

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to invite you to take part in an engagement event about the Assisted Travel Service in Sutton.

The London Borough of Sutton commissions Cognus to provide travel assistance to eligible families, to support pupils getting to and from school.

We intend to review the service and Travel policy so that it makes the best use of the resources available, continues to provide the right support for children and young people and can meet growing demand during the difficult financial challenges facing residents (as well as the Council).

The event will be hosted by Sutton Parent Carers Forum (SPCF) and will be an early opportunity to share information about the challenges, and potential opportunities, of adapting the Travel policy, as well as to hear from families about their experiences of the service and any ideas they have for the review.

This is not a formal consultation nor will we be putting forward any formal proposals at this stage. We recognise any changes in the future may have an impact on families, so we want to talk to families early in the process.

We will be looking at the policy over the next year, and after this event there will be further engagement and consultation across the local area as we progress our plans. We know families are very busy so even if you are unable to attend either of the events on this occasion, there will be further opportunities to share your views in future.

The session will be attended by staff from both London Borough of Sutton and Cognus. We expect the session to take about 1 hour and will cover:

- An introduction from SPCF
- London Borough of Sutton setting out the background to the review
- Presentation on our existing policy and what we intend to review
- An opportunity for questions and discussion in small groups
- Summary and next steps

You have been invited because you currently use the service, but this event is open to any parents/carers so please do share with anyone else you think might be interested.

Parent/carers are welcome to come along just to listen, but there will also be opportunities for questions and discussion – we particularly want to capture any ideas or thoughts you have about the review at this early stage.

For the event on 27<sup>th</sup> March, Cognus Assisted Travel staff will also be available for 10 minute 1:1 surgeries with existing service users that have particular individual queries. These will be available from 11.30-12.30 but must be booked in advance. Please book your place by emailing [suttonparentsforum@outlook.com](mailto:suttonparentsforum@outlook.com)

