

Committee:	Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness
Date:	20 January 2014
By:	Interim Director of Children's Services
Title of Report:	Home to School Transport; Provision for children living in shared community areas in East Sussex
Purpose of Report:	To approve implementation of the existing home to school transport policy as written in relation to children who live in joint community areas.

Recommendation:

The Lead Member is recommended to agree the existing home to school transport policy for children living in joint community areas is implemented as written so that transport would only be provided where the pupil attends the nearest school and meets the eligibility criteria for all applications for children living in joint community areas applying for home to school transport from September 2014.

1. Financial Appraisal

1.1 The Lead Member was advised in 2011 that all areas of home to school transport where there is no statutory entitlement would be reviewed as part of the County Council's financial planning. This includes the current practice of providing transport to either qualifying school serving a joint community area. The community areas for secondary schools in East Sussex are shown as **Appendix 1**, and the County Council's published policy on home to school transport for children living in joint community areas is shown at **Appendix 2**.

1.2 A report to SMT in December 2013 stated approximate savings that were calculated on the number of first preferences received by the closing date of 31 October 2012 for the September 2013 Year 7 intake. They assumed that all first preferences will be met and the saving for each pupil is equivalent to the cost of an annual freedom ticket; currently £532. For September 2013, there were 95 pupils whose first preferences were for schools which serve their joint area but are not their nearest school. The projected saving from these pupils (if the pattern was repeated for September 2014) would therefore be approximately £50,000 over a full year and £80,000 over the nineteen month period from September 2014 to the end of the financial year 2016. Further savings may be made from hiring smaller vehicles as numbers reduce or raising income through the vacant seats scheme.

1.3 The level of savings could be affected if this proposal were to alter parental preferences. **Appendix 3** shows the number of first preferences made for each relevant secondary school for 2012, 2013 (when consultation on this proposal was first undertaken) and 2014 following the most recent consultation from 4 September to 25 October 2013. The indications are that there has been no significant fall in the number of first preferences stated as a result of this proposal.

2. Supporting Information

2.1 The County Council has a legal obligation to provide home to school transport for eligible pupils. The criteria for eligibility are enshrined in legislation and the County Council's transport policy is fully compliant. Other discretionary provision by the Council for statutory aged pupils has either been reviewed or will be reviewed shortly.

2.2 The current implementation of the home to school transport policy for children living in joint community areas is more generous than the County Council's agreed and published policy, and also more generous than the eligibility criteria for other children across the County who do not live in joint community areas. It is therefore a discretionary benefit for some children who otherwise would not qualify for support. The pressures now placed on the County Council's finances mean that discretionary benefits are no longer sustainable. However, it is proposed that existing beneficiaries will continue to receive free transport until their circumstances change, and all new applications for transport from September 2014 are considered strictly against the County Council's agreed and published policy.

3. Consultation exercise

3.1 Consultation was undertaken in 2012 with a view to implementing this proposal from September 2013. However, it was agreed to undertake further consultation to include the Eastbourne area with a view to implementing the proposal in September 2014, subject to agreement by the Lead Member. This was undertaken during September and October 2013. The consultation was widely publicised, in the County Council's composite prospectus (available in hard copy and on the County Council's website), and schools were asked to notify parents and students, and ask for their comments.

3.2 The outcome of the consultation is shown as **Appendix 4**. There were 423 comments received, and of these, 4.964% agreed or strongly agreed with this proposal, and 92.2% disagreed or strongly disagreed. Among the main themes were:

Positive themes:

- It would achieve equality with parents already funding transport
- You should pay if you choose a school further away
- Everyone should pay for school transport unless they received free school meals

Negative themes:

- Limits school choice and affects children's education. Forces parents to choose school based on affordability rather than suitability. Barrier to choosing the school you want, rather than what is most appropriate and will allow the child to thrive.
- Increase in cars on the roads – impact on environment and safety
- Financial hardship – this especially targets families who are just above the low income threshold
- Discriminates against rural communities
- Unforeseen financial costs and issues for siblings – issue of transporting siblings to different schools
- Impact on small local communities where the local children have historically attended a certain school. This policy will be divisive and children whose parents can afford the additional costs will be segregated from those who can't. This will further perpetuate the class divide.
- Impact on school intake and this will potentially affect staffing and funding allocation. Schools could either be undersubscribed or oversubscribed.

Alternative proposals included cutting salaries and administrative posts in the County Council, or volunteering to look at the County Council's budget in order to identify savings. Some commented it was not for other people to tell us how to make the required savings.

3.3 While it is accepted that this proposal will mean parents will have to consider how they will arrange their child's transport to a further school if that is their preference, it does not impact on admissions policy or a parent's right to apply for their preferred school. This proposal concerns the County Council's duty to provide free home to school transport which is enshrined in law. The current implementation of the County Council's agreed and published policy means that free home to school transport has been granted to some children who do not have a legal entitlement and is therefore discretionary and unsustainable in the current financial climate.

Paying due regard to the equality duty

3.4 The equality impact assessment identified some of the issues raised in the consultation set out in section 3 above, including a potentially disproportionate negative impact on rural communities, where there may be longer distances to educational establishments.

3.5 Mitigating plans are as follows:

- It will be important to give clear information at an early stage to parents and children making their choice of school, so that they understand that they will only get free transport to their nearest school, and can make their plans accordingly.
- CET will run briefing sessions in the East and the West of the County about school/community based transport solutions which could include: organised car shares; utilising the school's own minibus transport and staff/or trained parent volunteers; funding a community transport operator to provide a minibus and possibly also drivers. This would include the need to consider how much parents would contribute to the costs of providing such arrangements.

4. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendations

4.1 The majority of respondents by far did not want this proposal to go ahead. Many of the comments showed concern about affecting parents' rights to state which school they would prefer their child to attend. However, this view is not substantiated by the information in **Appendix 3** which does not indicate that parental preference changed significantly from previous years.

4.2 The Lead Member is recommended to agree the existing home to school transport policy for children living in joint community areas is implemented as written so that transport would only be

provided where the pupil attends the nearest school and meets the eligibility criteria. The Lead Member is recommended to approve this amendment for all new applications for children living in joint community areas applying for home to school transport from September 2014.

GED ROWNEY

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Local Members: All

Background Documents: None

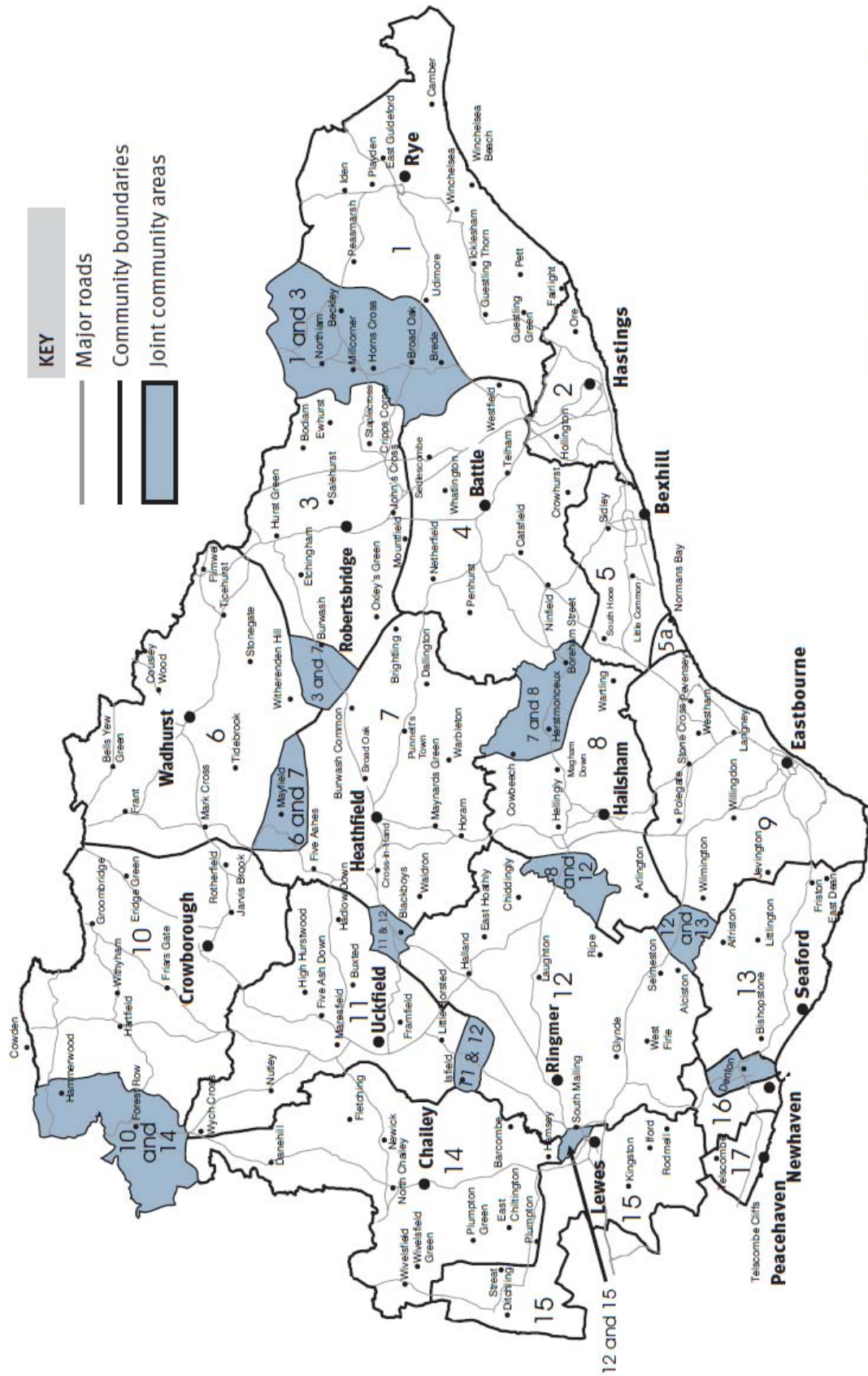
Appendices: Appendix 1 - Map of East Sussex showing secondary school community areas emphasising joint community areas.

Appendix 2 – East Sussex home to school transport policy regarding pupils who live in joint community areas

Appendix 3 – Number of first preferences submitted for schools serving joint community areas

Appendix 4 – Consultation outcome

Community areas are areas that are served by a particular secondary school or schools, and children within each area have priority for admission to the specific school(s) over those who do not. Joint areas are served by more than one secondary school and this Appendix shows the joint rural community areas in detail.





East Sussex policy regarding home to school transport for children living in joint community areas

*'We will provide free transport between home and school if your child is eight years of age or over and lives more than three miles (4828 metres) from the **designated*** school,.....*

****The designated school is the school suitable to your child's age which serves your area, or if there is more than one school, the nearest school to your home which is suitable for your child and at which a place is available.'***



Number of first preferences submitted for schools serving joint community areas.

School	2012	2013*	2014
Beacon CC	170	189	194
The Causeway	115	106	114
Chailey	144	111	116
Hailsham CC	170	141	160
Heathfield CC	216	202	191
Priory	271	232	247
Ringmer CC	101	100	120
Robertsbridge CC	124	116	116
Rye College	119	118	104
Seaford Head	192	160	200
The Eastbourne Academy	87	85	113
Tideway	63	63	75
Uckfield CTC	251	227	252
Uplands CC	139	138	132
Willingdon	183	179	206

*The cohort for this particular year group was smaller by 592 pupils, or 12.2%

Proposed changes to transport provision for children in areas that are served by more than one school (joint community areas)

In the past we have provided children with free transport to either of the secondary schools serving joint community areas (provided they are over three miles from the child's home address). We are proposing changing this from September 2014 so that transport will only be provided to the nearest school serving the joint community area, provided it is more than three miles from the child's home address.

The following pupils would not be affected by this proposal:

- Pupils already receiving home to school transport to one of the schools serving the joint community areas where they live. This will continue until there is a change of circumstance such as house move or change of school.
- Pupils from low income families (i.e. who qualify for free school meals) and receive free home to school transport.
- Students starting in Year 12 from 1 September 2014.
- We would like to hear your views on this proposal as well as any impact it might have on you.

Q1: What is your email address?

299 (70.7%)

Q2: Do you agree with our proposal?

421 (99.5%)

Option	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	8	1.891%
Agree	13	3.073%
Neither agree or disagree	7	1.655%
Disagree	55	13.00%
Strongly disagree	335	79.20%
Don't know	3	0.7092%
Not answered	2	0.4728%

Q3: If you wish, please give your main reasons for your answer to Q2, including any impact the proposal would have on you.

345 (81.6%)

Q4: As we explained these savings have to be made, if you disagree with this proposal do you have any suggestions for how we could make these savings?

270 (63.8%)

Q5: Are you a...?

- 285 (67.38%) Parent/carer or a pupil living in East Sussex in an area that is served by more than one school
- 44 (10.40%) Parent/carer or a pupil living in East Sussex in an area that is not served by more than one school
- 79 (18.68%) A member of staff or a governor of an East Sussex school
- 10 (2.364%) Other
- 5 (1.182%) Not answered

About you...

We want to make sure that everyone is treated fairly and equally and that no one gets left out. That's why we ask these questions.

We won't share the information you give us with anyone else. We will only use it to help us make decisions and make our services better.

If you would rather not answer any of these questions, you don't have to.

Q6: Are you....? Please select one answer

415 (98.1%)

- 91 (21.51%) Male
- 303 (71.63%) Female
- 21 (4.965%) Prefer not to say
- 8 (1.891%) Not answered

Q7: Do you identify as a transgender or trans person? Please select one answer

388 (91.7%)

- 2 (0.4728%) Yes
- 356 (84.16%) No
- 30 (7.092%) Prefer not to say
- 35 (8.274%) Not answered

Q8: Which of these age groups do you belong to? Please select one answer

415 (98.1%)

4 (0.9456%) Under 18
 6 (1.481%) 18 – 24
 36 (8.511%) 25 – 34
 172 (40.66%) 35 – 44
 148 (34.99%) 45 – 54
 14 (3.310%) 55 – 59
 5 (1.182%) 60 – 64
 8 (1.891%) 65 – 74
 1 (0.2364%) 75+
 21 (4.965%) Prefer not to say
 8 (1.891%) Not answered

Q9: What is your postcode?

381 (90.1%)

Q10: To which of these ethnic groups do you feel you belong? (source 2011 consensus) Please select one answer.

407 (96.2%)

360 (85.11%) White British
 5 (1.182%) White Irish
 0 (0%) White Gypsy/Roma
 0 (0%) White Irish Traveller
 9 (2.128%) White other
 0 (0%) Mixed White and Black Caribbean
 0 (0%) Mixed White and Black African
 0 (0%) Mixed White and Asian
 1 (0.2364%) Mixed other
 0 (0%) Asian or Asian British Indian
 0 (0%) Asian or Asian British Pakistani
 0 (0%) Asian or Asian British Bangladeshi
 0 (0%) Asian or Asian British other
 0 (0%) Black or Black British Caribbean
 1 (2.364%) Black or Black British African
 0 (0%) Black or Black British other
 0 (0%) Arab
 2 (0.4728%) Chinese
 25 (5.910%) Prefer not to say
 2 (0.4728%) Other ethnic group
 18 (4.255%) Not answered

The Equality Act 2010 describes a person disabled if they have a longstanding physical or mental condition that has lasted or is likely to last at least 12 months; and this condition has a substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities. People with some conditions (cancer, multiple sclerosis and HIV/AIDS, for example) are considered to be disabled from the point that they are diagnosed.

Q11: Do you consider yourself to be disabled as set out in the Equalities Act 2010?
 Please select one answer

402 (95%)

9 (2.128%) Yes
 367 (86.76%) No
 26 (6.147%) Prefer not to say
 21 (4.965%) Not answered

Q12: If you answered yes to Q11, please tell us the type of impairment that applies

to you.

26 (6.15%)

- 4 (0.9456%) Physical Impairment
- 2 (0.4728%) Sensory Impairment (hearing and sight)
- 6 (1.418%) Long standing illness or health condition, such as cancer, HIV, heart disease, diabetes or epilepsy
- 2 (0.4728%) Mental health condition
- 0 (0%) Learning disability
- 15 (3.546%) Prefer not to say
- 1 (0.2364%) Other
- 397 (93.85%) Not answered

Q13: Do you regard yourself as belonging to any particular religion or belief? Please select one answer

406 (96%)

- 149 (35.22%) Yes
- 213 (50.35%) No
- 44 (10.40%) Prefer not to say
- 17 (4.019%) Not answered

Q14: If you answered yes to Q13 which one? Please select one answer

158 (37.4%)

- 147 (34.75%) Christian
- 1 (0.2364%) Buddhist
- 0 (0%) Hindu
- 0 (0%) Jewish
- 0 (0%) Muslim
- 0 (0%) Sikh
- 7 (1.655%) Other
- 268 (63.36%) Not answered

Q15: Are you...? Please select one answer

390 (92.2%)

- 1 (0.2364%) Bi/Bisexual
- 318 (75.18%) Heterosexual/Straight
- 4 (0.9456%) Gay woman/Lesbian
- 2 (0.4728%) Gay man
- 1 (0.2364%) Other
- 64 (15.13%) Prefer not to say
- 33 (7.801%) Not answered

Comments following consultation for proposed changes to transport provision for children in areas that are served by more than one school (joint community areas)

Case 1	Question 1: We live in an area [Stone Cross] that is served by many schools, but the closest school is undiseriable; therefore, we chose for our child to attend Willingdon Community School. Willingdon has a much better academic record and doesn't have an many issues regarding bullying, etc. If my child did not get free school transport, I would have to drive him to Willingdon the Causeways is not an acceptable option. By taking away free school transport you will be effectively be putting more cars on the roads [bus costs are too high to make it a feasible option], In addition, it would likely impact the value of my home as many families would have concerns regarding their children attending Causeways. Until all schools have the same standards, it is unfair to penalise parents for chosing for their child to attend the school of their choice.
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	<p>Question 2: Perhaps, looking into making the buses and the trains less expensive you would encourage more use. I would like to take the train to work to avoid the parking hassle but as previously stated it is not feasible due to costs.</p> <p>A train station in Stone Cross would encourage public transportation or the ability to take one bus to the Eastbourne Train Station would be an option. Most of my colleagues would then feel using public transport would be the best option for them. More users will increase the profitability.</p>
Case 2	<p>Question 1: We live in Herstmonceux where Hailsham CC is nearest school, I have one child at Heathfield and one at Herstmonceux primary in year six. The majority of this school go to Heathfield, with your proposal we would only get transport to Hailsham which is completely unacceptable considering that Herstmonceux is served by Heathfield police and Heathfield nursing/health visiting teams etc. Our village floats between 2 towns with regards to this, so how can you determine which school our children go to by taking away free transport.... We value our choice of these 2 schools as we are a part of both towns. I would certainly not be able to afford the transport costs for my son to attend Heathfield CC with his sister who is in year 9 and I would not be eligible under low income to get help despite us getting maxium tax credits. This would have a major impact on us as I would not be able to afford 2 different school uniforms as I would not be able to pass down any uniforms.. It would cause significant financial hardship and a great deal of stress as I cant be in 2 places at once with regards to school events etc</p> <p>Question 2: Less staff and lower wages would help you save money</p>
Case 3	<p>Question 1: These proposals will disadvantage further those from low income families (just below the income threshold) when there is a clearly established link between low income families and below average educational attainment. The perpetuation of an underclass is not in the national interest. No personal impact.</p> <p>Question 2: I understand savings have to be made. But the impact on low income families just above the threshold should be tapered also taking into account the number of dependent children in the household.</p>
Case 4	<p>Question 1: I know this is a very hard decision. Although savings need to be made, these proposals seem to be disproportionately punitive to people living in rural communities. At best, it will limit choice, at worse, it will directly affect the standard of education available to children as parents will need to make decisions about schools on a financial rather than academic basis. Affected people may say (perhaps unfairly) 'if the council can spend millions and millions on a link road and super duper broadband, why are they penny pinching on services that directly affect far more people in the county?'. And the people affected are children, the future of the county. 12,000 people have signed up for broadband but there are 25,000 children living in rural and semi rural communities in the county....go figure?</p> <p>Question 2: Money appears to have been found for other projects in the county.</p>
Case 5	<p>Question 1: If I have to take my younger children school, how will my oldest children get to secondary school. This will remove the freedom of choice of which school your child wants to continue their education.</p> <p>Question 2: I'm afraid without seeing all your expenditure codes and how these are managed its a difficult question to answer.</p>
Case 6	<p>Question 1: If this proposal goes ahead my children will no longer be able to attend the school that they would like to attend because we couldn't afford the transport costs.</p> <p>Question 2: I'm afraid asking us how to do your job is absurd! We totally accept cuts have to be made but making cuts in a child's future is not the place ,</p>
Case 7	<p>Question 1: I think the first exception should be extended to include younger siblings of people already receiving free home to school transport who chose to attend the same school. Not sure whether we are affected or not, depends - whether "closest" is crow flies, walking distance, driving distance or time to get there by public transport. I assume this comes up all the time and there is a standard way of dealing with which resource is 'closest'. But in the worst case our younger daughter (year 4) would have to go to a school which is very hard to get to but 200m nearer by car (though there is no public transport to get there) than the school her sister (year 7) has just started at.</p>

	Question 2: Increase council tax at the top end (which I am in). It is not a progressive enough tax. Outside your power I know.
Case 8	Question 1: I will have 2 children going to secondary school within the next 5 years, and feel if we had to pay for transport then we would not have a choice but to send them both to the nearest school which would not be our preferred choice of school Question 2: In our village we pay council tax and we have no street lights at all. I wouldn't mind if you were suggesting every student paid a small amount towards the cost but to pin point specific schools is too much,
Case 9	Question 1: If free transport is offered and there is more than one school in the area, then transport should be offered to all available schools. To not do so could force some families in to sending their child to the school that they would not ideally choose. Some secondary schools do specialize for example I understand that Heathfield is very big on the arts including drama etc. A child may be keen to excel in this area but might lose out if forced to go to Robertsbridge due to travel costs. Question 2: I understand that savings have to be made and I am not in a position to offer advice on where a budget should be cut however budgets should not be cut for areas such as education and healthcare. This suggested cut will have a direct affect on the education of many pupils.
Case 10	Question 1: I sent my son to Heathfield based on their excellent performance and upon recommendations given by friends before all of this rubbish came about; I have four children and only I work as my wife is at home looking after the other children / child. Although I don't fit in the magical 'struggling families' category as I work for a living this will still cost me money that I can not afford through absolutely no fault of my own. This would be unavoidable as it is completely impractical to expect my 4 kids to be spread across two schools if these changes take effect. Also Robertsbridge was never an option for us as my wife can not drive and the bus service if she needed to get to the school during the day / if my child needed to get home during the day is literally non-existent. This is a massive let down and re-enforces the feeling that Burwash get the raw end of the deal when it comes to anything council based, we have worse recycling than other nearby areas, no street lamps, we are not allowed a fully funded playground for ridiculous red tape reasons and have very minimal police / traffic enforcement in the area to name but a few things. Please do something right by us just for once. Question 2: No
Case 11	Question 1: I can see savings need to be made BUT some areas (esp Bexhill) need more secondary places, more secondary schools and much better teaching with a real choice for parents. (Here unless you are RC it is Bexhill Academy with dire exam results) My daughter is in yr 10 at Bishop Bell in Ebn because we are Christians and because no way was she going to Bexhill Academy. We are grateful for free bus pass years 7-10 but this must NOT be withdrawn for yr 11 and her GCSE potentially ruining her entire future... We need more school places and more schools. More competition and choice. Meanwhile, children on free school meals as per my daughter, and in year 9 must NOT be forced to leave school part way through their GCSE courses. This would be short-sighted, leading to long term unemployment. Question 2: You actually need to spend MORE on schools (as above) before you can safely say children must only attend school in their town. It would also have the potential to make a lot of families move to towns with the best schools....If you MUST do it from 2014 then it should only be year 8+ and below pupils affected.
Case 12	Question 1: Most children in Herstmonceux attend secondary school in Heathfield. Siblings would have to attend different schools if the bus to the village were withdrawn. Also, without the transport, there really is no choice of secondary school. Question 2: Withdraw the school bus to Hailsham - there is a public bus service pupils could use if they choose to attend Hailsham, while there is no direct public bus service to Heathfield from Herstmonceux.
Case 13	Question 1: Yet again struggling working class families are being hit by more council "cut-backs" Bringing up children is very expensive now. It is now the norm for both parents to have to work to afford to put food on the table.

