

Dear All

At the start of the academic term the Travel Assist service, a critical resource for families to ensure children can get to school, failed to deliver on its objectives.

At City Council on 15 September 2020, the Council asked the Chief Executive to launch an independent inquiry into the Travel Assist service. The purpose of this inquiry was to identify and understand the underlying root causes of the performance issues and set out what needs to be done to improve the service on a sustainable basis.

This is a critical service supporting children and their families in accessing education. As a Council we are committed to a transparent and open dialogue with key stakeholders about how we are performing and what we can do better. We would therefore like to invite you to a meeting to hear the findings of the independent inquiry and have the opportunity to ask questions, provide further comments, and to help shape our next steps.

The meeting will take place at 7pm on 24 November 2020 (via Zoom).

We would be grateful if you could share this invitation with your networks. We are asking people who are interested in attending to register via Eventbrite (using the link below) and we will then send the Zoom link to the meeting in due course.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/travel-assist-tickets-128877388739>

The agenda for the meeting will be as follows:

7pm: Welcome and opening remarks - Cllr Ian Ward, Leader of the Council

7.05pm: Welcome and response – Cllr Booth, Cabinet Member for Children’s Wellbeing and Chris Naylor, CEO Birmingham City Council

7.10pm: Presentation of the Inquiry Findings – Darra Singh OBE, EY, Inquiry Lead

7.30pm: Comments and Questions from Parents, Carers and Schools – Chaired by Cllr Ian Ward

8.15pm: Closing remarks – and Next Steps – Cllr Ian Ward and Chris Naylor, CEO Birmingham City Council

We look forward to your attendance at this meeting and welcome your feedback and engagement in shaping this critical service in partnership with us going forward.

Kind regards

Ian

Councillor Ian Ward
Leader of Birmingham City Council