

Allocation of Additional Home to School Transport Funds - Academic Year 2021-22

To: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board

Meeting Date: 26 January 2022

Lead Member: Mayor Nik Johnson

From: Rowland Potter
Head of Transport

Key decision: Yes

Forward Plan reference: KD2021/083

Recommendations: The Combined Authority Board note the content of this consultation report, noting the Mayor's intention to allocate the balance of Additional Home to School Transport grants in line with the audited expenditure figures of each Authority below:

Cambridgeshire County Council: £344,211

Peterborough City Council: £208,340

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority:
£50,522

subject to funding confirmation from the Department for Education.

No vote required, note only item.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report seeks to consult the combined authority board on the allocation of the Additional Home to School transport grants from the Department of Education to the Authorities which have incurred eligible expenditure providing continued access to education during the 2021-22 academic year, subject to the Department finalising the allocation to the Combined Authority.

2. Background

- 2.1 Recognising that there would be additional costs associated with the need to implement social distancing arrangements for home to school transport during the 2021-22 academic year the Department for Education (DfE) engaged with Local Transport authorities to ensure funding was in place to enable continued access to education.
- 2.2 Initial allocations for each tranche of funding were based on forecast spend figures which the Combined Authority collated from its own expenditure and that of the two Authorities in the area with responsibility for home to school transport (Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) and Peterborough City Council (PCC)).
- 2.3 Across the three Authorities total eligible spend on delivering these services was £1,658k however, due to the DfE picking up data from the wrong tab in a CPCA return the amount paid to the Combined Authority to-date is only £1,513k leaving a deficit of £145k.
- 2.4 The mistake in interpreting the return was highlighted to the DfE and assurance was provided that the balance of funding would be forthcoming based on the audited figures at the end of the academic year.
- 2.5 At its meeting in November 2020 the CPCA Board awarded funding to cover the 20-21 financial year to PCC and CCC so, subject to funding confirmation of the £145k outstanding balance from DfT, the Board are recommended to approve the distribution of the funding to meet the expenditure already incurred by the three Authorities as set out below:

Authority	Total audited spend (a)	20-21 funding already paid (b)	Balance to be awarded here (a-b)
CCC	£1,220,375	£876,164	£344,211
PCC	£387,668	£179,328	£208,340
CPCA	£50,552	£0	£50,552
Total	£1,658,595	£1,055,492	£603,103

Significant Implications

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications beyond the award of funds set out in the body of the report.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 None.

5. Other Significant Implications

5.1 There are no other significant implications.

6. Appendices

6.1 None