	<p>Question 2: Reduce payout to the long term un-employed. Reduce motability payments to the disabled. Go back to one type of refuse collection. Replace street lighting with LED bulbs and switch off at night. Reduce the number of overpriced private "consultants" hired by the council. Back to basics!</p>
Case 14	<p>Question 1: My school Burwash CEP is currently in this position and if the proposal goes ahead transport will only be free to RCC not HCC. This seems ridiculous as the vast majority of the children here go to HCC and most people would consider it to be the closer school. It is only closer to RCC if you go through the back lanes that are not served by a coach/bus. If parents have to send their children to RCC and have to collect them during the day through ill health or after clubs public transport would be difficult. The majority of our school's connections are with HCC and we are very active members of the Heathfield Area Schools Partnership, enjoying many activities in conjunction with HCC. The majority of the children here at the moment who have secondary aged siblings are at HCC which will cause another problem if you no longer fund this travel. I am concerned that you will create a two tier system with this proposal so that only those parents who are better off can send their children to the school they choose.</p> <p>Question 2: Without detailed knowledge of your spending I could not comment</p>
Case 15	<p>Question 1: we cannot afford it, surely my child should be allowed to attend the same secondary school her brother goes to</p> <p>Question 2: Look at top level wages</p>
Case 16	<p>Question 1: It will stop less fortunate parents and children having a choice of school as many can't afford to pay.</p>
Case 17	<p>Question 1: This is unfair - what would be fair is to fund up to the amount which would have been paid had the child attended the local school. Not to fund at all is mixing transport policy with education decisions. If a school is chosen as being more appropriate the family should not have to pay the full cost of transport, merely the difference</p> <p>Question 2: You would still be making savings by restricting the amount you pay to the amount you have agreed you would pay if the designated school is attended.</p>
Case 18	<p>Question 1: This would mean my children could not go to the preferred school of choice, limiting our parental choice of school. We could not afford to pay fares for two sons. Our eldest son already attends our preferred choice of school and we would like his brothers to attend the same school. The impact would completely take any choice of schools away from us.</p>
Case 19	<p>Question 1: If this was approved we would effectively be losing the other options we have by living where we live, place we chose in part because these options were there. It would be unfair for our children because we can't drive them to school, so they would be discriminated against those that can be driven to school.</p> <p>Question 2: I would accept paying a portion of the cost of the transport to the school that is not the closest, if that was the only way.</p>
Case 20	<p>Question 1: Heathfield Community College has been by far the main destination secondary school from Herstmonceux CE Primary for many many years. The primary schools is part of the Heathfield Area Schools Partnership and has been for many years. In my opinion your proposal takes the heart out of the relationship between the school/college. Your proposal does not take into account sibling connections and if it became absolutely necessary to carry out such a harsh view point then it should not affect one sibling attending and not others. I am happy to pay and support my son through 6th form education at the college but I would be suffer severe financial hardship trying to give my daughter the same experiences from next year too. I have just applied to Heathfield CC and do not want to consider a different school for my second child.</p> <p>Question 2: Introduce it gradually. Continue to give support to those with siblings already in the system/college (and whose places were chosen when these financial decisions were not an issue). How is it possibly fair to force families to choose a different secondary school for their remaining children and force them away from their siblings?</p>

Case 21	<p>Question 1: Given the Burwash is right on the border line between distance to Heathfield and Roberstbridge secondary schools, one end of the village may qualify for Heathfield free transport and pupils at the other end may qualify for Robertsbridge only. Our school often had pupils go to both and families are used to making the decision based on what is best for their child. Under the new proposed system many will be forced to send their children to a school simply because they cannot afford the transport cost to the school they refer. If someone has a child already at Heathfield and receiving free transport they may find the child's sibling won't be able to attend the same school due to these changes. If one end of the village gets a bus one way and pupils at the other end get the other bus there will be buses going from here anyway and the same number of children will still have to be funded so I don't see how this will save money. Poorer families will be penalised, a divide will occur where those who can afford it will go to Heathfield and those from poorer families will have to go to Robertsbridge. For me it would cost £2,100 a year to send 3 children to Heathfield, which is unaffordable, but I don't want them to see all their classmates go there without them.</p>
	<p>Question 2: The service will have to be provided anyway, buses go to both schools from Burwash and that will still happen, so funding should still cost the same.</p>
Case 22	<p>Question 1: This severely impacts our choices, it compromises lower, not low income families, particularly with more than one child. It is unrealistic, unfair and cuts could be made elsewhere...THIS SERVICE IS IMPERITIVE TO US.</p>
	<p>Question 2: Cut the printing of the newspaper.</p>
Case 23	<p>Question 1: Currently we are virtually equi-distant between two community colleges (with a difference of 1.1 mile). This proposal will remove this choice between two community colleges for us as a family for our children, who are at Burwash CEP. As a family, we do not fall in to an income bracket that could afford to pay the transport fees for our child(ren) to go the college that is 1.1 miles further away from the other, if the Council only offers to subsidise costs to the closest Community College. This proposal effectively removes the option of 'choice' between two educational establishment for lower income families, as such it is the poorer families that will feel the effects the hardest to your proposed changes. Personally, the removal of this 'choice' could have a serious impact on my children's educational future, especially my eldest son who has special educational needs that we have to match appropriately to what's available at each establishment and in the subject areas that he may pursue. So for the sake of savings in transport costs of 1.1 miles fuel, I feel (very strongly) that the changes proposed do not justify the negative impact on my family's educational needs.</p>
Case 24	<p>Question 1: Heathfield Community College has long been the secondary school of choice for pupils leaving Burwash CofE Primary. This was a major factor in Charles chosing to go there. I am a single working mother of three children: Amelia (year 6 at Burwash) Felix (year 5 at Burwash) Charles (year 9 at Heathfield) I work but my salary is £8200 annually as, having given up work to care for three children, I am no longer able to earn what I did previously. I am in fact earning a quarter of what I did, partly due to the need for me to remain full-time carer for the children (in 13 weeks school holidays, inset days) and to be there for them before and after school. This is because their father in no longer involved in their upbringing on any level through his own choice. With my current salary I would be unable to pay for three children to travel to Heathfield. I understand payment may be £2 daily, which would mean a monthly bill to me of £120. I already have one son in Year 9 at Heathfiled CC, and would not wish to disrupt his education by having to move him to Robertsbridge. He is a capable student, and sportsman, and given the last two years disruption with his father barely present, he doesn't need further disruption to his education. I am working as hard as I can, and doing my best to raise three well educated, well rounded children. There is supposed to be choice for children moving to secondary school, hence the open evenings taking place this term at Robertsbridge and Heathfield. That choice would be removed from my children by an annual pricetage of £1,440, which despite working hard and raising them single-handed, I would not be able to afford. It constitutes 17.5% of my annual income - a huge amount to enable them to go to the school of their choice locally. I hope you will take my concerns on board in your consultations.</p>
	<p>Question 2: Have the schools buy their own buses rather than pay for a bus service. Make part of care-taker/handy-roles the driving of the buses daily. Even if they are paid slightly more for this additional role (to fit within working hours) it would surely be cheaper than paying for drivers/buses from outside.</p>

Case 25	<p>Question 1: Reduces the choice of Secondary school down considerably. Choice would then be made for them which is unacceptable! Getting to and from school should not be made part of the decision criteria of which school to go to. We live in Forest Row and currently have the choice of several schools. We are not low income earners but not high either. If I had to pay for the school bus it would have a major effect on my decision and reduce my choice down to just 1.</p> <p>Question 2: stop spending money on the cost of extra dustbins and refuse collection boxes. I have 3 wheelie bins and two (now unused) recycling boxes. Waste of money! Plan more effective, cost saving schemes through out the ES area. Charge more for car parks in the area. Use the money towards school buses. Reduce the amount of new car parks being built. Saving money, precious ground and eye sores.</p>
Case 26	<p>Question 1: Your proposal appears to be to either send two buses to Burwash, one being paid for by parents to go to Heathfield or reduce to one bus that will only go to Robertsbridge. The distance in miles is marginal, but in actual time is identical. But, the road to Heathfield is far more suitable for a bus than the back lanes to Heathfield, otherwise the journey to Robertsbridge is longer. You also reduce the choice of parents from lower income families, though not able to apply for Free School Meals. In current terms that would mean the opportunity to go to a school delivering 74% 5A* to C for those families is removed.</p> <p>Question 2: Through efficiencies at Lewis Town Hall.</p>
Case 27	<p>Question 1: I would have to pay for my children to attend either Chailey or Sackville schools because I live within 3 miles of Sackville which is the nearest but in a different county to Forest Row, and currently there is a free bus to Chailey school - the nearest within the county.</p>
Case 28	<p>Question 1: It would assist if you can quantify the amount of money spent on providing free transport</p> <p>Question 2: Cut back on management staff</p>
Case 29	<p>Question 1: Living in a rural area (herstmonceux) we need the bus transport to get children to school. If we are only given free bus transport to one school (Hailsham CC) this would mean by default that those who could not afford to pay would have to go to the nearest school (Hailsham CC) thus perpetuating the class divide already evident between these two schools.</p> <p>Question 2: The changes proposed would bring only a small amount of savings. You could offer subsidised bus transport instead of providing free transport on a means tested basis; with free transport provided to those on the lowest incomes only.</p>
Case 30	<p>Question 1: Reducing choice of school, especially now that schools have 'specialisms', i.e. technical/sports/arts.</p> <p>Question 2: charge wealthier parents for school transport, use more efficient transport i.e. more smaller busses on different routes, Retender transport contracts</p>
Case 31	<p>Question 1: This would effectively remove any element of choice in which school to send our children to. The government constantly talks about the right to choose, and this proposal would remove any choice at all. If we are in a catchment area, we should be able to send our child to the school without incurring transport costs.</p>
Case 32	<p>Question 1: At Sackville School, this proposal is of much concern to us. Our Forest Row intake is significant - not least because we are by far the nearest secondary school to Forest Row (at less than 4 miles) and we are 12 miles nearer than the closest East Sussex school with a 6th form (Beacon School in Crowborough). We obviously wish to support our local community with their transport to school - and we consider Forest Row to be very much part of this/our community.</p> <p>Question 2: I certainly understand that savings have to be made and that such decisions are difficult. Would not financing the short bus journey for those in Forest Row choosing Sackville who live just beyond a 3 mile journey not be a lot less costly than financing bus journeys to Crowborough?</p>

Case 33	Question 1: Choice of school should not be dictated by what transport is offered, the proposal hints that funding will in effect only be available for the nearest school.
	Question 2: Savings should be aimed at fringe targets and not aimed at services to those who are vulnerable. The council has wasted money on recycling projects, poor planning where works have been done and re-done again and pointless multi-lingual translations of every document the council produces.
Case 34	Question 1: My youngest child has reading difficulties which one of the secondary schools does not have the same current system which he is learning with now, but the other school does, using the AA route planner from my home they are both 4.1 miles exactly and it also has sixth form facilities the other does not. Also the majority of children in my child's class have older siblings at this school currently so he will be left knowing hardly anyone either if he has to go to a different secondary.
	Question 2: Having not had a look through your records to determine where you spend the money, would you save that much money if my son has a seat on one coach or another, presumably you will still have to pay for a coach to go to these schools especially if they already have siblings at another school or is the council proposing to send them to different schools. There will still be coaches going to these secondary schools based on the location of other parents. If I lived less than .1 of a mile in the other direction I would come under a different school, but there will already be parents living there which means you will still be sending two coaches.
Case 35	Question 1: We live in Forest Row. I understand our nearest East Sussex secondary school is Beacon at Crowborough and there are some children in Forest Row who travel to this school. However my children attend Chailey - also an East Sussex school - and receive free transport. A key reason we chose Chailey is because it's small - other options, Beacon and Sackville (West Sussex) are much larger. By cutting free transport to Chailey you would be denying Forest Row parents the option of choosing a small scale secondary school for their children.
	Question 2: Why not bring in a charge for the school bus? We would have been happy to pay if it meant keeping the option of Chailey open for Forest Row children. Clearly low income families would still need free bus passes for their children.
Case 36	Question 1: it removes the freedom of choice for parents and will mean that the majority have to opt for the nearest school which may not be their preferred school.
	Question 2: if each child is issued with a bus pass if they live over 3miles away from a school -why does it matter which school they choose to goto you would still be providing the transport there anyway
Case 37	Question 1: We are served by two schools in a joint area. They are very different schools with different focuses which as a result attract children with certain preferences. One school is also significantly larger than the other. One also out performs the other. Would feel penalised if funding was restricted especially if as a family you did not qualify as 'low income' but income is still tight. Effectively would not have any choice because if you couldn't afford the seperate transport costs you would have no choice but to apply to the other school.
	Question 2: Would be fairer to charge all school transport users a lower fee regardless of proximity to school that way you still retain some degree of choice when choosing your preferences for Schools.
Case 38	Question 1: Clearly flies in the face of offering students a choice in schools when clearly would mean the nearest would be the only option, even for well off families the prospect of finding money to pay for private transport is an extra strain or taking the child themselves equates to unnecessary road journeys leading to more congestion and environmental damage.
Case 39	Question 1: This will reduce choice, effectively meaning that unless middle earning families like ours are willing to spend hundreds of pounds per year on bus services, we are effectively driven to choose just one school! If additional costs rather than full costs were passed to parents, this would be 'fairer'. It seems highly likely that there will be empty seats on the bus going to schools further away, which makes a nonsense of the whole idea in any case.

	<p>Question 2: Savings do have to be made - but not 'these' savings. You could save for example by sharing back office costs with other councils, by more transparent and competitive contract tendering, by concentrating police efforts on crime prevention and detection rather than harassing motorists and by bringing social housing back to drive down the cost of housing benefit.</p>
Case 40	<p>Question 1: We live on the border of East Sussex and Kent in Northiam. My children currently go to school in Kent. I have two children a year apart, and at £600 each per year to send them to school by bus, it will cost me £1,200 a year!! This is a huge amount of money to our already extrememely over-stretched household budget. My husband and I are both self-employed and my husband has had to return to London to keep us afloat financially and he is therefore away all week. This means that getting the children to and from school falls to me. Having been on a generous wage in London, moving to the country means wages are very poor, and with so much money for the bus, to ensure our children go to a good local school will be extremely difficult. It seems extremely unfair that our children are punished and prevented from going to the school that is better suited to their educational needs by charging so much for their bus journey. Education in rural areas is hugely important and this seems a very high cost to get our children to school.</p> <p>Question 2: Not too sure what Council cost-cuttings are involved; rubbish collections, police and fire, medical, Parish offices - do we need one in Northiam? Computers /the internet should mean admin costs of county council offices should be reduced. Less councillors. Especially their expenses.</p>
Case 41	<p>Question 1: With finances in almost every household under immense pressure the additional cost and worry is beyond comprehension. Its impact goes beyond mere finances however as school drop off and pick up, should the cost not be met, would also become unviable for many working parents. It, in effect, removes the element of choice from deciding on the right secondary school for children based on where they live. I for one chose where we live for the very reason it was served by numerous schools that were accessible via a free bus service. With schools specialising, our choices are further reduced and compromised as we become forced to make choices based on finances and schooling should not be subject to money. The additional costs would also impact on other 'pay for' activities run by schools already forcing parents to find more money or see there child miss out. In summary, a ridiculous idea.</p> <p>Question 2: Not knowing where money is currently spent I'm not sure I'm in a position to make too many suggestions. I'd be happy to see the specifics and then make suggestions.</p>
Case 42	<p>Question 1: The choice of school for my child starting in sept 2014 should be based purely on the provision of education which I feel the best school will provide and NOT on the fact that I will have to pay up to £600 pounds to get them to the school I think is the best for my child, namely Robertsbridge. This charge will be prohibitive to many and will make me question my choice.</p>
Case 43	<p>Question 1: There must be an element of choice where you send your child to secondary school depending on your child's strengths, talents and needs. This should not just be for those fortunate enough to be able to afford to make choices. If you remove the free transport you are removing the choices for families that although may not receive income support or other benefits will still not be able to afford transport costs. Please re think this cost cutting of school transport.</p> <p>Question 2: I'm sorry I don't know but surely there could be savings made through efficiency.</p>
Case 44	<p>Question 1: For some families this removes their choice, it may also result in one school being filled purely by the number of children living nearby.</p>
Case 45	<p>Question 1: It takes away any form of choice for my children. All secondary schools have particular strengths and therefore suit different children. This could result in children attending a school where the full potential is not realized.</p> <p>Question 2: Education and access to education should be an absolute priority and not subject to these cuts.</p>
Case 46	<p>Question 1: I would like to know what will happen in the next 3 years as my daughter will still be attending Robertsbridge. Your question does not make this very clear because if a free bus service is having to run for some why not make it free for all ? after all the bus will run whether it is full or not.</p>

<p>Case 47</p>	<p>Question 1: The change would effectively be placing parents in a situation where school choice is limited by financial constraints. The cost of sending a child to a school other than the most local might be as much as £700/year; this might be impossible for some families, especially where more than one child is involved. It seems to me that the choice of school is an important one; parents and children make decisions based not only on an academic basis, but also on children's well-being, including social, emotional and community factors as well as non-academic support. By limiting the ability to make a choice, the council might therefore be deeply and negatively affecting the lives of young people in their formative years.</p> <p>Question 2: I would suggest that the Council reviews spending in other areas. Cuts that affect education in any way should be avoided at all costs; it is the young of our communities that will ultimately redress the financial issues that this country is facing; we must do all we can to ensure that they are given the best possible opportunity to fulfil their potential.</p> <p>It would also be an excellent idea to lobby central government to levy a Robin Hood Tax in order to mitigate the savings being asked of the Council in the first place (http://robinhoodtax.org.uk). Twenty-five other councils have shown public support for this; please join them - http://robinhoodtax.org.uk/latest/25-councils-calling-uk-robin-hood-tax</p>
<p>Case 48</p>	<p>Question 1: Public transport should be encouraged. Giving the parents and pupils a choice of schools is pointless if there is no way of getting to the chosen school. Either take the choice of school away for all or give the option to all to make it fair. This proposal limits the choice of schools to those who can afford the transport.</p>
<p>Case 49</p>	<p>Question 1: The choice of school may be taken away from us if we can not afford to pay bus fees. We are having to start looking at secondary schools for sept 2014 not knowing is making me quite anxious. my eldest daughter went to our nearest school and had no end of probs i know my youngest would not cope at our nearest what are we supposed to do?</p> <p>Question 2: No! but the amount of extra money we have to pay for school trips/swimming drinks bottles clothing correct footwear i really dont think it is very fair on parents to add more costs for getting your child to secondary school! School Dinners</p>
<p>Case 50</p>	<p>Question 1: Not sure if I'd end up paying or not, but simply could not afford bus fares to & from school for my four children. Hopefully the school they currently or will soon attend will not be affected.</p> <p>Question 2: Cut middle management.....! Too many chiefs Also stop paying the person who wrote the next set of questions.....what does it matter what sexuality I am?? If I say I'm gay will you carry on paying for the bus service?? Utter madness.....</p>
<p>Case 51</p>	<p>Question 1: It is not just low income families who will struggle to find funds to send their children to secondary school - middle income families will find this increasingly hard. Burwash sits almost in the middle of several secondary schools; each child and each school is different - happier children will do better in school therefore keeping options open for all is surely the best option. Cuts should be made, but not in education.</p> <p>Question 2: I would be happy to if I had the time as well as access to your budgets and data.</p>
<p>Case 52</p>	<p>Question 1: I agree that ESCC should pay for the closest school, but closest should be by road not by crows fly or footpaths that are not that relevant because in the end you are making the road far too busy with parents driving back and forth on small countryside roads. It should be free to the school of choice.</p> <p>Question 2: More and more people are working longer but still get a free bus pass, give it to non working people only! Make all services become paperless, such as schools. Make sure they reduce their electricity bills by switching lights off (in my Primary School, outside light is on 24/7). Get rid of non performing staff</p>

