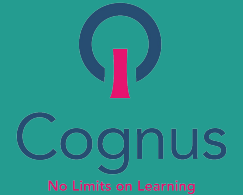# London Borough of Sutton Assisted Travel Provider Forum

3 April 2024

Welcome and Introductions

- Mauline Blake - Quality Improvement Manager (LBS)

- Helen Cullip - Assisted Travel Team Manager (Cognus)

- Esther Fatoba - Commissioning and Project Officer (LBS)

- Anna Jones - Commissioning Manager, Education (LBS)

Agenda

1. Welcome

2. Home to School Travel Assistance Policy Update

3. Quality Assurance and Compliance

4. Adam DPS feedback

5. Provider feedback and Q&A session

6. Any other business

7. Next forum

Travel Assistance Policy Update

- Considerable increase in the number of children with SEND in the Borough in recent years and a subsequent increase in the number of young people that require assistance to travel to their place of learning

- Council must consider ways to support as many residents as possible within the resources available

- Undertook a consultation on proposals to make changes to the Council's Home to School Travel Assistance policies - (i) for children of compulsory school age (5-16) and (ii) for Post 16 learners.

Travel Assistance Policy Update

Proposals agreed by People's Committee:

- To promote our independent travel training (ITT) offer and Personal Travel Budgets (PTBs)

- To stop any support we are not legally required to provide (transport for children under statutory school age, i.e. under 5 years old).

- Families to contribute to the costs of transport for post 16 learners (16-19)

- Fixed drop off and pick up times for post-16 college travel assistance.

- To reduce solo transport routes where appropriate

- To introduce 'central pick-up points' rather than picking them from their home address where appropriate to the age and needs of the child.

Travel Assistance Policy Update

Timescale: Implementing the proposals along with new application form for September 2024

Any questions?

Email: assistedtravelteam@cognus.org.uk

Provider feedback and Q&A session

Strengths	Weaknesses
•	•
•	•
•	•

Opportunities

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•
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Examples:

- The bidding process

- Relationships

- Staff training

- Start and end of term arrangements

- Route optimisation.

Thank you for your time!