

**Baugh, Ben**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 January 2014 22:02  
**To:** Baugh, Ben  
**Subject:** Questions for General Overview & Scrutiny Committee, 15th January 2014

Dear Mr Baugh,

In relation to Agenda Item 4 for next Wednesday's meeting of the General Overview and Scrutiny Committee (15th January 2014) I have some questions I would like to submit with regard to School Transport Policy:

- Was the Cost Modelling sufficiently robust? Under these proposals, Colwall will need an extra bus to take pupils to a school in Worcestershire, in addition to the existing service to John Masefield High School. **This will cost the council more money, not less**

- Why was insufficient effort made to consult with those affected, why did you not inform schools at the outset and inform parents at those schools? In East Herefordshire, the vast majority of families knew nothing until three days before the consultation period closed.

- Has the detrimental impact on the council's own Sustainable Transport Policy been properly assessed? Apart from the additional buses needed to enact this policy, many parents will drive their children to school rather than pay for their children to join the bus.

- Have the negative effects of the decision been properly evaluated? Herefordshire Schools will lose funding to neighbouring counties. Rural communities will see less families (younger people) settling or remaining in them. Individual families will be hit with a bill of hundreds or thousands of pounds.

- Why were the transport models adopted by other councils dismissed?

- This policy change appears to have been so badly conceived and enacted, does it increase the chance the running of Herefordshire Council will be taken over by Central Government?

Thank you very much,

[REDACTED]