Case 53	Question 1: I am a student at Chailey school in East Sussex. This proposal would have a devastating impact on our school as our school is available for a wide area of villages which are more likely to be closer to other secondary schools, therefore after this year Chailey will lose a substantial amount of new students. It will also impact all existing families already at the school with younger siblings wishing to come up, both emotionally and financially, not to mention the inconvenience of having children in different schools.
	Question 2: No.
Case 54	Question 1: Need more detail because what about if you have applied to the nearest school but did not get a place then it seems unfair to then not get free travel.
	Question 2: Provide free travel to both schools but only for those on low income
Case 55	Question 1: whilst I know the county council has to make cuts, I think that Heathfield School would offer more curriculum choices being a bigger school. although we don't receive income support, we don't have a lot of spare money so would find it difficult to support travel if we had to pay for it.
	Question 2: As I don't know what other things the cc spends its money on I don't feel able to comment. If I had a list of the expenditure then I would be able to comment.
Case 56	Question 1: I think it is unreasonable and shortsighted to assume that children only go to their closest school. To provide transport only for the closest school is in effect penalising parents for choosing a school based on quality and appropriateness rather than on a simple case of geography.
	Question 2: Perhaps a small fee could be charged instead of the full fee
Case 57	Question 1: With parental choice being so important in education the removal of this service would be to the detriment of our families. This is also becoming a barrier for students wishing to come to Uplands.
	Question 2: Charge all parents for a freedom pass, in the same way that Kent does. Excluding the list above
Case 58	Question 1: Living in an area served by joint schools, I would like to keep my choices for my children's secondary education - cost of transport would be a significant factor in my decision.
Case 59	Question 1: Takes away choice of school
	Question 2: Why give free meals to first 3 yrs t school ?.You re taking with one hand to give o the other
Case 60	Question 1: 1) This undermines all the pro-choice initiatives of recent years, as you would have to 'choose' the closest school, regardless of results, reputation, specialisation, size, etc. 2) We want our third child to go to the same school her older siblings went to, which has been excellent and was chosen according to the criteria mentioned above. It is unfair for her not to have the same advantages but to have a school foisted upon her which does not satisfy the same criteria. 3) We are within the catchment area of Chailey School, and satisfy their other entry criteria, so we believe that we should not have to pay any additional transport charge for our child to attend. 4) From our experience of paying for the bus for 6th form, this would be a substantial cost per term, which it would be extremely difficult for most parents to find, especially since all the recent benefit cuts (e.g. child benefit). 5) This is a service which should be covered by local taxation (Council Tax). By applying this charge, you are effectively penalising people with children, while no doubt holding down any general increase in Council Tax (for which you will expect credit).
	Question 2: 1) Our council tax has been relatively flat year on year. If you raised it instead, you would not need to make so many savings. Local taxation is supposed to pay for local services in an even spread across the population. 2) Now that the door-to-door recycling service is so much improved, surely money could be saved by removing or reducing centralized recycling banks. For example, Forest Row has one large recycling centre in Station Road, plus a smaller one in the Community Centre car park (which was expanded in recent years, at the expense of parking spaces). Why do we need this smaller second recycling point, when we have the large one in Station Road, and a now excellent door-to-door collection?

Case 61	Question 1: Devisive. It takes away choice from those who can't afford to pay transport costs
Case 62	<p>Question 1: Although a lot of Burwash children are "closer" to Robertsbridge secondary school if they could drive through fields if you were to take it from the distance a bus would have to travel on a main road, then the distance is further to Robertsbridge then to Heathfield from Burwash</p> <p>Question 2: cut down on management - there seems to be a lot of managers within the council. in some situations i have been told by friends working for the council that there aer 3 line managers or more to a department - - does every department need a pyramid of manages?</p>
Case 63	<p>Question 1: I was under the impression that if you were in a catchment are for more than one school you could choose the best one for your child. This policy is removing the choice for a lot of parents as the financial implications of having multiple children could be huge. Also when one school specialises in arts and another in maths or computing it is imperative your child goes to the appropriate school for their skill set or it could seriously effect their academic future</p> <p>Question 2: Without studying the whole council budget it would be impossible to make any informed suggestions and is a ridiculous question</p>
Case 64	<p>Question 1: This would mean sending our children to a school we had already decided not to for many reasons. The new proposal would mean we would have no choice but to move from our where we live and try and find a house nearer to our chosen school which would also be unsuitable and extremely expensive and unfair. The areas where the other schools are that we would like to consider do not have a huge child population therefore most people would be in the same situation, resulting in house prices shooting up, people fighting and gusumping on house sales. More speeding on the roads by parents having to drive their children to schools and get to work on time! What are you thinking?? There are plenty of other areas you could save money, not on our childrens education anf futures! This would result in us spending £112.00 a month on sending our children to school or taking them ourselves which considering the time we start work, 8.30, we would have to take them really early and pay for breakfast clubs or be late to work every day, neither or which would be beneficial to any family in the current climate. Working in a similar environment, I see first hand how much money ets wasted on having meeting about a meeting and changing things that cost millions only to change them back again when it doesn't work! Don't make our children suffer for the government's/or previous government's incapability to get the figures right and make the books balance. We have enough trouble trying to live with the price of living going up and our wages being put on pay freezes for over 6 years. There is no way we are paying it and we would therefore have to drive them.</p> <p>Question 2: Stop paying people to sit at home and do nothing! There are people on benefits with 6 kids and their children now have scholarships to go to private schools. How is that fair and how is that saving the government money? Most of these people choose to have 6 kids by different dads to get bigger houses and they live the life of luxury. We both work really hard and always have to save for everything we want.</p>
Case 65	Question 1: Burwash C.E.P. School falls within a joint area having access to both Robertsbridge and Heathfield Community Colleges. The vast majority of pupils go on to Heathfield Community College. Removing free transport to Heathfield which would be considered further away could force parents to send their children to a school which does not meet their needs because of the financial implication. The Head Teacher at Burwash C.E.P. works very closely with Heathfield Community College to ensure smooth transition to secondary education. We would also question whether the school bus travels a shorter distance to Robertsbridge, given that it follows the main road route rather than the shorter distance offered by the narrow country lanes.
Case 66	<p>Question 1: Firstly it removes our right of choice of Robertsbridge or Rye secondary education .Secondly why so much money especially if you have 2 or more children traveling on this bus service.</p> <p>Question 2: Why not have freedom passes as Kent do for a smaller amount.</p>

Case 67	Question 1: It is unfair to offer choice of a school then add costs after the fact to that choice. If such a change is to be made it must be for the future children who have yet to apply for secondary and then should not impact on siblings if existing children.
	Question 2: Yes, you could ask for a contribution say discounted transport as opposed to free. You could also provide transport for pupils closer to the school with the same process but bulk buying retains one profit from those purchases. Pupils pay the same as they do today via the council, you bulk buy the transport at a lower cost.
Case 68	Question 1: Cannot afford to pay,
	Question 2: I am sure there are other areas you could save money in rather than compromise our childrens education by preventing attending the school they choose
Case 69	Question 1: We have two secondary schools in our local area, one is 5.1 miles away, the other is 6.2 miles away. I already have an older child going to the further secondary school, and he gets free travel. My daughter is due to start secondary school in September 2014, and this means I will either have to send her to a different school to her brother, OR pay out for travel so they go to the same school. This seems to me to be a crazy situation, when the difference in distance is only about a mile. If I chose to send her to the closest school, how exactly is the council saving money? You are still paying out for travel, so why can't I chose to send her to the same school as her brother, which is widely acknowledged at being the better school out of the two.
	Question 2: It really isn't my job to tell the council how it can save money - but perhaps stop giving free handouts to immigrants and do better checks on those asking for free school dinners, many of which can afford to feed their children but choose to falsify their applications to get something they aren't entitled to.
Case 70	Question 1: Cost
Case 71	Question 1: Limits choice of school, already there is hardly any choice available
Case 72	Question 1: Limits choice. Unfair to students who already attend the school for affected areas. Disadvantages students living in rural areas.
	Question 2: Try county hall, not student at school. Please lert me know what cuts have been made in this area.
Case 73	Question 1: I Live in Mayfield and it is equal distance to go to either Wadhurst or Heathfield. It seems that this will effect children going to the school and might mean siblimgs having to go to two differenent schools. Also transport costs are a big impact on families already having to contend with wages restrictions and slow economy. This is going to affect children in the school and in the future childern coming to the school. The group of friends a child gells with makes a huge difference to how they settle in a school. Up to this point this descision has been made within famillies but with the added cost of travel expences will mean it is in response to money rather than childs needs.
	Question 2: I think you should do a more in depth survey of parents and pupils and teachers at these schools by carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area. Alternative proposals should include a review of the current arrangements for the provision of the designated areas, which children attend.
Case 74	Question 1: if the bus route is already in place and seats available i can't see a huge cost saving? take robertsbridge and heathfield school (i am located in burwash) if a significant increase for robertsbridge as free transport then how would robertsbridge cope? if numbers reduced at heatfhiel cc, then school would need to be restructured. when the site can take additional children and should be increasing not decreasing numbers. i agree the service is expensive for the cc, but long term implications of parents reducing working hours to take children to school and effects on communities are more serious to county overall.

	<p>Question 2: look into the cost implications and procurement processes of secondary schools in the county. i worked for years within ICT provision for primary and secondary schools (not this area) and although E. Sussex has a great support provision, schools waste a fortune on hardware of ICT equipment. There is a charity (based in Chertsey, Surrey) who work with schools to set up procurement of ICT with parents, the school and parent buy the laptop etc the child uses at school and takes home, the equipment is brought on near 0% finance and at the end of the 3 year agreement the parent can buy the laptop, they can keep for child or another member of family and lease a new model with school etc etc. Combine funds, parents buy laptop at home, school provide desktops etc - totally pointless and a waste of money. Try something completely new - give 2 procurement needs to a parent of the school with sales/procurement training and see what they can do for the school in terms of service, money and overall benefits. They will work with school not against them, but have a lot more experience, I know companies who have lost money (some i have worked with) within education who will commit to a 3 year deal to get into a new geographic area to use as PR/Marketing etc, especially on flagship and failing schools. Public sector has the biggest buying power - but separated the schools can't use this power.</p>
Case 75	<p>Question 1: Living in a rural area with little public transport as it is, you would be limiting further the ability of choice.</p>
Case 76	<p>Question 1: I think the effect it will have on the local roads with the extra traffic., how this is very 'ungreen' of the council.</p> <p>Question 2: The only way it could work, because to stop extra traffic and not a be see as 'ungreen' is make the bus fare cheap enough that if a family had more then 1 child 'say' 3 children the collective fare per week is still cheaper then the price of fuel to drive the children there and back.</p>
Case 77	<p>Question 1: This will limit parents of limited income to choice of school for their children.</p> <p>Question 2: Don't invest tax payers money in banks abroad only to lose it. Stop wasting money on road signage where it is not needed. Stop early retirement for councillors who then end up on fat pensions for the rest of their lives. I believe many retire at 60 if not sooner.</p>
Case 78	<p>Question 1: It will not impact on me, but I feel in areas where children are able to choose between local schools it is important that all families have the choice, not just those that can afford the transport.</p> <p>Question 2: Do not pay for transport to other areas, for example grammar schools in Kent or faith schools out of the area.</p>
Case 79	<p>Question 1: It will impact on parental choice meaning that we would be significantly discriminated against because of choosing a school for which we are in the catchment area for. This would force parents to send their child to a school that did not suit them or have children at different schools or be out of pocket a considerable amount. Would not save any money as the bus would run any way.</p> <p>Question 2: Turn off street lights after 2300.</p>
Case 80	<p>Question 1: What if a child attends a school that is not the closest to them either by choice or by the fact that there is no place available at their nearest school? What happens then? Will parents of those children be expected to pay for the cost of transportation?</p> <p>Question 2: Without knowing the exact parameters under which the existing provision was made this is very difficult. How can anybody not in possession of this information suggest an alternative?</p>
Case 81	<p>Question 1: I feel that if a child has the choice of two schools the decisions which one they attend should be on which suits their needs best and not which their parents can afford to send them to. This will discriminate those children who also have siblings which will also need to pay in the future, parents may be able to cope with one child's transport fees but not more. In my case I have five children so this will seriously factor into the decision making</p>

	<p>Question 2: I am well aware that councils are already stretched according to budgeting, however I feel that education is the most important thing we as parents can give our children and whilst we cannot all afford private education we should be given the opportunity to have the best we possibly can for our children. Education is one area I feel that cutting costs would be detrimental to a number of children.</p> <p>Other things I would look into would be salaries for higher management, disabilities allowances, I know of at least two people in my area on disability that I feel could work. Just my opinion.</p>
Case 82	<p>Question 1: It would have no impact on me or my family but would affect me if I wanted to move to one of these areas in the future, indeed I wouldn't move there! Think about those who are not on benefits, who are working but struggling daily financially.</p> <p>Question 2: really? Is this your only option?</p>
Case 83	<p>Question 1: You will limit the choice(s) of schools that parents may send their children to. If a child attends a school further than 3 miles from their home (not an unreasonable distance in the country) the additional costs to parents will become a determining factor in their choice of school</p> <p>Question 2: not at this time</p>
Case 84	<p>Question 1: I strongly believe that ALL students who need transport to get to school should have that right regardless. By reducing transport in the proposed areas you are effectively limiting parents choice of school to the nearest</p>
Case 85	<p>Question 1: Anything which takes children off the school bus and into yet another car during rush hour would not be a good idea</p> <p>Question 2: Review the private taxi system for those in rural areas on a very high income .</p>
Case 86	<p>Question 1: I don't live near my child's school and soon will be putting him on the bus as he has only just started, If the buses stop then when my daughter starts in 2 yrs the hassle I would have would mess up my work and the ability to earn</p> <p>Question 2: there are so many ways to make savings rather than hitting the school children, you have to think of their safety first, and not supplying buses could pose a risk of danger to the youngsters</p>
Case 87	<p>Question 1: I feel the proposal has been poorly researched. Have issues such as a resulting increase in car use been factored in ? Although it would not effect my daughter directly I consider it would discriminate against low to middle income families with a number of children who will not qualify for the proposed free transport scheme. It may result in families having to send siblings to different schools etc. If these changes are introduced what safeguards will there be in setting the cost of the resulting bus fare?</p> <p>Question 2: No</p>
Case 88	<p>Question 1: If it is a joint catchment area then I'm sure this will mean that we have to pay for any transport which ever school they go to. I do not agree with this as it will cost families lots of money in bus fares or petrol if they have to then take their children to school.</p> <p>Question 2: Stop benefits and make people go out to work.</p>
Case 89	<p>Question 1: I am pro cost saving however children need to get to school safely and parents are not always available to help.</p>
Case 90	<p>Question 1: I have 3 children at Heathfield community college at present and my fourth child will be wanting to join them in 2015 I do not have spare money for transport and would hate for her to have to go elsewhere if I needed to pay for her transport. I want all my children at the same school.</p>

Case 91	Question 1: No impact on me (I take my child to school) . However it will severely limit choice for students in rural areas. I feel that children in rural schools are already financially disadvantaged in terms of school fund allocation - for example, rebuilding projects. I am also concerned that it will lead to siblings having to go to different schools
	Question 2: If the transport has to be cut then it should remain for communities which have historically had a high level of attendance at a particular school. To be totally honest I don't really know what you can do! However, I really do believe that rural communities get a tough deal compared with some of the larger towns when it comes to distribution of public finances.
Case 92	Question 1: Surely the child's education is more important. The child may attend a school where the school does not have a good reputation and the parent wishes to go to another school. Also the child may not get a place at the designated school and the transport issue will be taken out of the parents hands, making it difficult for the child to travel to school.
	Question 2: The Government needs to realise that not giving local councils money affects everybody. If they stopped giving so much money abroad then local councils would not have to make savings.
Case 93	Question 1: I don't believe that the impact on families with siblings already attending another school have been properly thought through. We have 2 children attending Heathfield CC and wish our third child to attend the same school. It is also not clear whether your proposal will be to stop transport altogether or to pass on the cost to parents.
	Question 2: Please confirm the savings this proposal will deliver. Can't see this anywhere. Once the level of savings are known alternatives that could save the same could be proposed.
Case 94	Question 1: Although this change would not impact on my I think it is wrong to force families to choose their secondary school on the fact that the travel to it is free. This takes away their choice of school which may not be in the best interest of the child.
Case 95	Question 1: Bus fares are expensive i have to pay for two children which is £1.30 return if i take them to school and they get the bus back its still the same in stead of one way it cost me over £50 a month in bus fares .
Case 96	Question 1: The closest school might not suit or provide the relevant support for a child. Going further afield might be a necessity depending on the needs of the child and surely part of parent choice that the council should support! Also it could mean extra logistical and financial issues for families with children already in one school and other siblings having to attend another.
	Question 2: to carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to Heathfield Community College which has historically served the majority of students from this area.
Case 97	Question 1: There is little or no point giving parents the opportunity to express a preference for the school that they think best suits their child if the Council then chooses to financially disadvantage those who opt for a school that is slightly further away than any of the alternatives.
	Question 2: If all children were given free travel on public transport while still in compulsory education or training (regardless of household income) then there would be less road usage at rush hour, or indeed at the weekend. It would embed the habit of using public transport, rather than relying on parents. This would be good for the environment, reduce wear and tear on the road, reduce rush hour congestion and accidents.
Case 98	Question 1: a) It is important for parents to be able to have a choice of secondary schools for their children. b) As I understand it ESCC will provide free transport to Robertsbridge CC but not to Heathfield CC. However the difference between the distance from Burwash to both colleges is minimal.
	Question 2: Am not qualified to offer any suggestions to this question however targeting children's education does not seem to me to be appropriate.

Case 99	Question 1: A village in 2 catchment areas will effectively be in only one catchment area if a family cannot afford transport to the school not chosen for free school transport by the council. The council will therefore be interfering with education choice. I think it is wrong to target individual villages.
	Question 2: Charge everyone, regardless of where they live or what school they attend, a small fee for providing the bus pass every year.
Case 100	Question 1: My son gets the 267 from hailsham and pays for the bus on a weekly basis we have no other form of transport to get him to school and our local school does not meet his needs.I don't see how paying for the bus should change his education as we picked this school because it meet his needs,if we can't get him there we would be done for truancy.
	Question 2: Yes get the high paid management and councilors to take a wage cut we have far to many if them
Case 101	Question 1: I feel that the free home to school transport has been invaluable socially, economically and environmentally. The students use of the buses eases congestion at the school, ensures a timely arrival and integrates the children into a local community who also use the service. If this proposal were to go ahead many would then drive their children to school, adding more detriment to environment (one car, two people - instead of a bus travelling with many to one destination). The roads would then be even more crammed, especially in the mornings. The invaluable bus service to our area would be seriously impaired due to the reduced use by students which could in turn put it at risk for other members of our community. If this proposal went ahead my son would be still allowed to have free travel, but my daughter might not as she joins the school this September and no mention has been made of arrangements for Year 7 (I would need to check the distances involved as we are literally in the middle of two schools). The small amount this scheme saves us is invaluable and it would be very sad if it was stopped.
	Question 2: The refuse and recycling collection keeps being chopped and changed which must be costing money to update all the different bins - Surely if this was carefully planned money could be made from the recycled materials, a very popular subject for the public. The recycling centre already sell our green waste back to us in the form of processed compost which is very successful.
Case 102	Question 1: I have two children who have recently started, one in year eight and one in year seven. I live in catchment for the school but just outside the free transport area. I currently around £84 a month in bus fares. I am looking to move to the village to be within the free transport range and at this rate will end up no better off!
	Question 2: At least offer to subsidise pupils within the designated range.
Case 103	Question 1: If a child is declined a space at the nearest of two schools, would the family be penalised by the free bus pass even though it is not their fault that the child has to go to the further school? That would be grossly unfair.
	Question 2: Make catchment areas smaller. Investigate benefit fraud better and more thoroughly and safe some money there??
Case 104	Question 1: in effect you are taking away a choice of school. I currently have 3 children attending Heathfield. It was chosen as it has a strong Art and Design base which suits the talents of my children. One child now attends 6th form which means that I have to pay £14 per week on travel. Many children from Herstmonceux attend Heathfield school. However this would not have been possible if there was not free transport. I also believe that if you add up the numbers that attend Heathfield and then force them to attend Hailsham you would find the school oversubscribed.
Case 105	Question 1: Why should the cost be put back on the families? We pay plenty in taxes to cover these costs.
Case 106	Question 1: Our daughter attends Heathfield Community College uses the 267 school bus service. The distance is 5.7 miles. Hailsham Community College is the nearest school at a distance of 3.8 miles. We would very much mind if the service was withdrawn as we would have to ferry her in the car when we need to be working and earning a living. It would also mean more pollution and road congestion.

