

Pupil Access and Community Services
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PA&CS/MS/MAH

23 April 2003

Mr M Shenstone

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**To: College Principals
and Headteachers of schools with sixth forms**

Dear Colleague

16–19 Transport Pathfinder Projects

The DfES has recently made Pathfinder Funding available to the 16–19 Transport Partnership made up of representatives of the County Council, LSC, Connexions, F E Colleges and Schools. The purpose of the money is to enable real and sustainable progress to be made in improving transport support and services. The Partnership has agreed that for the coming year, the majority of the £275,000 available for 2003/4 should be used to examine the effect that a small reduction in the amount charged to parents has on participation rates. £75,000 will, however, be available to pay for a number of local projects costing a maximum of £10,000 designed to assess their impact on participation.

Bids are, therefore, invited to be operated for the 2003/4 academic year on the attached form that should be returned for consideration by the Partnership by May 15. It should be noted that since Pathfinder funding cannot be guaranteed year on year, thought must be given to how the work will be funded when the Pathfinder funding runs out and no assumptions must be made about the funding continuing.

The criteria against which bids will be considered are:-

- impact on increasing participation
- ability to support those currently experiencing difficulties with transport
- sustainability
- arrangements for evaluation

Priority will be given to projects that support students within current policy (i.e. who live more than 3 miles away) but projects that extend policy will be considered.

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If you or your representative wishes to discuss this further, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mike Shenstone
Assistant Director (Pupil Access and Community Services)

16 – 19 TRANSPORT PATHFINDER PROJECT

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

TARGET GROUPS

HOW PROPOSAL WILL SUPPORT THOSE GROUPS IN TERMS OF TRANSPORT

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION WITH PASSENGER TRANSPORT UNIT

COST IN 2003/4 ACADEMIC YEAR

HOW THE PROJECT WILL BE EVALUATED

HOW THE PROJECT WILL BE SUSTAINED WHEN PARTNERSHIP FUNDING ENDS

CONTACT AT SCHOOL/COLLEGE

Signed

Name of School/College

Position at School/College

Date

Please return to Mike Shenstone by Friday May 16 2003