

WARDS AFFECTED:
Aspley, Bilborough & Leen Valley

ITEM:
WEST AREA COMMITTEE
10 MAY 2006

ASPLEY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE (MINIBUS PROJECT)

1 SUMMARY

This report seeks approval from the West Area Committee to support the retention of the Minibus from the above project in the Aspley, Bilborough and Leen Valley wards.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that members agree to support the retention of the Minibus in the West Area.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.0 This original project was designed to improve attendance for children within 4 schools (Ambleside Infant/Nursery, Ambleside Junior, Rosslyn Infant/Nursery and Rosslyn Junior – now Rosslyn Primary) by providing a Minibus and dedicated driver to collect/drop off children at school and also for school trips. It started in October 2003 and came to an end in March 2006 due to the lack of funding available to continue the project in its original form.
- 3.1 The Minibus was purchased through the Assist Fund with the SRB paying for the driver, escort and running costs.
- 3.2 The Education Action Zone Manager and the Community Education Link Worker have approached the Transport Strategy Team to enquiry about the possibility of continuing the project.
- 3.3 All avenues have been explored to identify resources for the employment of a Minibus Driver and Escort. However, there are no finances currently available which will enable the continuation of the project in its existing form.
- 3.4 The schools have agreed to retain the Minibus subject to administration arrangements being managed centrally by the Education Action Zone Manager and the Community Education Link Worker.
- 3.5 The Transport Strategy Team would be willing to support the retention of the bus in the West Area provided this Area Committee is happy for this arrangement.

4 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Minibus is retained for schools within the West Area.
- 4.2 To widen the availability of the Minibus to support activities, both during and outside school day, such as trips, educational visits, sporting activities.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no financial implication to the Area Committee.

6 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

The Minibus is a valuable resource which enables children and young people from deprived backgrounds to be supported in attending school and widens their scope for educational visits.

7 STRATEGIC AIMS

This report contributes towards the following strategic aims:

- Making Nottingham a Safer City
- Promoting Education and Lifelong Learning
- Maximising Leisure and Cultural Opportunities

8 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

None.

9 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

None.

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