	Question 2: I suggest that instead of withdrawing the service, just withdraw the subsidies. I suspect most parents will pay the fare as they, like us, stand to lose much more than just the bus fare if there is no service, due to potential loss of earnings.
Case 107	Question 1: I think it is important for parents to have a choice in choosing the best fit school for their child.
Case 108	Question 1: This proposal will restrict parental choice. My children attend HCC because it is the school most suited to their abilities and is the school that offers them the best opportunities given their academic abilities. If I had to pay for school transport for HCC but not for Uplands my children would have been forced to go to Uplands, a school they did not want to attend. My son, not an intellectual but a creative, did so well at HCC he surprised us all by going to university. My daughter loves HCC and has thrived since starting there. I hope that my 3 year old son will be able to follow in their footsteps, if it is the school for him. And that is the main point here - choice. Please do not remove our choice for schools to save money our children are the adults of the future and deserve every opportunity available to them.
	Question 2: Stop building brand new council offices. Stop paying councillor's expenses, normal people don't get expenses just to do their job. Stop wasting money on new initiatives that don't work eg new recycling/waste management. Stop outsourcing work to expensive contractors who don't do the job effectively. Invest in better quality road fixing materials with better/more longevity.
Case 109	Question 1: My children are both currently at secondary school and will not be affected by this change. However, as a resident of Mayfield and having had both my children go through the Primary School, it is clear that future Year 6 children will have a greatly reduced choice open to them by the proposed changes. The effects on the secondary schools is that, even when they achieve better results at Key Stage 4 and in Sixth Form, they cannot increase their intakes at Year 7 because the target children are financially penalised for choosing the school which is not the shortest distance away.
	Question 2: Initially the council should reconsider their decision and conduct further research to better understand the consequences of their proposal. A simple analysis undertaken after parents choose secondary schools will inevitably show a course of action which would not result in onerous costs. The cost consequence to send a child to Heathfield CC as opposed to Uplands CC (or vice versa) must be almost negligible as there will be a service to each centre (depending on which part of the village you live in). In fact stipulating which centre the child goes to may increase costs when only a handful of children are forced to a school because of their location.
Case 110	Question 1: Transport of students to a school should be a service provided by the council as schooling of children is a legal requirement not a luxury, the impact this would have on our family is another financial outlay and increased fuel costs and time of work to take kids to school (if it came to it) not to mention the carbon footprint increase and more traffic congestion.
	Question 2: Yeah, stop wasting money on stupid traffic calming, the total waste of time pedestrian crossing in broad Oak, and subsidising those who choose not to work and sponge of the state and work the benefits system
Case 111	Question 1: Impact = none as son already in school. I agree because my other son goes to school in Tunbridge wells and there is NO transport provision for him so why should other children who choose to go to schools further away from their closest school get free transport.
Case 112	Question 1: I find this a hard question to answer as I have been paying for school transport for the last 6 years and don't feel that our voices are ever heard when we raise any questions. Whilst I disagree that i have to pay for my children to get to school when OAP's can travel for free part of me says "welcome to my world"
	Question 2: Charge OAP's for bus; train and gym memberships. Why aren't they means tested like parents are. Reduce money spent on flower tubs; and other; Christmas lights and funding that goes to the same areas and projects such as Hailsham East

Case 113	Question 1: Some families already struggle on low incomes and having to pay for their children to attend school : of which is a compulsory procedure will put them into even more of a financial state. Some families are already in a situation as my self where they earn just over the cut of limit .i strongly disagree with this as our children our the future and have a hard enough task to survive let alone have to tackle the extra pressure of transport issues.
	Question 2: No I don't in general,some me of the money us tax payers pay would be better spent if the council didn't waste it on unnessesarly activities .
Case 114	Question 1: This severely limits choice
	Question 2: Maybe make a small increase in fares
Case 115	Question 1: I do agree with the concept of 'user pays' when students attend 'other than the nearest school' - however - 1: You MUST continue current services to allow choice and therefore it must involve a payment by parents; 2: Service provision must not limit parental choice.
	Question 2: Examples you should already have considered- 1: Centralised management of financial services for small council establishments, e.g. schools, hospitals, for payroll services, tendering for cleaning contracts etc. BUT only if the school etc. want to. 2: A 10%(?) reduction in street lighting by reducing the current rather than by turning the lights off; mind you, often street lights are on when there is sufficient ambient light. 3: Require fast-food outlets to provide or pay for some street cleaning services within 1/4 mile of each outlet - on a pro-rata basis according to the amount of litter each generates. 4: Downgrade each vehicle the council provides for staff use, buy the model that doesn't have air conditioning... 5: Reduce the provision of Council Uniforms/clothing. Most people are subject to a minimum dress code but don't get given clothing for work nor do they receive an allowance. Provide safety vest etc. as required by law but not work clothing. If you require an embroidered pocket on a blazer then provide an embroidering service rather than blazers.
Case 116	Question 1: These changes would not affect me directly, however I strongly feel that this will have a huge bearing on parents choice of school if they have to pay for their childrens transport to attend their preferred school because it is further from their home.Would it not be fairer to spread the cost of transport to all parents (save families on low incomes etc), there by levelling the playingfield so to speak.Parents would thenstill be making the choice on things other than transport costs.
	Question 2: I agree savings have to be made.
Case 117	Question 1: Because the difference in quality of schools requires parents to sometimes choose one that is further away from their home. If all schools delivered the same high quality education this would not occur.
Case 118	Question 1: It is unfair to make this change - particularly to families who already have some children at secondary school and some at primary school, who may now have to pay to go to the same school as their siblings. It is also a restriction on choice of schools - effectively limiting poorer families to the school closest to their home. It also seems unfair that this proposal was rejected 12 months ago and it seems like some Banana Republic you intend to keep bringing the idea back before the council until finally it gets voted through. That hardly seems democratic.
	Question 2: Fewer councillors. Fewer £80,000+ officials at County Hall. Why should I have to come up with savings for you, when you can't even calculate accurately how much this proposal might save you?
Case 119	Question 1: I'm sure this change would mean more cars on the road, which is really not advisable for this area.
	Question 2: No, sorry. Don't really know what all the money is spent on.
Case 120	Question 1: Loss of freedom of choice in a democratic society
	Question 2: Costs could be saved in other areas of council spending ie headcount/admin/council wages/benefits or putting more services out to the private sector

<p>Case 121</p>	<p>Question 1: Availability of transport is a part of free choice of school. Removal of free transport may increase individual car traffic in the surrounding roads which is already bad. More parents should be encouraged to use communal transport rather than be put off using it because of charging.</p> <p>Question 2: Reduce the amount of consultancy use in the authority. e.g in figures for Apr -Jun 2013, roughly £0.75M was paid to SERCO a FTSE listed company, who incidentally were involved in September 13 in a multi billion pound fraud allegation and also with suggestions of sexual abuse in a care home (See Independent and Observer papers for Sept 13). Also make better use of transport budget - during the same period over £350K was spent on "Sussex Driver Collection Agency, Education HTS Transport" - I can't find out exactly what this is as there does not seem to be a website for SDCA, but in conjunction with large spending on taxi and private hire firms seems to dwarf the cost of bus hire and subsidised fares on public services. Cutting school transport is an easy target to pass a further cost on to parents while not tackling the huge spends elsewhere.</p>
<p>Case 122</p>	<p>Question 1: I cannot understand how this will save you money. If the busses are running in either direction, where will the money be saved? If this means that more parents will have to drive their children to school I am definitely against this - there are already far too many cars on the road. Any additional cars will incur further delays and more accidents. My only concern is that the bus will still run between Rotherfield and Heathfield Community College. I rely very heavily on this bus service for my 3 children to get to and from school. I currently pay for this service.</p>
<p>Case 123</p>	<p>Question 1: It would have a very serious impact on us as we have 3 children and would like to have the choice on what school we send them to. This choice is then taken away from us and we would end up with a school we feel is not right for our children or struggle to pay for their transport. Again it is the middle wage earners who lose out.</p> <p>Question 2: A child's education is very important. Maybe savings could be made by a small fee for refuse collection or maybe better planning for less wastage.</p>
<p>Case 124</p>	<p>Question 1: I feel that if parents wish to choose a school other than the one closest to them, they should be willing to pay for transport to the school they have chosen.</p>
<p>Case 125</p>	<p>Question 1: Restricts choice. We live nearer to Claverham than Heathfield but Claverham was not a choice for us.</p>
<p>Case 126</p>	<p>Question 1: From a Herstmonceux perspective this change would mean that the village becomes one of the "haves" and the "have nots". Those parents who can afford the bus for one or more children would send their children to Heathfield generally as their results are better than Hailsham. Those parents who could not afford the cost, would be left with no option but to go the Hailsham school. There should be a choice of secondary schools, on a financial level playing field.</p> <p>Question 2: The first transport costs to be cut are private taxis for students who live too far from a bus stop. It is a personal choice where to buy your home and your responsibility to get your child to a bus stop if you want free transport. If you don't want to get the bus then parents should pay themselves for a taxi. Also I understand that for schools such as Ringer secondary school, there are buses coming back to Hailsham at the end of school, and then another bus service again so that students can take advantage of afterschool clubs. This is not available at other schools, and this second service should be cut before you look at charging students for a bus pass.</p>
<p>Case 127</p>	<p>Question 1: The biggest impact will be on families, who already have children at this school and who will incur additional unforeseen travel costs for future siblings or require them to attend different schools.</p> <p>Question 2: the alternative proposal would be to carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area. Alternative proposals should include a review of the current arrangements for the provision of the designated areas, which children attend. (STOP WASTING MONEY) IE member of East Sussex County Council (ESCC) has been forced to admit that the money the Council intends to waste on the Road (some £70m) !!</p>

Case 128	Question 1: Saving need to be made in management costs not on childrens education
	Question 2: Look at your in house staffing levels there are to moany no productive jobs in te public sector
Case 129	Question 1: My daughter currently goes to Heathfield Community college, which she has a bus pass for the public bus 252, my other daughter is due to start secondary school sept 14 and will either go to heathfield or uplands which serves mayfield village, will she get free bus transport if she chooses heathfield as her sister did or will we have to pay for it, or if she chooses to go to uplands will we have to pay for that provision.
	Question 2: Use the money that you take from absence from school which now gets heavily fined. where does that money go?
Case 130	Question 1: limits choice of school affects numbers in schools could have impacts on staffing and choice of subjects offered
Case 131	Question 1: There will be huge impact on families, who already have children at this school and who will incur additional unforeseen travel costs for future siblings or require them to attend different schools.
	Question 2: Alternative proposals should include a review of the current arrangements for the provision of the designated areas, which children attend.
Case 132	Question 1: The biggest impact is on families, who already have children at this school and who will incur additional unforeseen travel costs for future siblings or require them to attend different schools, making the management of family life considerably more difficult. Another objection that I have is that the council is introducing a financial incentive to parents to choose schools that they do not want to send their children to and which they historicalaly have been able to send their children to. Such propposal are likely to lead to staff redundancies in schools that lose out by this process.
	Question 2: Before alternative solutions can be properly evaluated the council should carry out a more extensive modellng exercise. However, the council should be supporting the transport pattern that continues to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from any given area AND not try to engineer changes in school intakes through the incentives created by the transport provision.
Case 133	Question 1: Then the concept of choice has ended. Financial rather than educational reasons may take over for choosing a school in a jointly-served area.
	Question 2: Taxi fares for some students should be looked at very closely, as some of these cost huge amounts.
Case 134	Question 1: The impact on school attendance for affected children would increase and the financial pressure on the parents of these children would cause family hardship.
	Question 2: 1. Although outside of the school transport remit, this would link to school attendance. Currently the local authority penalises parents of students who holiday during term time at £60 per child/per parent for those who take five or more days unauthorised holiday, however long that might be. Revenue would increase if it were a daily amount and applied for as little as one day of unauthorised holiday absence. The extra income could be used to offset the transport costs. The fee certainly is not enough to deter parents from taking their children out of school. 2. Allow parents who do not qualify for free transport to purchase a termly pass to for their children to use. Currently students purchase a weekly paper ticket from the driver.
Case 135	Question 1: Limited choice for parents which goes against the idea of increasing parental choice Historical data as to where students have attended - wanting to attend the same school as older brothers and sisters
	Question 2: Suggest a contribution from parents

Case 136	Question 1: My basic reason It would without doubt limit my choice of Schools. I want to be able to make a choice based on my children and the best place for them to receive their education, not because that's where the bus goes.
Case 137	Question 1: I strongly believe that giving students and parents more choice in terms of what secondary school they go to is a key mechanism to keep school standards high across the whole of East Sussex. If local school can guarantee a local intake, what need do they have to improve standards, grades and the day to day experience of the students? Added to this, the key students that will be disadvantaged by the proposed changes will be those that are already penalised by being slightly more better off than to qualify for additional support through the FSM fund, and yet not quite well off enough to afford transport, or a second car that enables mum or dad to give them a lift to school. Young people in rural areas already struggle to access many of the basic amenities afforded to those living in larger towns, such as better employment opportunities, transport, leisure facilities etc. and I really believe that the most we can offer them is fair and equal access to all of the schools in the area they may want to consider attending.
Case 138	Question 1: Students/parents in outlying areas should have the same facility to choice as students closer to schools. Question 2: My experience suggests that the present system could be delivered more efficiently.
Case 139	Question 1: This proposal takes away parental and student choice, it could also limit the numbers of students coming to Heathfield Community College, whilst placing extra strain on other schools, how can this be a good use of resources, or indeed beneficial to the education of young people? Question 2: Yes, introduce parking charges in town car parks across the area. It may not be popular but it would bring in a huge amount of revenue, the public at large may not like it but at the end of the day if people want/need to go shopping, which they still will they will accept the charges. Also stop wasting money on floral displays at the side of the road, and on roundabouts, this I agree may look nice, but frankly is a waste of money in these difficult times.
Case 140	Question 1: It's limiting the choice of parents over their child's education, especially those who are economically disadvantaged.
Case 141	Question 1: It will prevent parents from having a fair choice of school to send their children to.
Case 142	Question 1: I used to live in Mayfield and my children had the choice of either Uplands or Heathfield. They both chose Heathfield and both had bus passes. They were both adamant that they didn't want to attend Uplands. I think this is a short sighted plan and takes away family choices for schools. For far too long there was no bus on a Sunday - effectively cutting off those children that live in rural towns and villages. It was important that my children could get to Tunbridge Wells on a Sunday as they both wanted to get weekend work. The transport system should be increasing to being cut back. Question 2: I think that these savings should not be taken from rural Sussex. It is difficult enough as it is with the lack of transport and facilities. Any cut backs in small rural areas make a huge difference to local life.
Case 143	Question 1: It reads that low income families will be able to continue indefinitely to choose freely where they go receiving free transport even if they are the only one on the bus, whereas their neighbours could not receive it. My year 12 does not receive free transport now, as she is 17, but did do so till last year. Question 2: All children should do no more than pay the difference in fare if they do not go to the immediately local school. This should be the case regardless of the reason where it is parental option involved (faith, quality, academy etc.). This was the case when children went from Peacehaven area to Priory, Lewes rather than Newhaven school.
Case 144	Question 1: The main impacts will be on families who already have children at this school and who will incur additional unforeseen travel costs for future siblings or require them to attend different schools.

	Question 2: Carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area.
Case 145	Question 1: This will restrict the choice of schools available to families in Herstmonceux. As a parent likely to choose Heathfield Community College as a secondary school for my children, this would personally present me with a significant cost over the coming years having as they are currently in years 6, 4 and 2. Question 2: The majority of students from Herstmonceux CEPS move on to attend Heathfield Community College and the tradition of free transport from this area should be maintained. It should be possible to look at other models for reducing transport costs without punishing areas where there is a choice but there is also a historical precedent.
Case 146	Question 1: Parents should have the right to decide which school they wish their children to go to. Moreover as schools are being given even more freedom with calendar for instance, what happens to families who could end up with different children at different schools on s different calendars (only the inset days could be an issue). It restricts families in their choices. Question 2: it would be a good idea to carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area. Perhaps introduce vouchers system: why does it have to be free? a contribution for some?
Case 147	Question 1: I feel a lot of current students will be adversely affected by these changes which will also limit the choice of School that parents may apply to.
Case 148	Question 1: I would hope this will not affect pupils who are currently given free transport at the present time and my concern is how this will affect my other two children who are due to attend the school in the future.
Case 149	Question 1: The proposal restricts freedom of choice for parents
Case 150	Question 1: If a child is already at school, and have younger siblings, the parents of these children may have to choose between their children attending different schools and additional expense to send the child to the same school as their sibling. Question 2: Investigate trends in which schools children from areas that serve more than one secondary school go on to attend. Ensure that the transport links between these schools is supported.
Case 151	Question 1: Effects on students in North Eastbourne/Wealden. Traditionally students from Pevensey, Pevensey Bay and Stone Cross attend Willingdon Community School. This change would split families, alter the viability of schools and serve no purpose other than financial. Question 2: Each area should be looked at on merit rather than a blanket ban.
Case 152	Question 1: I am all in favour of parents having a choice of school but ONLY when THEY can fund this luxury of choice. I would go further and only pay for transport to the nearest school for families entitled to free school meals also - why should it be any different?
Case 153	Question 1: The impact will be on families, who already have children at this school and who will incur additional unforeseen travel costs for future siblings or require them to attend different schools. Question 2: To carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area.
Case 154	Question 1: Limiting choice for parents regarding schooling - poorer parents especially will have to send their children to the school with the free bus even if it is not their chosen school. This is grossly unfair. Question 2: Negotiate bus contracts that are cheaper.

Case 155	Question 1: Parents who already have children at the school will incur extra transport costs that they may not be able to afford. This then takes away their choice of school; they can only opt for the one closest to them and disrupt the education of settled pupils.
	Question 2: More research is needed to see where the majority of children in these areas go - why should the transport be to the nearest school if most people from those areas send their children to HCC?
Case 156	Question 1: I feel this impacts students ability to attend the best school for their needs.
	Question 2: Other a bus service to the school which historically has most children from the area attending rather than that which is closest.
Case 157	Question 1: This could have serious consequences on the finances of the school affecting the levels of teaching and subsequently the achievements of its pupils
Case 158	Question 1: I have a child at Heathfield and this would mean I would have to have children at different schools. Why can you not part fund? You would have to pay to take my child to Hailsham as we are over 3 miles away but if you paid the cost to Hailsham and then we pay the rest? Surely that's a win win situation?
	Question 2: As above re partial payment it would not cost anymore but maybe more palatable.
Case 159	Question 1: This would mean that we would only have one school to choose from, unlike other areas where schools are close together. The nearest school is not necessarily the school that would suit my child the best.
Case 160	Question 1: We would have to bring our children in by car and we both work.
	Question 2: Build a pedestrian crossing over Golden Jubilee Way so the children can walk/ride bikes to school.
Case 161	Question 1: it won't impact myself but I have neighbours who have younger children who would not be able to attend the same school as siblings
Case 162	Question 1: It was a long process for Mayfield parents to be allowed to have the choice of both Heathfield and Wadhurst community colleges. Confining the free transport in the village to the nearest school would again split this community and friendship groups down the middle.
	Question 2: Two buses will run from Mayfield anyway, so Mayfield parents could still chose the school without extra expense.
Case 163	Question 1: I will have to pay for my children to get to school, or even have to make their own way to school. I do not think the choice of school should come down to where a parent can afford to send their child. The only thing that should affect the choice is the quality of the school.
	Question 2: I would suggest that a more extensive modelling exercise is carried out, and to continue to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area.
Case 164	Question 1: The nearest school is probably walking distance so wouldn't require transport anyway, whereas the further away school would. You would be restricting a lot of peoples choice (which is already restricted anyway) to send their children to their preferred school. My children are already attending senior school, so this would not impact on me now, however if it had been introduced before, my children would have had to attend a school that would never have been on our list choices because of the low achievement. Their current school is a very high quality, high achieving school.

