

**Baugh, Ben**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 January 2014 21:46  
**To:** Baugh, Ben  
**Subject:** Changes to Herefordshire Schools Transport Policy

Dear Mr Baugh

I would like answers to the following questions to be taken into account at The General Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 15/1/14.

Has the council calculated exactly how much would be saved if every family affected by the changes, accepted the new policy and sent their children to the nearest school? This would mean the council would provide free transport for all and have to put on extra buses to schools outside the county in addition to the current transport in place.

During the consultation process, the council website quoted an annual charge of £660. Since the policy has been agreed by council that figure has risen to £720 per year, an increase of 8%. Can you explain how that figure was reached and what mechanisms will be used to calculate future annual increases? The Office of National Statistics show that Herefordshire average weekly incomes went up from £385.10 in 2011 to £415.00 in 2013, an average increase of 3.6% per year. It is clear that increases of this magnitude are unsustainable for the future.

Why has the council not published full details of the consultation and what feedback was received as a result?

Thank you in anticipation

[REDACTED]