Correction to the report on SEND Transport Policy.

Section 3.7 should read <u>It is proposed to remove paragraph 27 of the current AfC SEN Transport policy</u> (not as now 29)

3.7 Age eligibility

It is proposed to remove automatic eligibility for children under five to receive school transport, but to retain the option to assess individual children's needs for transport on an exceptional basis.

The current Home to School Travel Policy makes clear that pupils are eligible for home to school transport up until the end of the academic year in which they turn 16 years old; however, the current policy makes provision for pupils to continue to receive transport if they remain at the same education institution named in their EHCP post-16 (Key Stage 5 or Year 12). The policy states that they may continue to receive home to school transport up until the end of the academic year in which they turn 19 years old.

It is proposed to remove paragraph 27 of the current AfC SEN Transport policy which guarantees continued transport arrangements for any young person who remains in the same education institution post 16, and to introduce a re-assessment of the need for school transport for all relevant young people in year 11, against the published eligibility criteria in paragraph 29, although this will not be applied retrospectively to the current post-16 SEN transport cohort. The reassessment will begin in spring term Y11 for young people who are in compulsory education and consider their eligibility for the next academic year.

This is a clear change from the proposal in the consultation to remove school transport post 16 unless there were exceptional circumstances. The consultation responses on this option were overwhelmingly negative, with concerns that this would be unfair and place at risk young people's ability to get to their place of education. The revised proposal has been changed to reflect these concerns and responses, as well as being in line both with a needs-led approach and with the very recently issued guidance from the DfE. These changes have resulted in an updated estimate of savings for age eligibility of £78,000. This is a reduction of £136,000 from the original proposal of £214,000.

It is expected that this policy change to re-assess young people in year 11 would currently impact on 27 pupils from September 2019. It will be applied to pupils entering Year 12 from September 2019; it will not be applied to pupils currently in Year 12 and above who are assessed as requiring home to school travel assistance and who will continue to remain eligible until the end of the academic year in which they turn 19 years old.