Case 165	<p>Question 1: This is completely wrong, in our area of stone cross specifically the school nearest to us is very poor and therefore we have no option but to travel to a better school in order to provide our children with a decent standard of education. This will mean single parents like myself BUT who work full time and have done since my son was born will be penalised yet again. I feel really strongly that the transport should continue to be provided to help families</p> <p>Question 2: Try looking at the waste of money in the council offices themselves first !!!! Budgets for stationary etc where if you don't spend your budget in that year you get less next year so the departments waste thousands ordering stuff they don't need to keep next years budgets! Huge payouts and compensation for not justified payments, the money being given to people who are not in work who can work but cant be bothered. reduce these not children who deserve and need a good education that cannot be provided in the nearest school in our location.</p>
Case 166	<p>Question 1: My family lives in Beckley - a joint community area. My eldest daughter attends Robertsbridge Community College because it suits her needs and her personality far better than Rye Community College. My youngest daughter is due to start secondary school in September 2014. She also would like to go to Robertsbridge because, again, the school is far better suited to her needs and personality. Furthermore, her friends will be attending this school and she has always believed she will be going too. It is completely unfair to have this choice taken away from us but we cannot afford the annual fares of £500 per year for her to go to Robertsbridge. This will severely damage her self-esteem and may have a long term negative effect on her development. Only a very small number of children attend Robertsbridge from Beckley each year. How can a saving of around just £250 per child per annum compare to the potential distress it could cause each child? Whilst we struggle to make ends meet, do not have holidays or any luxuries, we are not classed as a low income family in need of benefits. As usual, it is families like us, who are neither poverty-stricken nor wealthy, who suffer the most when decisions like this are made.</p> <p>Question 2: 1. If the annual cost to Robertsbridge is £500, I assume the cost to Rye is around £250. I would be prepared to pay the difference. After all, if the Council has to pay for transport to the nearest school anyway, surely parents should have the option to pay the extra in order for their child to go to their preferred school. 2. An alternative suggestion would be to provide a bus pass at a more affordable cost to parents, such as £100 - £200 per year. Children in Kent can buy a Freedom pass for £100 per year. Couldn't a similar option be available to children in East Sussex?</p>
Case 167	<p>Question 1: My son is in year 8 of Willingdon School. He is extremely happy where he is at the moment,as are we. Any disruption to this harmonious situation could have a detrimental affect on him and his studies.</p> <p>Question 2: Have a dedicated school bus run by volunteers. Improve cycle routes from Stone Cross/Pevensy. A Monday to Friday bus pass rather than a full week.</p>
Case 168	<p>Question 1: My daughter attends the best community scool in the catchment area. I do not wish for her education to suffer due to lack of funding!!</p>
Case 169	<p>Question 1: it will have a huge and unforeseen impact on those families that already have children at the school further away from them and would then potentially have to send siblings to the closer school which will cause unfairness between siblings and childcare difficulties</p> <p>Question 2: carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area.</p>
Case 170	<p>Question 1: Surely it is far better that students get to the school of their choice safely. It must be more beneficial that students travel by bus rather that clogg the roads in parents cars. It is not always convenient for working parents to get their children to and from school and for that matter to car share.</p>
Case 171	<p>Question 1: This goes against parental choice and would affect families that already have students at a college or have built up a relationship with a particular college. This seems like a rushed measure with no extensive modelling about impact.</p> <p>Question 2: More extensive modelling and provide transport to the school that has historically provided for the most students in that area.</p>

Case 172	<p>Question 1: This will restrict choice. It is a stealth tax and will lead to division of those who can afford to pay and those who can't. Less children attending Willingdon will directly effect the school funding which would knock on to challenge the schools ability to continue to deliver the outstanding education results, which is why all children in the catchment area should have an equal opportunity to attend this school.</p> <p>Question 2: Look within your Council for example, remove all desktop printers, divert any print job over 20 pages to the print room and use the internal post service to deliver the output. This will save electricity and reduce your toner spend. Remove dept managers where there is more than one management layer. Apply common sense and think before you cut. Employ a consultant to evaluate dept spend and recommend suitable cost reductions.</p>
Case 173	<p>Question 1: families and students alike living in rural areas should receive assistance to get to school, and living in these areas will need assistance to whatever secondary school they attend</p> <p>Question 2: whilst I understand that the council needs to make cuts but surely by making cuts to families and students is not the right approach and will only result in students not attending school due to not being able to afford to get there, maybe restructuring the staff at the council or by looking at other sectors within the council services that are not essential as our next generation is!</p>
Case 174	<p>Question 1: The less children going to the school because families cannot afford to send their children means less funding for the school. Ultimately one of the best schools in the county and town will slide on its results and Ofsted report. We send our children to this school to give them the best possible education before further education.</p>
Case 175	<p>Question 1: If introduced it should not affect children already at a school more than 3 miles away and receiving free transport but should be implemented for new secondary school children.</p> <p>Question 2: no</p>
Case 176	<p>Question 1: 1. The proposal restricts parental choice. 2. Parents will incur additional unforeseen travel costs for future siblings or require them to attend different schools.</p> <p>Question 2: 1. I don't believe that there has been sufficient modelling to determine the precise effects of the proposal. I would propose that the County Council should conduct a more extensive modelling exercise. 2. Students should be served by the school that historically has taken the majority of students from that community. Alternative proposals should include a review of the current arrangements for the provision of the designated areas, which children attend.</p>
Case 177	<p>Question 1: We strongly disagree with this proposal, we currently have a daughter at Willingdon in year 8, and hope to send our daughter who is currently in year 4 there to. This withdrawal of transport cost may mean that we need to send our younger daughter to a different school, which we do not want to do.</p>
Case 178	<p>Question 1: Negative impact on families with children already at school not closest to joint community area. Lack of choice - what if parents are willing to pay to send their children to more distant school?</p> <p>Question 2: Offer the choice but parents will have to pay for transport to more distant school.</p>
Case 179	<p>Question 1: Children currently attending those schools would incur unforeseen travel costs and future siblings would be unable to attend the same school. It's a barmy idea!</p> <p>Question 2: Transport must be provided to the school that has historically served the majority of students in that area. This could cost families up to £400+ extra a year. Money must be found from elsewhere. You are the paid professionals who are tasked to come up with alternatives.</p>

Case 180	Question 1: East Sussex CC are simply encouraging more private transport onto our roads. This is not sustainable. Public transport should be a luxury within communities that need the vital links to education.
	Question 2: More community and voluntary bus services, or a smaller subsidy.
Case 181	Question 1: My son would be affected by this change as he will hopefully be attending the same school as his sister. I have applied for his school on the sibling basis and cannot afford to pay for his transport from Sept 14. The other option would be to send him to an alternative school which is not favourable. I do not want my children in different schools. If siblings rate high on the basis when choosing a school, then those who gain entry on that basis should also be entitled to the same free transport as their older siblings.
	Question 2: Children come first. They are our future and we should not be cutting their opportunities.
Case 182	Question 1: In some areas schools are virtually equidistant from places (ie mayfield). This proposal would mean that children and families who would have historically gone to one school may be forced to choose the other for financial reasons. This is particularly unfair if there are younger siblings.
	Question 2: Ask your chief executive to be paid less? Ensure shopping facilities in the area are all occupied, attracting more people to the area. Fill in potholes so that less people try to sue you?....the roads are REALLY bad and the county has a poor reputation for responding to claimants! (Very poor) ...I'll come back to you....but I would def not like to see and health facilities or education facilities (including buses) cut.. we live in a relatively wealthy area but the cost of living is reaching untenable levels for families - even those on a relatively "good" income.
Case 183	Question 1: Free school busses help keep children safe, reduce the amount of cars taking children to school and helps them get to know each other and make friends
	Question 2: Reduce the high wages and settlement pay outs to the people in charge. Get more efficient at collecting council tax arrears
Case 184	Question 1: We live near the border with another district council and the nearest school is over the border in a town. Our children currently travel to school with others from our and neighbouring villages and have their own community on the bus and in school. This would be broken up if they travelled to the town school
	Question 2: Free bus travel for over 60's should be reviewed. The starting age should be moved higher and the whole system should be means tested. My neighbour leaves his Mercedes in the garage to travel free with his bus pass to save his petrol and parking money when he can easily afford both.
Case 185	Question 1: The proposed action will cause increased traffic congestion, difficulties for working parents. A blanket three mile limit does not allow for areas where there is no safe walk to school such as along busy A265 roads or in rural areas where there are no pavements or street lighting. Has an estimate been made of the increased number of car journeys that would be made and its effect on local businesses, air quality and road wear and tear? Would services be withdrawn totally or have to be paid for by parents?
	Question 2: School transport sponsored by local employers, advertising on school vehicles. Council led/organised transport rotas and car sharing schemes for parents in neighbourhoods affected. Stop all bonus payments of senior council staff on salaries above £30,000. Close local permanent council offices and provide a mobile service with a visiting rota across the area. Work with local businesses and entrepreneurs to develop income generating projects for schools.
Case 186	Question 1: this would restrict school choice as you may not be able to afford transport, and is unfair.
	Question 2: You could make a nominal charge of say £1 a week to all, including existing people making it fair for all.

Case 187	Question 1: I strongly disagree with the councils proposal as I feel it will have a detrimental effect on both pupils and the school. As the school that my children attend has always been one of the top choices for pupils in our area, I feel that a change in the transport policy would no longer make this a viable school choice for many parents, including myself, especially those of us on low wages who do not qualify for free school meals as a parent(s) in the household work. The cost of transport to and from school by bus each day for my children would be an expense that would simply not be affordable. This would mean a far reduced choice of secondary schools. In addition to this it would also mean that pupil numbers would drop and this would have a knock on effect to the school meaning that budgets would have to drop thus affecting the quality of education received.
Case 188	Question 1: This proposal would cause our family financial problems. We have not received pay rises in the past few years because of the economy, yet the cost of living increases every year. The prospect of having to pay for 2 children to attend school is very distressing and would put us under unnecessary financial pressure. Question 2: You should look at management structures and wastage within the council.
Case 189	Question 1: The proposal will limit choice for parents and children when they are choosing secondary schools. Parents may already have a child at a secondary school and wish to choose this school for a second child but be unable to due to the transport policy Question 2: Perhaps the routes of buses can be assessed to ensure that they are being used efficiently in terms of how many buses are used and the length of the routes they take
Case 190	Question 1: Its just another way of making parents who work have to pay again.
Case 191	Question 1: restriction of choice non equality between siblings increase in use of cars increase danger at school opening and closing times due to increase in cars at school
Case 192	Question 1: ABSOLUTELY OPPOSE THE PROPOSAL AS IT IS DETRIMENTAL TO MY SON'S EDUCATION. I have an older child at a school and wish my younger child to attend also. My elder receives free transport but under the new proposal my son wouldn't. My children do not receive free school meals but I am a single parent who earns just £10,000 per annum with a mortgage. If I didn't work my children would receive free transport which seems ridiculous. I have no disposable income whatsoever. We have a choice of two schools in our catchment area, one is the best school in the area, the other I wouldn't send my child to if it was the last school in the UK! This is a crazy idea and it is very much to the detriment of my child's education. Question 2: Take the £63M out of the asylum seeker's budgets and spend the money on British children who deserve a good education.
Case 193	Question 1: It would be wrong to remove the choice from parents of where their children attend school. You may have a situation for financial reasons where one family has children at different schools and this would be very difficult for them. You may end up with 2 tier system where those who can afford it send their children to one school, and a situation of elitism develops, causing many problems in a community. Do those schools such as Robertsbridge have the capacity for the extra students this might bring? Question 2: I appreciate this is very difficult, but the impact on families is too large to warrant changing transport arrangements.
Case 194	Question 1: I find it incredible that a council needs to affect our children's schooling in order to save funds on transport. The government are big believers in using public transport to avoid pollution, congestion and general wear of our roadways!. I cannot see how this proposal is going to help that cause. Surely our children and their parents, have enough to worry about in terms of ensuring our children get a good education that is consistence, given the competitive world we exist in, without having the worry of how they are going to get to their school! Surely the catchment areas should be amended if there is such a big cost issue in terms of providing transport. It is unfair to expect children to move to a new school midway through their education just to save the local authority funds on travel expense. What is this world coming to!!

	<p>Question 2: Local government funding covers a multitude of areas. Perhaps a clamp down on benefit fraudulent claims would be a good start.</p> <p>I am outraged at the suggestion that our children should suffer! These are the community that in times to come will be paying all the taxes that support the local government funds!</p>
Case 195	<p>Question 1: The proposal introduces an unwelcome financial implication into parental choice of secondary schools, a decision that should first and foremost be made on which school best meets the child's needs if they live in a catchment area for more than one school.</p>
Case 196	<p>Question 1: Governments have encouraged parents to send their children to what they perceive to be the best schools and not necessarily their local school. This is now embedded and it is morally wrong to stop the funding for transportation at this point.</p> <p>Question 2: Cutting council funding perhaps???</p>
Case 197	<p>Question 1: The decision would affect the diversity of students at any given school. Diversity is key in ensuring equal achievement for all and also a broader education for young people.</p> <p>Question 2: No. A ranking question would be good here.</p>
Case 198	<p>Question 1: The proposal would not affect me, but I think the financial burden on some families (some of whom have lost child benefit) would be too much.</p> <p>Question 2: How about CRB checks? Do these really need to be carried out for each event/school? I have been CRB checked for Hurst Green School, Parkside School and now to become a Licensed Chaperone.</p>
Case 199	<p>Question 1: Parents are meant to have freedom of choice when choosing a school for their children. This proposal would limit the range of schools available to families in areas served by more than one school.</p>
Case 200	<p>Question 1: Whilst this would not have an impact on my decision on where my children will go to school, as we are lucky to live near to a very good school, it may well have on a number of others who should have the right to choose a school which best suits their child's needs rather than based on their ability to pay for their child to travel to their preferred school. Parents and children do not take a decision to choose a school place somewhere other than their nearest school, lightly, there are nearly always specific, complex and valid reasons for them doing this, and it would be a sad day if this right of parents/children was impacted on, by this decision. Whilst I completely understand the need for the Council to save money I do not support the idea that children's right to the most appropriate educational establishment for them, should be affected by such a proposal. State education and the ability to access it, should remain in principle, free for all, otherwise we further risk creating a have and have not system, over and above the public/private education divide we already have. There must be other ways in which monies can be saved by the Council without children's education being impacted. The environmental impact alone of parents choosing to drive their children to schools (rather than pay the cost of the bus fare) even more than they do so already, should not be underestimated. This has a negative impact on our road network and causes its own transport cost pressures as a result. It is a false economy. I urge the Council to rethink this proposal.</p> <p>Question 2: Redirect extended parking charges/zones in eastbourne (already approved I believe?) to school transport funds. Direct monies from speeding fines from cameras to support the bus network and resulting costs in order that this mode of transport will remain popular and environmentally appropriate for an already congested road network.</p>
Case 201	<p>Question 1: As always it will affect the middle wage earning families who receive no government based financial support other than child benefit. I believe these families should be able to choose to send their children to the school which will best meet their needs. I do not agree with stopping them from doing this due to financial burdens.</p> <p>Question 2: Reduce the time of on street lighting.</p>

Case 202	<p>Question 1: In Eastbourne - Willingdon Secondary is a catchment school for Pevensey Bay/ Pevensey/ Westham and Stone Cross where Causeway Secondary is also a catchment school and nearer. For some of these areas however Causeway is still over 3 miles so these students would still receive free transport whichever school they went to. If the transport funding is taken away for those less than 3 miles and parents who cannot afford to pay the transport have to opt for Causeway this is surely going to make Causeway over subscribed and Willingdon undersubscribed. Therefore the children that don't get a place at Causeway because it is now likely to be oversubscribed are then going to have to be transported to Willingdon which will be over 3 miles away and transport paid. Where is the saving ? Basically there is always going to be this problem as the area in Eastbourne with most housing does not have enough secondary schools to accommodate the pupils. The buses currently used for Willingdon are public buses and the routes adapted to suit. No buses actually go from these areas to Causeway so are the bus company going to have to change some routes to suit this change ?</p> <p>Question 2: As mentioned above I don't see how you are going to make any savings , all it is doing is moving a problem a round with the same outcome ie schools not in the area with most housing so children are going to need transport to Willingdon anyway.</p>
Case 203	<p>Question 1: It reduces the choice of schools for pupils coming up to secondary school. The money for the transport would be better spent on resources , revision guides etc</p> <p>Question 2: Reduce budgets elsewhere not education</p>
Case 204	<p>Question 1: I currently have 2 children at Willingdon Community School and 1 at college. I am a single parent working part time and cannot afford to pay another £88 a month.</p>
Case 205	<p>Question 1: I think buses should be free to all families regardless of income as it causes less disruption to the child's education as it allows to get them to school on time. Not only that but it is unfair to control the decision of the pupil concerning which school they attend based on whether or not their parents can afford transportation means, by doing so you are contradicting meritocratic values and so prohibiting free will It also, helps congestion and accidents outside/near schools as well as the fact that some parents may not be able to drive their children to school due to work commitments. Also, people that are forced to pay for the bus service; this will limit the amount of income into the household meaning they may have to make dramatic changes to their lifestyle in order to afford the travel expenses and so the only way to cut down living expenses is food related i.e. reducing the quantity/quality of the food, affecting the child's health. Finally the money spent on travelling to and from school could detrimentally affect their achievement as this money could be spent on extra tuition (if the child so requires) or tools for revision. This scheme could also, increase bullying to those disadvantaged pupils as it is obvious that they can't afford the travelling expenses thus exposing them to ill treatment due to jealous emotions from those forced to pay.</p> <p>Question 2: Instead of focusing on savings singlehandedly maybe a change of perspective is needed? If, for example, everyone focused on fundraising and also, limit the amount of free school meals available. Possibly decrease the minimum requirement for the bursary fund as this will allow for less expenditure on school resources and therefore allowing the extra money to be spent on travel.</p>
Case 206	<p>Question 1: I feel that it would limit parents choice of which school to go to.</p> <p>Question 2: To carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this are</p>
Case 207	<p>Question 1: I believe it is the right of the parent to decide where thier child should be educated. When selecting a school, there are many factors to consider and one rarely chooses a school purely for its location. We need to allow people the choice. If a family get a 'certain vibe' about a school and they feel that is the right school for their child, they should be allowed to attend. Pupil happiness is the key to success at school. Residents in the Eastbourne and surrounding area deserve the right to choose schools that are outside of their catchment area. The cost of a bus fare is a small price to pay and I am absolutely certain that costs can be reduced in other areas to ensure we provide this invaluable service.</p>

	<p>Question 2: 1. stationery (an abundance used every year - very wasteful). 2. Middle management - people paid to look busy. 3. Publicity / logo design etc... 4. Tea/ coffee / water / biscuits... I have been to numerous training session led by ESCC and many of them provide refreshments. 5. Allow me to spend a day with the council and I'm sure I could design a cost-cutting list as long as your arm! We're all feeling the pinch and now we're experts on budgeting.</p>
Case 208	<p>Question 1: I don't know how I would have managed without free transport ... The more local secondary school had the same opening hours as the primary school so I had to opt for a different secondary school otherwise I wouldn't have been able to get both my children to school.</p> <p>Question 2: No free transport for those choosing a particular school for religious reasons</p>
Case 209	<p>Question 1: My daughter who is in year 8 catches a bus from langney although she does not travel expense free and pays every day for the bus. Although I am not sure if this situation will effect her neither am I sure if her bus service will be stopped but I am hoping it wont be as she is very settled at Willingdon community school and i would not like to have to move her to a school that I know she wont want to go to. I also think her education has been very good since she joined the school and has had a lot of positive reports. i would not be happy about her having to move due to transport problems.</p> <p>Question 2: Well as my daughter pays anyway for transport like I have said I am not sure if it will effect her however I am on a low income as it is but dont qualify to have free bus access to the school but I am happy to pay for her to remain there maybe other parents may be happy to contribute or some fund raising via the friends of the school.</p>
Case 210	<p>Question 1: Although free school meals pupils will recieve free transport I see it a social mobility issue that less well off parents are likley to choose local schools for cost reasons. Wealthy parents will have greater choice than those less well off.</p> <p>Question 2: Spend less on issues that don't impact a childs future. Thats most other things really.</p>
Case 211	<p>Question 1: Family budgets are Already stretched and families will start to choose schools based on affordability not on the suitability of a school to a certain child. Also, it will affect some families in Burwash village and not others, based on postcode. A very divisive policy.</p>
Case 212	<p>Question 1: On a personal level My son has just started in Y7 at Willingdon Community School - we chose the school on the basis that we were in the catchment area and bus travel would be included. I work full-time and am unable to drop off or collect which would result in a hefty travel bill which we had not seen the need to plan for. Yes there is another school locally which we could have chosen but we were given a 'preference'. Our decision was based on the best school for our child academically (it suited his needs and learning style)and socially (most of his friends were also going). If there were no system for stating a preference then this may be fair but it seems very unfair to change the system after selction has been made. If it was stated that all students should henceforth attend their closest school, then fair enough, there would not be the same demand for transport. But what about westham and pevensey bay areas? the children there are not within walking distance of any secondary school. From the schools point of view If parents are forced to pay for travel schools could potentially lose a lot of pupils, current and prospective due to hardship. It seems unfair that a good school which is very poular could very quickly become a school struggling to find enough pupils willing to go there purely for financial reasons. Admissions could also struggle with the demand for pupils wishing to transfer to schools closer to home!! Please reconsider</p> <p>Question 2: I would prefer there to be a list of areas given where i could state my priorities. I find it difficult to think of all the areas that ESCC funds</p>
Case 213	<p>Question 1: In a few years time we will have another child attending secondary school, and hope they will go to the same school as their sister who uses the school bus service now.</p> <p>Question 2: Maybe the parents could pay a proportion to the bus service.</p>

