

Reports not on the Forward Plan / Late Report

Birmingham City Council

Report to Cabinet/Cabinet Committee

22nd May 2019



Subject: HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT – MEDIUM-TERM SERVICE PROVISION ARRANGEMENTS

Report of: Tim O`Neill – Director; Education and Skills

Relevant Cabinet Member: Cllr Jayne Francis - Education, Skills & Culture
Cllr Kate Booth - Children's Well-being
Cllr Paulette Hamilton - Health & Social Care
Cllr Tristan Chatfield – Finance & Resources

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1) Late Reports

To be completed for all late reports, i.e. which cannot be despatched with the agenda papers i.e. 5 clear working days' notice before meeting.

<i>Reasons for Lateness</i>	<p>The Cabinet report relates to the collapse of ATG Group who provided home to school transport to the Council.</p> <p>This is an unprecedented transaction in terms of fluidity. As a result officers have encountered challenges on seeking a recommendation option to ensure service continuity statutory for vulnerable children and young people.</p> <p>This report contains planning assumptions based on best information available to officers from the Administrators as of 13 May 2019.</p> <p>The Cabinet report asks for agreement to a number of actions for which immediate implementation is required that will enable transport provision where possible to until medium-term solutions can be reached.</p>
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<i>Reasons for Urgency</i>	<p>The Council has a statutory duty to provide transport to education providers for eligible children. With regards to ATG this is 1,600 children and 210 routes.</p> <p>It has therefore been crucial to undertake detailed discussions quickly and to seek agreement from Cabinet to extend the transitional service agreement as soon as possible before it expires and services cease.</p> <p>Additionally, it is crucial to be able to begin working with Administrator in conjunction with West Midlands Combined Authority to make a recommendation to the Administrator on the Council preferred bidders prior to the sale taking place.</p> <p>Lastly, officers need approval to begin negotiations with the purchaser of ATG to allow for a smooth transition of services and minimal disruption to vulnerable children and young people.</p> <p>If the Council is not able to make swift decisions commensurate to the speed of the sale it runs the risk that major risk and / or issues could occur during mobilisation and implementation.</p>
<i>Date Corporate Clearance agreement obtained:</i>	17/05/19

2) Key Decisions not on the Forward Plan / Urgent Decisions

To be completed for Key Decisions not on the Forward Plan 28 days before the Cabinet meeting at which the decision is to be taken.

<i>Reasons for Urgency</i>	
<i>Date Chief Executive Agreement obtained:</i>	
<i>Name and Date of O&S Chair agreement obtained:</i>	Cllr M Aikhlaq / Cllr K Scott 17 th May 2019