

Baugh, Ben

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 January 2014 17:02
To: Baugh, Ben
Subject: School transport questions

Dear Mr Baugh,

Following the recent decision by the council to potentially stop the free school bus service for students who attend John Masefield High School, when it is not their nearest school I have the following questions:-

1) Can you please provide me the financial analysis which shows define cost savings for Herefordshire Council, when all factors are taken in to consideration, including administration, provide transport for students who do not attend John Masefield who will be forced to under these new rules, at best I can see this policy breaking even not saving money.

2) Has the council conducted an impact analysis on effect of the students education being forced to leave their current school to join an unwanted school as parents will not be able to afford to pay for transportation within the current financial constraints.

I) My children chose John Masefield for very specific reasons:- Size of school, excellent education and it is a specialist drama school.

Given that I have 2 children that is a transport cost of £1400 per annum, a bill I cannot afford and they will therefore not get the education they want or deserve and work very hard for.

3) Has the Council checked the availability of places in the schools surrounding the areas affected, especially for schools that fall into a neighbouring councils jurisdiction?

4) Cannot the council reach a compromise on the cost of the transportation and provide some of the funding. Surely if this is such a cost saving to the council then there is room for a contribution?

5) If parents chose the drive their children to John Masefield has an analysis been conducted on the extra traffic on the roads, in Ledbury and at the school gates and the effect of this?

I will be submitting a Freedom of Information request on the initial councils decisions to understand on what grounds they decided to remove free school transport, and I can assure you that I and many other parents intend to fight this decision through all routes available.

I thank you for you response, I can be contacted by return or on [REDACTED]

I would be grateful if you can provide acknowledgement of receipt of this mail as a courtesy.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
 Cradley resident.