Case 214	Question 1: With 2 pupils at Willingdon school this cost would add to the decrease in our monthly income, simply, it would appear to be because we are a hard working family with both parents at work. The school is outstanding and we would not want to move our children to a closer school because of costs.
Case 215	Question 1: Just because a person is not a low income as low as benefits say to buy a uniform a bus pass & food in day for a growing child will cost at least £4.00 a day if u have 2 children it soon adds up living in Stone Cross to have a bus fare already being paid to have it taken away is unfair !!!!! It's not an expense I was expecting and I feel discriminates children they can't go to the school all their primary school friends went to cause mummy can't afford almost £100 a month !! Willingdon is my daughters feeder school !! It's unsafe for my child to walk 3 miles to school & she has started now settled in to the school I don't want to move her !!! Over a year that's 1000 I need to find !!! Question 2: Don't give Infants free dinners !!! Stop free milk having a child in foundation myself not many kids even drink it !!! Don't give us all 3 wheelie bins fine people who don't recycle fine people that let their dogs foul in parks there are so many ways why punish kids !!! my daughter came home with 14 letters !!!!! Email them all on coloured paper to !! It will cause chaos along that road if we all drive them in to school pollution I can understand if u start new children as of September so every parent that starts know the cost etc but to add extra cost is mean !!!!!
Case 216	Question 1: This action will penalise the choice of school, the nearest may not be of suitable standard and would have a major impact on the children's education. Question 2: Bus passes issued to those at age of 60 should be stopped and increased to age of 65 nominal retirement age and in addition should be means tested.
Case 217	Question 1: Living in Stone Cross my children go to Stone Cross the feeder school is Willingdon it's the only Wealdon district council school !! How awful to effect children's education it's will be preaching the every child matters policy's If she starts a secondary school away from some of their friends they won't be happy safe etc think of all the pollution of the cars the roads on the area will be blocked more kids walking risking life's as often walk near roads it will take my child 2 hours to walk her health will be effected !! I can understand you starting it for all NEW pupils not ones there as it's an expense I wasn't expecting to pay I pay enough council tax I don't qualify for benefits but sure as hell can't afford 4.00 a day lunch & bus fare that will be nearly 100 a month a1000 a year !!! That I was not informed about when I choose the school !!!!! That's just not on Question 2: Turn street lights off late a night like in other areas. people that don't recycle tax take council tax fraudsters to court fine the parents. That park on double yellows on the school run there's a lot daily !!! so many. Houses have been built in Stone Cross this last few years they must all be paying council tax !! Take traffic lights down in Polegate roundabout it was fine before !!
Case 218	Question 1: should be able to have the choice of where I send my children rather than be dictated too Question 2: subsidised transport so council and parents pay part part
Case 219	Question 1: You have not thought of the impact this will have on the students if you withdraw funding and pass the cost onto the families that can't afford it they might have to send the student to the local school which in turn might be overcrowded Question 2: Yes get rid of some of the fat cats making money for very little work us at the bottom end can't keep taking the burden whilst the top more better of don't suffer it's discrimination
Case 220	Question 1: This completely undermines any choice I have as far as schooling for my children, the nearest school is not one that I would choose to send my kids, plus two of them have already attended Heathfield and I am not intent on being forced into sending my third to Hailsham just to save the council some money....I wonder if the council thought about cost saving when they built the new offices in Hailsham?????? Question 2: See above, the council seems hell bent on wasting money at the moment, was there really any need for a new building? NO

Case 221	<p>Question 1: My Son is due to start Secondary School in September 2015 we live in Burwash, TN21 8RJ we are closer to Robertsbridge College as the crow flies at 4.8 miles, however this is not on the main roads and the route would have to take a tight country lane which I'm sure the current bus could not navigate in the winter and maybe does not anyway, so by the main road the route is 7.9 miles, Heathfield Secondary by the main route is in fact 6.5 miles making it slightly closer, However the main reason for wanting to send our son to Heathfield is down to individual circumstances, we originally moved to Burwash so that our three sons could enjoy the small friendly community primary school in Burwash village knowing that this was a feeder school for the large Secondary School of Heathfield. As a tight knit community we have always felt part of the larger umbrella that Burwash to Heathfield community offers, ie we actively support the local community in Heathfield we shop, use the sports Facilities, visit / support the Country Show, cycle trail and Rugby Club where my son plays and I coach the children, we do not have any affinity with Robertsbridge community in anyway whatsoever, so sending my son there for schooling does not make any sense. But the main reason would have to be the individual needs of my son, he has struggled at primary and suffers from low self esteem, lack of confidence and we are awaiting an individual needs assessment from the local authority to properly assess his needs regarding his education, he is looking forward to leaving Burwash Primary and to joining Heathfield alongside all his friends from Burwash and his new friends from Heathfield Rugby Club, to send him to another school away from his friends would not be in the interest of the individual needs of this child, as well as sending a child on a main road bus route that is 1.3 miles longer than your preferred school just because on a map you are geographically closer to a school rather than the school you have been planning to send your child to for the last six years.</p>
	<p>Question 2: Send me the expenditure audit for the local council and I will take a look at it for you.</p>
Case 222	<p>Question 1: The proposal limits parental choice and has been insufficiently researched and modelled to determine its precise impact. It is not clear, for example, if bus services will be withdrawn or whether the intention is to move the burden of cost to parents choosing a school, other than the nearest available.</p>
	<p>Question 2: to carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from each area.</p>
Case 223	<p>Question 1: This proposal will take away the choice of the school your child wants to go to especially to family with lower incomes and that's not right.</p>
Case 224	<p>Question 1: I feel that this would, in effect, take away parental choice. In our specific area it would mean having to send our child to a less favourable school. Historically parents would have been able to make an informed choice between schools, but now it will possibly mean that only those who could afford to pay for school transport would be able to opt for Willingdon. Those with less available money would have to opt for Causeway, regardless of whether or not it was the best choice for their child. What happens to those families who already have a child attending Willingdon and who receive the free transport? Do they have to pay for their 2nd child or would they be entitled to claim free transport ?</p>
	<p>Question 2: Re-assess the County Council pension schemes again. I have an ESCC pension fund in place, and will benefit from it in the future, but even I can see the gross unfairness of the huge cost to society of the local authority and police pensions (and NHS, etc). It was initially put in place to bridge the gap between salaries in the private and public sectors, but that gap no longer exists.</p>
Case 225	<p>Question 1: this has an impact on school admissions and disadvantages students who might no longer, for many reasons be able to attend the school of their choice. limits choice.</p>
	<p>Question 2: personal expenses for councillors and other officials should be reviewed</p>
Case 226	<p>Question 1: This does not serve our community well. Those children coming behind older siblings (who get free transport) parents may not be able to pay for transport and cannot be in two places at once. The cost of transport is high and places further pressures on already stretched family finances. I have two children with SEN and I am a carer, so we only have one income and this will impact on us hugely. We choose the schools for the support they can provide. Moving schools is not an option.</p>

Case 227	<p>Question 1: You are removing the choice of where to send your child/ children depending on the distance from the school by bringing the additional consideration of cost into your decision. Not just families that are currently eligible for free transport would be effected by having to pay to send their child by bus to school. You should be able to choose a school that you and your child feels is best for them educationally based on the schools results and reputation not just on whether you can afford it.</p> <p>Question 2: As I am not privvy to where you currently spend money or allocate budgets, makes this a hard question to answer! However I dont believe that potentially effecting the education of the next generation is the answer.</p>
Case 228	<p>Question 1: Parents should not have their choice of schools dictated by cost of bus fares. If a school is deemed to be a community school for a specific area then parents should be able to choose that school if they think it is the best school for their child and not be forced into choosing the closest school (which may not suit their child) because they can't afford 5 years of bus fares.</p> <p>Question 2: Sorry but I don't feel qualified to make suggestions when I don't know how the rest of your resources are spent!</p>
Case 229	<p>Question 1: This will limit the Schools available to our children and parents will be forced to send their children not to their 1st choice because of the extra financial implications placed on families. This will in some cases mean that children who are bright and have ended up in top streams at secondary school will end up going to a school that does not have very good results. If this proposal had been proposed a few years ago we would have had to consider if as a family we could send our children to the school they are attending as like all parents we want to give them the best opportunities to allow for the best employment prospects. I am fortunate that these proposals will not have any direct impact on my family as both my children are already receiving free transport due to the distance from school to home.</p> <p>Question 2: Well you could always look at the salaries of your senior management as we know that even though departments are re-organised it is always the junior staff who take on more work for no extra money whereas the top take on more and get more money. As the above will not get looked at, may be expenses or the other good one paying for training days at expensive venues or employing consultatives/speakers when they are not really necessary. Another idea, what about saving money by not printing any literature in any language but English. If for some silly reason from the EU you have to print these leaflets in other languages then they have to be paid for. Stop providing newspapers/magazines in libraries.</p>
Case 230	<p>Question 1: Once again the County Council are pushing to segregate the children of Stone Cross, The council already is aware of the response it will receive from parents (But it will continue to push/consult until it gets its own way). Residents strongly objected to "The Causeway School" being built in the first place but were ignored. ("Take away the buses and their freedom of school choice"). Willingdon School will NEVER have a drop in pupil numbers, it is after all the BEST achieving school in the county! The County Council have forgotten the true meaning of the word "Community" however the community will remind the County Council once again that they will not tolerate the withdrawal of funding for transport. You may play politics with the word "Consultation" but always remember the community have the "Vote" Your consultation questionnaire has more questions on race/age/sex etc.....Why! My response to all of those questions was "Prefer not to say".....So what do all those questions prove? Was the councillor who came up with this barmy idea a 64yr old black Chinese trans gendered person? or would you "Prefer not to say"</p> <p>Question 2: Stop wasting money placing council services using outside contractors. Don't waste money trying to fix what is not broken. Do not bother re consulting on this matter for at least five years!</p>
Case 231	<p>Question 1: This would have a negative impact on a high achieving school which relies on pupils attending locally and from the outer end of the catchment area which would therefore affect the school budget,challenging the ability to deliver the high quality of education.</p> <p>Question 2: No, not at the moment</p>

Case 232	Question 1: I have 2 school age children, one at Heathfield and one at Herstmonceux If the school bus from Herstmonceux does not run I would not be able to be in two places at one time! I also would not be able to afford to pay for the school transport, to a school which is within my catchment area at the time of choice
	Question 2: Previously I know that the county council have asked parents to pay for transport then refunded the same amount as it would cost the council to send them to the closest school ie Hailsham on stage coach
Case 233	Question 1: Children should be sent to the school of parents choice, not determined by free transport
	Question 2: Less admin staff in your offices, hanging around doing nothing
Case 234	Question 1: I am a single parent with two children living in Stone Cross. I have three part time jobs and with my tax credits allowance it's just enough money to get by with the odd luxury here and there. My daughter will probably be going to Willingdon next year as her brother already attends there. The small amount of money I am able to save each year is what allows us to have a few days out during school holidays and it also pays for after school activities such as my son's guitar lessons and my daughter's horse-riding lessons. If I have to find money for daily bus fares in order to send my daughter to school each day, either the budget for days out will be non-existent and/or it may mean having to stop after school activities. I'd have to seriously consider sending her somewhere else and I'm sure you're aware of how awkward it is to have two children going to different schools, it's hard enough trying to get them organised while one is in primary school and the other in secondary. Also, all of her friends will probably be going to Willingdon and she won't know anyone at all if I have to send her somewhere else. I realise there are people out there with much bigger problems than I this but it will have a huge negative impact on us as a family in terms of quality of life.
	Question 2: Hire contractors, for jobs such as road surfacing or cutting the grass on verges, who do the job properly in the first place so they don't have to charge more to return and fix the problems they left.
Case 235	Question 1: Our children are our future and we need to invest in them to ensure the prosperity of our country.
Case 236	Question 1: Have a right to decide on a secondary school that has traditionally been in our catchment without worrying about cost implications. A huge change that was not promoted before election!
	Question 2: Anything rather than messing with the education of our future generations. Donor discriminate against our children to save pennies.
Case 237	Question 1: Low Income Families would benefit from free transport. Schools are judged on the number of students receiving free school meals and they should be given the opportunity to acquire an education from the school on their choice within the surrounding area. Not just their local school which is on their doorstep.
Case 238	Question 1: Just because we may not be a low income family doesn't mean to say that we have enough disposable income to pay for transport to the school. Again workers are being penalised.
	Question 2: Bring your workers salaries in line with the public sector workers.
Case 239	Question 1: With one hand the authority wants to provide choice of schools for parents in the creation of free schools, for example and with the other hand wants to limit the options of schools for students. I cant help but feel that this will impact some schools very badly affecting the quality of education for the students already there. This is not a service that can justifiably be cut.
	Question 2: Why dont we have an opt-in system for fortnightly bin collections. Many people I know would opt for that
Case 240	Question 1: It would be helpful to have figures of how many children actually cross catchment areas to attend other schools before making decisions on the affect it may have on certain schools.

Case 241	Question 1: Children and families should be given the choice of where they would like to send their children.
Case 242	<p>Question 1: As a high rate taxpayer I am completely fed up with paying more and more tax whilst having more and more services taken away for me and my family .I have just had my child benefit taken away so do not agree with any other changes that gives more of hard earned money to others. I already have to find a way to replace £130.00 per month which will not be easy when any extra earnings I can make will be taxed at 40%.</p> <p>Question 2: I am sure that savings can be made by not doing what appears to be non essential work / tasks. Examples I can think of are, resurfacing a local primary school car park during the summer holidays (this was in a much better condition than a lot of the main roads). Cleaning the roads on industrial estates including blowing leaves away. I work on an ind est and I would prefer the pot holes to be fixed rather than having a clean road.</p> <p>After going on to your next questions in this survey I think my point of wasting valuable money is made very clear. Why would a survey about taking away free school bus services have any reference to me being gay, religious, disabled or a cross dresser????</p> <p>Surely you want to know if people agree/ disagree with your proposal and how they could make suggestions about making these necessary cuts.</p>
Case 243	<p>Question 1: Should the child have a need to switch schools, or a strong preference for the school that is further away, they may not be able to afford the bus travel every day. Bus fares are expensive - as a student, getting to school is a serious portion of my monthly budgeting - and if parents have more than one child at the school, it becomes very expensive, even for non "low income families". Every child is different, and has the right to be able to afford to attend a school that will suit them.</p> <p>Question 2: I think that rather than making substantial cuts in some areas, make quite small cuts everywhere, or, if you must, subsidise the travel as opposed to pay it in full.</p>
Case 244	<p>Question 1: It is a disgrace to discriminate against stone cross pevensey etc residence charging for a bus for their children to get to the secondary school the school all their peers go to if I wanted my child to go to an Eastbourne school I would have lived in Eastbourne to have all the children going in cars walking all along the roads around the school the noise the rubbish the accidents where children are not paying attention could easily get hit by a car the wear & Tare on the roads more crossings will be needed to accommodate them all These children are the future truancy will up not only that it will cost the average parent £5000 to sent their child to school with dinner money & now a bus fare</p> <p>Question 2: Fine people not recycling u gave us all those sodding bins that cost !! Turn street lights off late in night off all non emergency routes fine all those parents that park on double yellow lines on a daily basis I take it it is not students all ready at the school or I will be asking for a refund on the £300 pound uniform I have brought this year as my daughter has only just started !! & this is an expense I really can't afford & was not expecting !! Put solar panels on schools & your buildings take away the company cars mobile phones charge & who's going to pay when the roads need re doing as so many more cars are driving their kids to school that road will be chocker block turn the traffic lights off late at night when not needed all that money wasted on Polegate traffic lights charge people a flat fee each week they have not recycled don't pay teachers in the holidays they have enough of them & we have to find child care yet u still paying them for not doing their job ??</p>

Case 245	<p>Question 1: My daughter was unable to go to stone cross school even though I could see it from my house. All because I was on the wrong side of the road, we had to go to Hankam. I viewed this school and realised it was not appropriate for my child. Stone cross, across the road would have been. I have driven my child to polegate school for years at expense and stress as parking is awful. I know yet again I am being penalized as the feeder school for polegate is willingdon. I was always happy to send her to polegate as I knew after seven years of this nightmare drive there was light at the end of the tunnel in form of a free bus service that stops opposite my house. I am now informed actually its not going to be free. Do to being a lone parent and because I work rather than sit and claim benefits I am now possibly going to be unable to send her to Willingdon. This is unfair that once again the middle earners are being clobbered and to be honest its wearing thin. If you earn enough then you can send your child where ever you like but for me I have to try and balance the fact that my daughter is beside herself that she may not follow all the other children to willingdon as her mum can not afford it. Maybe I should stop working, stop having to pay council tax and get a free bus pass for my child. It's middle earner discrimination once again. The free bus service was meant to help with traffic congestion. Ensure a safer route for children to get to school. Now do these issues suddenly not matter? We are being so financially drained all ready I think potentially removing parents choice in schooling by it becoming a financial decision rather than an educational and in the best interests of your child is disgusting! As a nurse I have been down graded due to agenda for change, (pay cut) I have had no pay rise for years and the last one is under inflation (pay cut). I earn sixty pounds too much a year to get working tax credits so lost my ten pound a year (pay cut). I have to pay more into NHS pension, work longer and get less back, (pay cut). I also have to pay more for food, petrol, clothes, water, heating and gas and electric. I am now being asked to find an extra £1000 a year to pay to get my child to school as a single parent where the hell do you think that might come from? You tell me? I already do not go out, buy my clothes from charity shops and get value foods so doubt I have £1000 free for the bus.</p>
	<p>Question 2: Looking at wear money is wasted in unnecessary meetings and duplicate meetings. Meetings for meetings sake take both time and money. There usually is money wasted as there are short-term strategies rather than long-term that are cost effective over time. Procurement of cost effective services would help. If you need to impose this then it could be a financially linked resource that if you earn under 40k a year you are not eligible as then it does not clobber the middle earners earning from 16-35k as in this period of rising costs 16-35k is not a lot of money. Also having more people having to drive their children to willingdon will increase congestion at polegate, give potential for increased accidents, this all costs money. If I can not get a free bus pass then I am not totally sure what to miss out on maybe food or heating but we have to send our children to school as its a legal obligation.</p>
Case 246	<p>Question 1: Ending funding for school transport for joint community transport would significantly lower the choices open to parents and their children. There are without doubt a number of schools who are not performing well in the county and this would not improve by only allowing those who can afford it, to travel to schools who have a good OFSTED.. This would also lead to a lack of places taken in schools with a smaller catchment, effecting their funding and as such lowering the standard of provision they are able to currently offer. This would seemingly offer a lose/lose solution to all of the schools concerned.</p>
	<p>Question 2: offer subsidised transport to all.</p>

Case 247	<p>Question 1: I have just applied for my eldest daughters secondary school and have two younger children currently in Year 4 and Year 2. I have carefully considered my choice and have chosen the school that is further from my home of the two in our community area. I have chosen it on grounds of the results, suitability for all three of my children and logistics of them being able to take part in the extra curricular activities. My husband is also a serving police inspector and I have a strong preference to protect my children as far as possible from not being troubled by anyone that my husband deals with in his role. The catchment of Heathfield is as far as I can get from this. Also no-one in their immediate friendship group is going to Hailsham and Hailsham Transport is an open bus arrangement. I do not want my daughter at the age of 11 going to school on a open bus as we are one of the first pick up points - I need the security of her going on a closed bus. I also know that the current bus from Boreham Street does not always arrive at Hailsham in time for the start of the school day, which I know is accepted by the college but would not make it a positive start to their secondary school life. Interestingly we are geographically closer to Claverham which is not in my community area and none of her current school friends are going to. The transport route to Claverham is difficult and I would have no support network to help with transport for extra curricular activities. Both my husband and I work hours in excess of the school day and therefore I need to rely on a bus and I do not feel that I should pay the full cost. For three years of their time at secondary school I will be paying three amounts. I am frustrated that as a hard working family who have supported five children (I have two elder stepsons) throughout their lives with absolutely no claims on the state system that I now have to pay for transport. I am the school business manager of Herstmonceux C. E. School and fully appreciate the savings that need to be made. I feel that it would be fairer if all pupils were charged a lesser amount whichever school they went to in their community area. This would enable the savings to be made and be fairer. I would also question why we continue to have community areas if transport is only being paid to the closest school. Also the differentials in distance between all three schools is only very small as the crow flies.</p>
	<p>Question 2: As stated above I believe that all children should make a contribution to the transport to school if this is how we can make a saving,</p>
Case 248	<p>Question 1: Having one child at heathfield college already and then having younger siblings having to go to another school because of a lack of buses is crazy. Historically children in Burwash have grown up in the heathfield area and attended heathfield college. Busing out of their area reduces both their and their families links with the local community as is a disgrace.</p>
	<p>Question 2: Cut inflated allowances for all county council employees! I would love the chance to scrutinise expenses claimed!</p>
Case 249	<p>Question 1: Willingdon school has been the feeder school for Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey, Westham for many years. The withdraw of funds would impact dramatically on already hard pressed family budgets. Willingdon School should remain a viable option for those of us living in these areas.</p>
	<p>Question 2: I suggest that you make cut back to your staffing levels and county council buildings. Make better use of your present offices/buildings, work weekends on a rota system. Many of us have to work weekends, late nights, bank holidays, christmas and easter time to make ends meet. Change your culture, to office sharing, to shut down some of your other offices.</p>
Case 250	<p>Question 1: (My answer is with particular reference to Stone Cross residents - Willigdon and Causeway Schools) The state provides the educational establishment and the county set up the rules about entry to those schools. If the County are now financially penalising those parents that wish to send their children to one of the schools within the catchment because it is further away what is the point of the shared catchment. Or is this simply the first step in removing joint catchments because of future pressures from future residential developments in Polegate !</p>
	<p>Question 2: Procurement of services and transport - look at different ways of providing the transport engage with the service providers to renegotiate the contract.</p>
Case 251	<p>Question 1: Limits parent choices on schoolsto suit their childrens individual needs</p>
Case 252	<p>Question 1: The biggest impact will be on families, who already have children at this school and who will incur additional unforeseen travel costs for future siblings or require them to attend different schools.</p>

