

London Borough of Bexley

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Have your say on changes to travel

A consultation on how young people over 16 receive travel assistance has been launched in Bexley this week. Parents, carers and young people are being called on to have their say on proposed changes to the 'Post 16 Travel Assistance Policy for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)'.

Cabinet Member for Education Cllr John Fuller said; "By looking at other ways of supporting the service we hope to keep travel assistance as an option for our students. There is no legal requirement for us to provide the service, but we don't want to withdraw assistance completely. Financial pressures that are affecting all local authorities mean that we must make changes.

"We are looking at offering those students that live farther away from their place of education a greatly subsidised service, as well as offering links to the alternative support available, such as bursary funding. I'd urge anyone that makes use of the current Bexley scheme or who may use it in the future to look at the survey and let us have their views."

Annual travel assistance currently averages £5,650 a student and more than 600 young people used the service last year.

More information and a link to the consultation is available at www.bexley.gov.uk/consultations

For more information or a hard copy of the survey email alberta.atkinson@bexley.gov.uk

Please contact: Jane Parson on 020 3045 4868
communications@bexley.gov.uk

