service currently provided by Middlesbrough Council's Integrated Transport Unit
2. To examine the nature of the Home to School Transport policy in light of the relevant statutory guidance.
3. To establish whether the present system is providing adequate support for students travelling on school transport.
4. To identify the reasons for the increase in costs over time and the implications for the overall funding on the service.
5. To investigate how other similar local authorities provide this service and to identify ways in which the service could be improved and any costs minimized.

Purpose and desired outcome

It was suggested that our key purpose of the investigation was to see if we are meeting our obligations and effectively controlling costs. We ultimately would like to see how we can reduce costs whilst ensuring we are providing an adequate service.

Sources of Evidence

It was suggested we first contact the council officers responsible for the policy to see what they are doing to identify ways the service could be improved. This could be for the next Scrutiny Panel.

We then looked at obtaining evidence for relevant schools to see how they thought the system was operating.

We could then see if we could speak to users of the service.