	<p>Question 2: The alternative proposal would be to carry out a more extensive modelling exercise and to provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area.</p> <p>Alternative proposals should include a review of the current arrangements for the provision of the designated areas, which children attend.</p>
Case 253	<p>Question 1: This will effectively undermine any choice that a parent has in which school is best suited to their child's needs by meaning that they only have a choice if they are prepared to pay the transport costs for the school that is further away. What is the point of offering parents a choice if the transport strategy effectively takes that choice away again for all but the affluent few? It will mean that younger siblings whose older brother or sister is already being educated at one college will not automatically be able to be educated at the same college unless the parent is prepared to meet the travel costs.</p> <p>Question 2: transport should be provided to any college that represents a reasonable choice for the parent. You should make it clear whether parents have to pay the entire cost or only the difference between the cost of transport to the nearest college that you would pay and you should make it clear what would happen if implementing this strategy makes existing transport provision unsustainable for the county and therefore results in cancellation of existing services</p>
Case 254	<p>Question 1: I disagree because potential parents and pupils will be forced to make a decision on which school to go to, based largely on the family income. Families are being penalised. Why not save money elsewhere by: not producing the 'East Sussex services magazine'. Also is it absolutely necessary to have a new recycling system in Wealden area? Heathfield Community College is strong in the Arts what if you want to go there but live out of area that pupil is not being given a choice. When going into year 7 they are having to be more independent this would be taken away from them if this proposal happened.</p> <p>Question 2: See above</p>
Case 255	<p>Question 1: Parents would not have a choice as to which school they can send their children to. Also would be extremely difficult for families with several school age children, especially where one child is already receiving free transport to school and a brother or sister would have to attend a different school.</p>
Case 256	<p>Question 1: limits choice and expensive if have two children</p> <p>Question 2: find savings elsewhere</p>
Case 257	<p>Question 1: I strongly disagree as this would cause a major financial burden on our family. To either provide transport to the school of choice eg Heathfield or to have a second child at a different school eg Hailsham. It would also cause a significant amount of anger, rivalry, disharmony, and disruption to our family which could well result in a split family. This in itself could cost the council more money to provide for my children. I should be able to choose where to send my child without the pressure of money. I also have my doubts as to whether my child would get a place at Hailsham (from Herstmonceux) since there are hundreds of new houses being built in Hailsham and its immediate area.</p> <p>Question 2: Perhaps a look at the areas covered by existing schools should be reviewed. Maybe a look at the extensive cost of a cycle route in to Hailsham which will never be properly used could have been reviewed.</p> <p>A new secondary school is probably on the cards due to the extensive building around the Hailsham area in which case school areas would have to be reviewed</p>
Case 258	<p>Question 1: I think if you cut the school buses now there will be a break out of angry parent and pupils throughout communities and families. I have just started my GCSEs and I feel it would be extremely unfair to move my school because my parents can't pay for my transport to and from my school it would be a great disadvantage to my exam results. My nearest school is Hailsham and just recently YOU have put hundreds of new houses for FAMILIES and this means there will be an increase of children needing to go to their nearest school which again will be Hailsham. With an increase of children going to their nearest school YOU will have to increase the size of the school which will cost much more as the same will happen all across the area where you are restricting free buses.</p> <p>Question 2: Just accept you can't make a saving on this on.</p>

Case 259	<p>Question 1: This is a bad and stupid idea. I know what i would like to do when i get older and i feel going to heathfield will give me a better start.if the bus is stopped it would cost my mum more to get me there witch is extremely unfair.everybody should have the right to choose their education.</p> <p>Question 2: stop building houses so that there are not not to many children.</p>
Case 260	<p>Question 1: i would not be able to get all my children to school on time if i had to take them all myself.</p>
Case 261	<p>Question 1: the school chosen for my child was chosen because we felt it was pushed more towards the academic side of things rather than a sports college</p> <p>Question 2: where do I start ??...you really need to reign in the free loaders, I personally know of a house OWNER that has owned a property on the town farm estate in hailsham for the last 12 or so years , it has been derelict all of this time with the government / council paying his mortgage on this property and obviously his council tax for the entire length ...where does he live ? ...oh the government have put him in a 5 bedroom detached property in five ashes , just opposite paragon Porsche, they also pay for all of this while he freely runs his own blocked pave driveway business ..you could argue that his parents couldn't afford to step in to help but alas his mother only sold her plot of land in amberstone for the new development to the tune of 11-13 million...your heart bleeds doesn't it.?....***** ...look it up...so while this is one of the many mr meaners that go even unchallenged, you want to charge me to send my children to school???...you clearly are not in the real world !</p>
Case 262	<p>Question 1: We live in Stone Cross and have two children attending Willingdon Community School. We live in the catchment area for this school, and although it is not the closest school to us, one of our reasons for choosing it, was that bus transport to and from it was provided at no charge. Introducing a charge for the bus service would have significant impact on our family budget. This policy would add to the already congested roads in our area as many parents would switch to transporting their children by car.</p>
Case 263	<p>Question 1: This could make it unaffordable to give your child the best education i.e. from the better performing school.</p> <p>Question 2: Don't give OAPs free travel</p>
Case 264	<p>Question 1: My children have attended Heathfield School. I strongly agree with the principle of nearest is best. One caveat; are you thinking of nearest as the crow flies or actual route? It is quicker and easier/shorter to get to Heathfield from Burwash than to go to Robertsbridge as the bus follows the A21 not the back roads.</p> <p>Question 2: What a can of worms! Surely in a rural area this will always be a problem when previous authorities have amalgamated several smaller schools into gigantic ones like Heathfield. I cannot see that you save anymore except by looking at your own costs (like any private business would), in particular a council staff and general expenses review.</p>
Case 265	<p>Question 1: Being on the edge of a catchment area has always affected Westham. Pevensey and Pevensey Bay villages. Since Willingdon Community school was built in the 1950's there has been a strong link between the local villages. By denying transport cost you are excluding these children from choosing a school that has traditionally been linked to Pevensey and Westham C/E school.</p> <p>Question 2: Stop paying out so many benefits to people who really do not need it.</p>
Case 266	<p>Question 1: Parents will be forced to send younger children not already at the college to a different school to their siblings, due to the removal of free transport.</p> <p>Question 2: Provide free transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area.</p>

Case 267	Question 1: We live in Pevensey Bay and I have a son who has a bus pass to attend Willingdon school. My youngest son will hopefully be attending the same school in September 2014, therefore will required transport on the same bus. I do not wish to send my child to a closer school.
	Question 2: Maybe a contribution from parents towards the cost? Or a subsidy?
Case 268	Question 1: This effectively denies parents the choice of which school to send their child to. Student numbers will fall affecting the budget available to provide for those who remain.
	Question 2: Let me see the budget if you need help.
Case 269	Question 1: There is only a 2 mile in travel difference from Herstmonceux to Heathfield or Hailsham. So I cannot see how stopping this and then supplying another bus to Hailsham is going to save enough money. It seems yet again another way for peoples choices being taken away.
	Question 2: Pay cuts.
Case 270	Question 1: Willingdon Community school is in a rural setting, and has a yearly intake of students from anything up to 20 primary schools, only two of which are on its doorstep. If this proposal goes ahead it would potentially reduce the number of children accessing the school, having massive implications. If the numbers were reduced then this would affect all the students in the school, with less income for teachers, facilities and equipment. It could also mean that children in areas such as Stone Cross and Westham would not have a choice of school. I strongly believe that schools offer different experiences, and children simply would not necessarily enjoy and achieve in a school, just because it's nearest to them. Choosing the 'right' school for a child is really important, and families should not be forced into sending their child to a school they don't feel happy with, simply because they can't afford the travel costs. Not only this, but I believe that Willingdon School is enriched by having students from different areas, and it would be a disaster if this proposal were to be agreed. I am both a parent and a staff member, and although my child does not travel to school by bus, I know that this proposal would affect my daughter for the reasons I give above.
Case 271	Question 1: I am struggling to make ends meet as it is, but the £9 a week the bus company will charge for each of my children will force me to drive them to school.
	Question 2: How much do you pay for each child using the scheme? if it is cheaper than the £9 the bus company charge, why can't we have a payment plan to pay the lesser charge. Street lighting turned off at certain times of the night.
Case 272	Question 1: We are moving to the Stone Cross area in a few weeks and have one child currently at Willingdon School and another due to start in September 2015. We currently live in Hampden Park and have had to juggle finances to enable us to afford to move closer to both the Willingdon Senior School for one daughter and Pevensey & Westham Junior School for the other daughter. Willingdon School is our preferred School as it suits both children and it is a higher achieving school with a much more amiable reputation and feel that we should not be told what school our children have to go to and we should have the choice of at least two schools in the area. We should have the freedom to choose a school that is in a reasonable location and proximity to our home without the risk of being penalised financially.
	Question 2: 1. Employ more people on a "normal" wage and reduce the number of County Council employees on a wage that is not relative to their position or to the Council's means, ie overpaid under achievers. 2. Review residents currently in council/housing association properties as although the wait is extremely long to acquire such a property, once "bagged" residents are not means tested and can be earning decent/high wage(s) and still be in the property forever that should be aimed at low income/needly families/individuals.

Case 273	<p>Question 1: We have one child already at Willingdon and although our first child will continue to receive free transportation, our younger child will not. Our household finances are very tight at the moment and if we can't afford to send our younger child to Willingdon, we would have to look at pulling out our older child and moving schools. This would be very disruptive for him as he took a long time to settle at Secondary School. Also, I'm concerned that with no LA funding, the buses will simply stop running services on this route, and so, even if we could afford to pay, there would be no way for our children to get to school independently anyway. As both parents work, this would be a major problem, and again, would force a change of schools.</p> <p>Question 2: Means test the over 60 bus pass.</p>
Case 274	<p>Question 1: reduces parent choice, unbalances schools in the surrounding areas, will split siblings and inconvenience families</p>
Case 275	<p>Question 1: Children should have the choice to go to a school that matches their needs and aspirations, not just the closest school to them.</p> <p>Question 2: Partial subsidies on the cost of transportation as oppose to full subsidies.</p>
Case 276	<p>Question 1: The nearest school to us in West Sussex using the criteria specified is not one we would consider and I feel that we should not be disadvantaged in not being able to send our child to Chailey because it is the best choice for our child. Imposing a cost for a bus service quite apart from removing a bus service altogether strikes me as another way of further reducing accessibility for rural residents in the county to basic, essential services.</p> <p>Question 2: I feel ESCC should maintain the bus route and provision of a school service at the very least. However, given the pressing economic choices that have to made I would be willing to consider contributing to the cost of this if the result was that my child was able to go to the most appropriate school for them. Further consultation could be undertaken to analyse affordability for families but at least such a compromise would help subsidise the service in the shorter-term.</p>
Case 277	<p>Question 1: This would be a great disaster for my household, I have three children my eldest who will be going to secondary school in September 15 and we have decided on Chailey as the most suitable school for our child and his siblings in a few years times. Your proposal seems that my children would be totally unable to go to this school, you would be effecting everything with this proposal, I am very against this, children but law have to go to school, how do you expect them to get there? There are much better ways to save money, effecting our children's education is not one of them.</p> <p>Question 2: Reduce middle management internally, looking closely at your structure, most council money goes on wages, stop using consultants, look at council suppliers and make value for money purchases. They run school buses in India, are we really entering into a third world council in East Sussex? Shocking.</p>
Case 278	<p>Question 1: There is a vast difference in the two schools available, one is much larger and my child would benefit from a smaller school. The two schools are not comparable and for some children a bigger school is detrimental. We live in east sussex and pay our council tax for east sussex not west sussex where the other school is.</p> <p>Question 2: Perhaps ask for a contribution to the cost of transport?</p> <p>Like other big organisations there is a need to evauate the necessity for jobs within admin and management to improve efficiency. Also reduce the expenditure on literature distributed that just goes in the bin.</p>

Case 279	<p>Question 1: This will mean that I will have to provide transport for my child with the lack of buses from Herstmonceux to Heathfield. As a full-time working parent this will severely impact upon my ability to do a full working day. I chose Heathfield as the school for my daughter as the best option of the schools available to us. I strongly object to the fact that we are being forced to review our choice of school because of the Council's need to make savings. If it is proposed that buses will continue to be provided between Herstmonceux and Heathfield but that parents would be expected to contribute to the cost of running these, then that would be acceptable if the travel costs were not too high. At the moment I find the costs of travelling anywhere by bus in this county to be extortionately high - over £10 for an adult single and 2 children singles to Eastbourne from Herstmonceux!</p>
	<p>Question 2: No, I am not familiar enough with the spending plans of the County Council to make such suggestions. I accept savings need to be made, but I consider it unfair to impact on the educational aspirations of children in this way. If the County Council could provide a consistent level of education throughout its schools perhaps all parents would have the luxury of being able to choose the school nearest to them.</p>
Case 280	<p>Question 1: By removing free transport you will be effectively removing any choice I have over where I send my child to secondary school. I live in forest row and want my child to go to Chailey school. I am already paying transport costs for my 17 year old to attend college in Hayward Heath and cannot afford more. This proposal seems very short sighted as surely Sackville cannot accommodate all local children? We moved from Hartfield in order to be in the catchment area for Chailey. Surely some minimal fee could be paid as way of a compromise?</p>
	<p>Question 2: A minimal fee paid yearly by all parents who wish to send their children to an alternative school.</p>
Case 281	<p>Question 1: The choice of school given to our eldest child was not predicated on the cost of getting to school given that the bus service is free. Our younger child you not be disadvantaged in this way either which if the transport is charged for will have a negative impact both on his education and our family life, which are equally important.</p>
	<p>Question 2: I appreciate that the county council is required to make savings however for families who have already committed to the school and have younger children the cost of transport should remain free for that family up to a maximum of two children. New families could be charged as it would be clear before choosing the school that this would be the case.</p>
Case 282	<p>Question 1: Because children should have the choice of going to a particular school if it is in their catchment area. This shouldn't be limited because of transport. It will also affect schools that rely on these pupils as they will get less money as they will have fewer pupils and quality of provision will fall.</p>
	<p>Question 2: By extending the catchment areas of other schools in the not so popular areas</p>
Case 283	<p>Question 1: My Nearest East Sussex secondary school is Chailey school. It has a good Ofsted Report and is the ideal school for my children. I feel that if this provision is withdrawn I would have to strongly consider sending my children to a lower graded school in a different county! This means that my council tax is paying for services that I don't use. If as a county you will give me a rebate on the services that I don't use I would gladly accept this proposal but alas I feel no offer would come forward</p>
	<p>Question 2: I feel that as a county there is a lot of waste in both administration and sending out unwanted leaflets. I am having to take my own rubbish to the dump because you changed my refuse collection date and we keep missing the collection. You clearly don't spend any money on road repairs as the pot holes are too numerous to mention and my street lighting is totally inadequate. WHERE is MY council tax going????? Get rid of some of the dead wood in your offices!</p>
Case 284	<p>Question 1: The school my child attends has always been and still is the feeder school from primary and is only accessible by bus.</p>
	<p>Question 2: The only way would be to change the boundaries so you can only access your nearest school.</p>

Case 285	Question 1: heathfield has been a fantastic choice for 2 of my 3 children my son is in year 11 but i also have another son in primary school and he will be going to heathfield. life is so difficult for all working parents and having the free bus service has been greatly appreciated so i am disgusted they want to take this away from our children.
	Question 2: we have put up with cuts from every angle from our dustbins to our childrens education so please you tell us.
Case 286	Question 1: Removal of freebus service will have direct impact on being able to access quality school education at willingdon, which has traditionally served stone cross, pevensey and westham schools. Would also mean over subscription to Causeway School or Bishopbell,neither of which could cope with the increase in numbers.
	Question 2: Would minimal subsidising by parents be a option for this service. Reduce number of dead end cycle paths on the A27 being constructed. Reduce number of subsidised school taxi runs- these could be more cost effective.
Case 287	Question 1: In this climate I would like to be able to send my child to the best school possible for the area I live in & I feel Willingdon is such a school. Many families that do not qualify for the apparent low income house hold are struggling as they are trying to cover all their household bills & not living on benefits so why should we be penalised by having the school bus taken away from us for this reason, we if anything are worse off than these apparent low income households.
	Question 2: If savings in this area has to be made surely a reduced fare for all would be more fair all round.
Case 288	Question 1: Parents and students should have a choice in which school they can attend. One school cannot meet the needs of every child so parents and students should be allowed to choose a school that is right for both child and school. This is a democratic right and making parents pay through transport takes away some of those rights. In addition, our taxes pay for schools and so we should some say in what school and thereby provisions we get in return.
	Question 2: Reduce benefits - housing etc.
Case 289	Question 1: Surely there should still be a choice for the students and parents. The proposal severely limits this!
Case 290	Question 1: Different schools have different strengths, (e g-Heathfield's is music and performing arts.) Therefore the nearest school may not necessarily be the most suited to the individually child
	Question 2: Even if a child goes to the nearest school, in places like Mayfield surely there will still be free bus travel, so how is it going to save money?
Case 291	Question 1: As I said last year this will split the village,why should low income or the very wealthy people have more choice? It will take away the choice for family's just above income support who will not be able to afford to pay. you always hit the middle earners. If you need to save money a small charge for all that use the bus ie 20p that would be farer so everyone would benefit from the subsidies not just those on income support/ benefits.
	Question 2: as above
Case 292	Question 1: Families who already have students at a school could end up with siblings being at a different school. This could mean they end up moving their first child who was already settled so that both siblings could go to the same school.
	Question 2: A review of the current arrangements for the provision of the designated areas, which children attend.
Case 293	Question 1: Willingdon community school has an outstanding reputation and I feel we are being penalised by being charged for a bus service so that our child can receive excellent education in a school which is within our catchment area.

Case 294	Question 1: We choose this particular school for what it had to offer not for the free bus service that was a bonus. You are taking away parents choice of schools that they wish their children to attend by putting on the financial responsibility of paying for a bus or just accept your nearest school and that's not fair when your nearest school is not what you want for your child. We will end up paying for more than one child which will be extremely costly and as working parents this is the option we use for school.
	Question 2: Would it be cheaper not to use public buses ? Car sharing schemes to be offered to parents
Case 295	Question 1: Removal of parental choice
	Question 2: Yes - review bus routes to stop at more schools - may need to start earlier
Case 296	Question 1: Parents will not have a choice of schools
Case 297	Question 1: I live in Mayfield and my children go to Heathfield School which is slightly further away than Uplands in Wadhurst so my understanding of the proposal is that they would be unable to receive the school bus to there school.
	Question 2: I would be prepared to pay for my children to go on the bus rather than to travel for free , however to stop the bus completely would mean a number of children having to change school.
Case 298	Question 1: Funding should not be cut due to the fact that there are not sufficient places in the nearest school due to the fact that Hailsham has been inundated with new built homes meant for FAMILIES., and no new schools have been built.If
	Question 2: If savings have to be made it is obvious that you are not planning to build sufficient schools!
Case 299	Question 1: I believe pupils in joint areas should be given free transport to the school of their choice, to enable them as individuals to follow their own paths and not be limited due to financial constraints. I think it would be wrong for less affluent parents to feel they had no choice in the matter, because they might simply not be able to afford the cost of transporting their child to their chosen school. I also think this could have a very big impact on the size of intake for schools such as Heathfield Community College, that may struggle to recruit pupils from outlying areas, due to its semi-rural location. This could, in turn, then affect the performance and achievement of the college, which is currently very good. I appreciate savings need to be made, but I don't think lower paid parents should be hit in this way, over the education of their children.
	Question 2: Sorry, no.
Case 300	Question 1: This would prevent parents being able to make a real decision about the school they want their child to attend on the merits of the school or suitability to their childs needs, having to take the extra expense of paying for public transport into consideration or use a vehicle to take them to school with the obvious result of more congestion, increased pollution and loss of valuable independence that the children would then suffer when trying to become more responsible and independant as moving up to secondary is supposed mark. Off course, the low income families would not have to worry, just the middle income as usual. The cost of living is going up almost monthly while wages are shrinking. This is just another expense that parents would have to bear and would ultimately impact on the quality of family life.
	Question 2: Seriously ? How could we possibly make such a suggestion with no real knowledge of where and on what most of the money goes. I could, of course research this but I feel, quite honestly that is not my job - it's yours.
Case 301	Question 1: I will have to pay for my children to get to school, or even have to make their own way to school. I do not think the choice of school should come down to where a parent can afford to send their child. The only thing that should affect the choice is the quality of the school.
	Question 2: I would suggest that a more extensive modelling exercise is carried out, and to continue to provide transport to the school which has historically served the

	majority of students from this area.
Case 302	Question 1: The free bus service is a big factor to where I would send my children and if it's only to the nearest school then the decision has been made for us which is wrong. Why should someone else decide where our children go to school, isn't that the parents/child's choice?
Case 303	Question 1: A bus taking lots of children would make the roads less busy at school times, than all the mothers taking the children individually. Families with siblings at different schools would find it impossible to get children to different places at the same time.
Case 304	Question 1: Willingdon community school has has a shred community area for years. It serves the local communities with buses from areas that are under the same local Council and is the nearest school within Wealden district Council. This is to whom we pay our council taxes to and therefore who should be providing our childrens secondary education. To withdraw the funding for the buses would be ridiculous and unfair for all the children that live in these areas and would force them to have to attend alternative oversubscribed schools out of our local run council. Generations of families have attended Willingdon from the Stone Cross, Pevensey and westham areas and this should continue in the way it always has. Question 2: Stop wasting money on paying top bosses too much money for paper pushing exercises.
Case 305	Question 1: We have a younger sibling that will naturally want to progress to the same school as his brother and with both parents working it would be difficult and unreasonable to expect him to attend another school. Other closer schools are not (currently) capable of providing the necessary level of education as both boys have been identified as G&T and we do not see why we should be penalised to send them to the only school able to provide the schooling they require. Question 2: Without being privy to what other areas are funded and the distribution profile it is not possible to identify specifics. The obvious areas are to minimise external consultancy fees, minimise unnecessary resources, utilise IT systems to streamline procedures and processes thereby reducing resources and increasing efficiency & productivity.
Case 306	Question 1: My children have a basic human right to the education of their choice if the choice is given. You do not have the right just to remove the bus to save money. we are only just earn enough not to get free school meals so this would be a big chunk out of the household income. one of us would have to stop working to enable us to get the benefits of a free school bus. also there is no guarantee we would even get into our nearest school, hailsham, with the massive increase in family homes now being built in and around the area of hailsham. Question 2: plan ahead if you want to save money. adjust school areas then look at take buses away. parents with more than one child need to ensure their children are together in schools. a new secondary school is now required.

Case 307	<p>Question 1: Sirs, Re, Change of transport provision for childrens education residing in Stone Cross Pevensy. After hearing about your proposal to remove transport free or otherwise from the community to make savings, we were horrified and alarmed that yet again it is the younger generation who will suffer at the hands of the county council cuts. It is hoped that our daughter will be attending Willingdon Community School as from September 2014, the decision to send her there was after spending many agonising weeks going from one school to another to find the right one for her that will suit her needs, I myself (*****) attended Willingdon and know how beneficial it is to choose the right school, our other daughter will also follow in her footsteps to the same school. We live in Stone Cross Pevensy and our youngest is at the local school, if we as parents have to take the oldest across town to Willingdon school first and then hope to return to take our youngest daughter to her school by 9am, can you imagine the extra road chaos caused with all those extra vehicles being thrust onto our already over congested streets at peak times morning and evening. Do you realise that one double decker bus will keep approximately 30-35 cars off our busy streets at peak times, there is four buses morning and evening thus forcing somewhere between 100 to 140 cars onto our streets. And what about those parents without cars or where there is only one car per household and is used by the main bread winner, how will they get their children to school? I urge you to seriously consider your proposal in the name of sanity and common sense thus giving our children the best opportunity of a good education and at the same time helping to keep our already over congested roads from getting worse. Finally we as taxpayers expect something for our hard earned money that we pay to Wealden council for such important things as providing a good education for our children who after all is the future for our country. ***** Stone Cross, Pevensy</p>
	Question 2: ?
Case 308	<p>Question 1: My eldest daughter went to Chailey and we have always assumed my younger would follow suit. She comes from a small primary school and we felt the smaller age range at Chailey would be better for her (only goes up to age 16). You are effectively removing this choice as we are already paying for my eldest daughter to travel to Haywards Heath college. I would like to know what will happen to existing students travelling from Forest Row to Chailey school? Will there not be a bus for them? And if so why can our children not use it?</p>
	<p>Question 2: Ask for a minimal flat rate from all parents to contribute towards school travel. If everyone paid a small amount regardless of where they lived or which school they were sending their child to- it would cover the costs.</p>
Case 309	<p>Question 1: This will cause problems for families with students at the school as they will come across increased travel fees and will also lead to some students having less choice where they attend due to travel arrangements and cost.</p>
	<p>Question 2: To provide transport to the school which has historically served the majority of students from this area.</p>
Case 310	<p>Question 1: One child already receiving free transport but would have to pay when sibling starts.</p>
Case 311	<p>Question 1: Although families on low income are not included in this proposal their will a cost implication for other families. This may be a factor in their school choice ie can they afford the transport cost to their 1st choice school.</p>
	<p>Question 2: Pensioners to pay 1/2 price bus fares instead of free bus travel.</p>
Case 312	<p>Question 1: As far as I understand, ESCC education policy is that Willingdon Community School serves the outlying communities of WDC. Therefore, primary schools such as Pevensy and Westham, Hankam Stone Cross feed directly into Willingdon, rather than the school that is geographically closer. For example, Bishop Bell is closer to Westham, but this is an Eastbourne school which serves Eastbourne primary schools. To enforce change when a student is already established in a school WILL affect their emotional state, self-esteem and very important peer friendships, all of which significantly influence academic progress and attainment.</p>

	<p>Question 2: I understand a change in policy may be necessary due to financial constraints, but this must only be done as a future plan, to be implemented in years hence, once children have been informed and prepared, particularly by the transition teams in primary schools who would need to work on establishing peer support and friendship groups.</p> <p>It is possible that children could be sent to schools where they know no other children, which WILL have a deleterious affect on their ability to integrate and perform well academically. Financial considerations should and must never take precedence over young peoples' potential, which is affected by a wide range of factors, including the ability to travel to and from school without an added financial burden on their parents.</p>
Case 313	<p>Question 1: Of the two schools serving our area, both are in excess of 7 miles. (Incidentally, the school which is actually nearest to us is not deemed to be in our area - which makes a nonsense of the whole scheme. Particularly as Government guidelines state that free transport should be to the NEAREST suitable school!) The difference in distance of travel to the 2 schools in our designated shared area is about 1 mile. So our child is to be deprived free transport to the school we have decided is most suitable to her educational and social needs, but offered free transport to a school marginally closer (and which no child in our village attends). All or nothing! It beggars belief!</p> <p>Question 2: Cut councillors' expenses.</p>
Case 314	<p>Question 1: We want transport to both schools within joint community areas - doesn't necessarily need to be free but subsidised and available.</p> <p>Question 2: Make a small charge for the service</p>
Case 315	<p>Question 1: With financial pressure on families already this would just add to the crisis some already face, and would probably cause more to be home educated as parents would be able to afford the daily costs. I also know that Brighton & Hove are not making cuts to there school bus service but allowing to extend the students bus passes to cover the use at weekends - so why does East Sussex not take advise from them!!!!</p> <p>Question 2: Take advise from Brighton and Hove Council as they have given there students extended Bus Pass use. ?? How can they do that and not face the same level of financial cuts ??</p>
Case 316	<p>Question 1: Often the school closest to you is not suitable for your child , eg could be in special measures or not excel in the subjects your child wishes to take . Siblings already going to a school with a free bus pass then not providing it for the younger children joining . We pay substantial council tax to live in an area of Wealden and yet the children's school bus journey will have to be paid on top . In London all children travel FREE on buses all year round even in summer holidays .</p> <p>Question 2: Free school meals - reduce the criteria for this expenditure</p>
Case 317	<p>Question 1: carrying out this proposal would reduce the choice of schools some parents could send their children to. The most significant impact would be on those students from a low income background whose parents may feel they can only afford to send their child to the closest school, rather than the one best suited to their needs. As children from low income backgrounds are already identified as vulnerable within education, this proposal would only widen the gap.</p>
Case 318	<p>Question 1: Children have always been given the option of free transport to school in order to go to the school of their choice (within the catchment area). It seems unfair to suddenly stop children having the chance of having the choice of school they really want because of lack of transport.</p>

Case 319	<p>Question 1: This proposal would lead to a lot of students not receiving the education they want at the establishment they want to learn at. It could lead to siblings being forced to go to separate schools or students having to move schools part way through their education. It will have a big impact on certain schools in the Eastbourne area with catchment areas further afield than the 'usual'. Willingdon is one such school who's catchment area is wide, covering Pevensey and Westham and the harbour as well as Polegate and Willingdon. Causeway school is 'closer' to a lot of the students which would mean numbers dramatically dropping at Willingdon. Combine this with numbers moving to the free school this could quite easily have a dramatic impact on student numbers, which leads to a heavy reduction in funding and would limit the school's current capacity for delivering outstanding teaching and achieving excellent results. As a teacher at Willingdon it will put my job at risk. If there are fewer students coming to Willingdon will they need the same amount of teachers, would they be able to afford it?</p> <p>Question 2: Maybe some form of compromise could be discussed. Students receive free transport to go to closer schools but would still receive a large discount on travel costs to go to the other school in their catchment area.</p> <p>The permit parking scheme is incredibly cheap, £25 p/a for residents. I currently pay for a permit and wouldn't mind paying a small increase in the fee.</p> <p>Ensuring parking fines are paid by foreign vehicles.</p> <p>More volunteer schemes - clean the beach, litter walks etc.</p>
Case 320	<p>Question 1: Parents who live within the catchment area of a school where transport is required should be able to express their preference for their choice of school based on which school would best meet the needs of their child and not any financial reasons.</p> <p>Question 2: Savings could have been made by improving the existing schools before allocating funding for any new schools.</p>
Case 321	<p>Question 1: I do wonder what the impact would be of additional car journeys in the morning. The close links that some schools have with primary school could be effected. Would this decision lead to better off parents being able to choose schools and families with little disposable income being forced to go to a particular school.</p>
Case 322	<p>Question 1: Some students don't go to their local school because of the specialist units that are in other nearby schools that would help their education more.</p>
Case 323	<p>Question 1: Willingdon community school has always been in a joint catchment area since The Causeway was built. Parents who have chosen Willingdon for older children may therefore feel forced to choose the Causeway or Bishop Bell for younger children and therefore the transport changes will impact directly on their choice of school , thus making the joint catchment area a theory rather than something that exists in practice. There would, I feel be a lot of issues around school admissions if some schools became very oversubscribed due to the transport changes.</p> <p>Question 2: Without knowing what the other options are it is difficult to comment on this.</p>
Case 324	<p>Question 1: Lower income family should still have the right to chose where their child is educated, irrelevant of the distance from their home.</p>
Case 325	<p>Question 1: It will be an extra financial outgoing and burden which would impact on the household finances. It would increase the amount of cars on the road as it would be cheaper to take our children ourselves, therefore the congestion on the roads and outside the schools would be greater, thus increasing the risk of danger and injury to children by cars.</p>
Case 326	<p>Question 1: Although we have 2 schools that are approx. 1.2miles away, there is no direct bus service to either of these schools at a time that is suitable. The only school that my daughter can travel to independently that would allow her to reach school on time is Willingdon School</p>

Case 327	Question 1: I am against this proposal as I feel Willingdon is a highly inclusive school that has developed great links with local primary schools and has helped thousands of students through their secondary education. The school is a focal point for the whole catchment area and it is highly unfair to restrict which students can and can't have the access to the school. I am concerned that as Willingdon is so popular parents will be forced to drive their children to the school thus placing more cars on the already congested roads.
	Question 2: Start by looking at energy consumption across the county. Publicise the fact that the public can use county vehicle garages. Reduce the money spend on hospitality for the top executives.
Case 328	Question 1: limiting choices for students. Willingdon has is a community school that has links with schools in pevensey and stone cross and these proposals would affect the choice of many who would want to attend willingdon but could not afford fares for their children in these tough economic times. pollution may also be a problem if parents are forced to drive their students and I thought that this council had an incentive to reduce pollution not increase it.
	Question 2: look at our summer economy and invest wisely
Case 329	Question 1: I would like to have the option to go to Willingdon School because members of the family have been to this school and I do not see why I should have to choose a school because it is closer when Willingdon School is the better school for my son.
	Question 2: I would need to have a deeper insight into the council budget to be able to comment on this.
Case 330	Question 1: My son already attends Willingdon School and is very happy there and I want his sibling to attend the same school but I cannot afford to pay for her transport on a bus to get there. If you were to withdraw the funding I would have to drive her there myself and inevitably if lots of people are doing that it will cause more road traffic problems plus issues at the school with people trying to get parked. It's much better for the environment for the children to travel as a large group on a bus than in cars but if you were to charge then I'd have no other option and a lot of parents feel the same. The alternative school is not an option for us as I have chosen Willingdon for specific personal reasons and there is no way I will send my child to causeway.
	Question 2: I'm sure there are other areas in which you could make savings without it impacting on children and their parents who are already financially stretched. I'd suggest there could be massive savings made with more efficient internal management at the council and the cutting of non essential services.
Case 331	Question 1: I pay my taxes and expect to have a choice of education not dependent on financial circumstances. If this is removed its likely I will have to pay or reduce my working hours (=less tax paid) to accommodate the situation.
	Question 2: Insource all of the outsourced work such as landscaping as cost is generally multiplied by at least two on this model of resourcing. Plus it's currently inefficient - they cut the grass on the main road one day and then two days later come back and do my road!! Also don't forget the savings you've already made by reducing landfill and gaining recycling money!
Case 332	Question 1: I live the wrong side of the bridge on Friday street to get free transport for my daughter to get to Willingdon school so therefore have to pay for my daughter to use the bus to get to school. I think if parents want their child to go to Willingdon school they should also have to pay. If not they can use causeway school. I would also like to add I live in a council house and have a low income. I'm sure all the family's in stone cross are far better off than myself financially and therefore can afford the £1.20 per day like I do to send their child to willingdon school. I am sure the council could spend the money on more important things.

Case 333	<p>Question 1: My son will hopefully be going to willingdon in September 2014 which would not affect him but when his sister moves up to secondary school we will have to find alternative transport as sending her to a different secondary school is not an option! I went to willingdon 87 to 92 and used the free school bus for the five years. We lived in westham and this was and still is in the catchment area for willingdon. Now I have my own family and live in Stonecross which is in the catchment area also and feel that this is totally unfair withdrawing the service and expecting one child(at 11 years old)to walk through Adur park under a railway bridge and through shinewater estate that recently had a serious stabbing incident between a group of teenagers. Rather than withdraw the service why not suggest that patents contribute towards the cost in the form of a bus pass? I'm sure parents would be happy to consider this rather than have the service completely withdrawn.</p> <p>Question 2: I suggest that the option for future children to be given the option of purchasing their bus pass be considered.</p>
Case 334	<p>Question 1: Children in areas where they have more than one school within walking distance have a greater choice of school than those affected by this proposal as they will only have a choice if they can afford it. This is another step to dismantling free state education for all</p> <p>Question 2: The savings do not justify the deprivation of minority groups. The heirarchical structure of the County and the expenses paid to employees and councillors should be addressed.</p>
Case 335	<p>Question 1: I feel that the county council can find other ways of saving this money, without taking this away from families that work very hard, where both parents work to provide for their children, yet still these are the people that they are looking to take this away from, but will still be given to children who parents stay at home and can quite easily take there children to school. this should be equal throught all children not just those whose parents are not on benefits.</p> <p>Question 2: The county council are surely paying people enough money to do this without asking the general public to do this for them as well.</p>
Case 336	<p>Question 1: The right to go to the school that is right for a child's education and personal development should far outweigh the need to save money on transportation. Forcing a child to go to a school that is the nearest because the parent cannot afford transportation for the school that is the preferred choice is immoral, when millions of pounds each year is spent on other council activities, most of which could easily be scrapped. I believe that a child has the right to free transportation to their secondary school. As a taxpayer, I believe in that right. I also believe this proposal will be grossly unfair to parents with more than one child, and will prove extremely costly, and therefore detrimental to that family's finances. Far too much moeny is spent on other local government activities which are far less important than our children's education.</p> <p>Question 2: I do have suggestions. Stop wasting public money on eradicating all evidence that we are a Christian state and pandering to all the asylum seekers and benefit scroungers. There are far too many local government paid for schemes aimed at "inclusion", the point where the indigenous population become excluded! How much money is wasted each year in literature, signage, web pages and interpreters, where these immigrants should be educated instead to speak this nation's mother tongue. I am sure there are dozens of committees, and fanciful local government management positions that could quite easily be scrapped that would save more than enough money to fund school transportation.</p>
Case 337	<p>Question 1: Your proposals would further reduce the choice of schools for parents and children, a choice which has gradually been eroded over the last few years. It would also place a financial burden on working parents who do not receive 'benefits', and for those who work a 9-5 job it would be impossible to drop their children at school and collect them at 3.15pm, therefore incurring them the cost of bus fares or taxi fares. (My son's experience of public bus service was disastrous - the bus came 5 minutes before the end of the school day, and the next one was an hour later).</p> <p>Question 2: I would have thought there were other areas where savings could be made which do not affect children or the elderly?</p>
Case 338	<p>Question 1: my son is attending a secondary school year 8 (chaily) right now. I have my daughter in year 5 primary in Forest row. I need both children to be at the same school in two years time.</p> <p>Question 2: Any other areas, why education for children.</p>

<p>Case 339</p>	<p>Question 1: Removing the free transport for schools will effectively remove the choice from parents as to where they can send their child. This seems to be contrary to the government's drive to give parents more choice. Should parents still send their children to the school of their choice, they will incur additional costs at a time when money is tight. This move could also potentially result in more cars being on the road at the times schools start and finish and this will make parts of Eastbourne inaccessible for certain times of the day. This is unfair to local residents. Many schools do very important transition work between their feeder schools and these are not always within a 3 mile radius from children's home addresses. The removal of free transport could effectively damage this good work and render it pointless. Many children thrive from going to a secondary school which is not the same as that of their classmates or indeed their neighbours. By removing the free transport, I fear that it will result in vast neighbourhoods all attending the same school. In some cases, this will bring problems from estates into the classroom, which would be neutralised by students attending different schools and making new friends. Finally, a huge amount of money has just been invested in a free school in the town. This has been strategically placed in one of the most affluent parts of Eastbourne. Should the free transport be removed, its entire cohort will be made up of these students and children from more deprived parts of the town who are not entitled to free school meals will not be able to attend. This seems morally wrong.</p>
	<p>Question 2: Perhaps rather than creating a new free school in the town the money should have been used to support the already excellent schools in the town and allow children to attend these via free transport. As this money has already been spent, perhaps local businesses could invest in transport for schools.</p>
<p>Case 340</p>	<p>Question 1: The proposal will: - remove genuine choice as attending one school will incur a transport fee and another will not - discriminate again pupils in rural areas as in more populated areas, pupils will have several schools within walking distance.</p> <p>Question 2: This is a tough one - obviously. Greater use of the third sector in delivery of services - eg for teenagers, the elderly or disabled. Review levels of pay for the highest paid council staff. Sell off unused council land for building the houses that are required to be build in Sussex</p>
<p>Case 341</p>	<p>Question 1: Whilst appreciating that many families do not have the luxury of choosing schools unless they pay for the transport, the joint community area has been in existence for a long time and will affect many families who already have children at Robertsbridge, although the nearest school is Rye. I have one child already at Robertsbridge and another child who is due to start in 2014. When my first child started, I assumed my second child would get free transport to Robertsbridge too. I do not qualify for benefits but I cannot afford the bus fare to Robertsbridge. I know parents in a similar position who are considering removing children from Robertsbridge because they can't afford for their younger siblings to go there. Parents and carers should have had advanced warning of this proposal. If I had known I would be facing enormous transport costs in the future, I would not have allowed my eldest child to attend Robertsbridge, even though we did not want our children to go to Rye. We should have been advised that at some time in the near future, this funding would be cut so that we could have made an informed decision at the time.</p> <p>Question 2: As the Council will pay for the child to attend its nearest school, allow the parents to pay the additional expense in order to cover the cost of the bus fare to the chosen school. This would give the Council some savings and allow children in joint community areas to attend their chosen school. If the Council still wishes to remove the joint community area funding, give several years' warning so parents in the future can make an informed choice. By that time, families in the position I am currently in, would have passed through the system. Alternatively, charge a standard bus fare for all children attending secondary school (for example £100 - £150 a year) that is not their nearest. This would be like the Freedom Pass operated in Kent. Or, charge a standard bus fare, as above, for children in joint community areas who have siblings at the further school and would like to attend the same. Increase the Council Tax by a few pounds a month. The Council should look at better and more efficient ways to do the things it already does.</p>
<p>Case 342</p>	<p>Question 1: Parents should not be burdened by money as to which school their children are being educated at.</p> <p>Question 2: Run a full consultation.</p>

Case 343	<p>Question 1: Willingdon Community School is largely served by a shared catchment area which is effected by this proposed change. families living in these areas have long expected to have the option to attend WCS and to have their bus fares paid for where they qualify. WCS has built up strong and permanent relationships with the communities in these areas and the schools. The recent adjudication by the Admissions Adjudicator confirmed that WCS should continue to be a named school for these areas, following a vigorous campaign by parents. To change this longstanding relationship which is likely to impact upon the most disadvantaged families within the area is likely to be discriminatory, forcing those families to not have the option of going to Willingdon and possibly skewing the nature of the intakes of those schools served by the areas.. This will have an impact on more than one school and may increase the challenges of schools based nearer the centre of the area. The potential impact upon WCS is that it may reduce numbers, making the school less financially viable. As one of the most successful schools in the county that will not serve the communities best interests and may put at risk some aspects of WCS provision. The county proposal is breaking with tradition, will save little money and is not in the best interests of families, diminishing choice for many.</p> <p>Question 2: Further reduction of central services</p>
Case 344	<p>Question 1: We have a son at Chailey school who currently catches the school bus from forest row each morning. There is no way that he would be able to go to Chailey if there was no school bus as I have other younger children and could not drive him to and from school each day and there is no public bus that I am aware of. Whilst I see that the changes would not affect pupils already getting the free transport, they would affect our younger two children when they come to go to secondary school, meaning that Chailey would not be an option for them.</p>
Case 345	<p>Question 1: My daughter attends Chailey school travelling by coach from Forest Row. Stopping free transport would mean her transferring to another secondary school i.e Beacon in Crowborough which is not much further away than Chailey ?-So how would this save the council money. Or my child has to go to Sackville in west sussex where the summer Ofsted was very alarming. Why is my childs life going to be so disrupted when others are completely untouched ?! If you are to save money on transport then withdraw free transport for everyone child living in East Sussex DO NOT PENALISE JUST THOSE AT CERTAIN SCHOOLS! This is not fair or equal.</p>
Case 346	<p>Question 2: Reduce the number of leaflets and free newsletters that are issued, particularly those that accompany the council tax bills, Which are in the main discarded without being read. The majority of households have access to a computer and the information could be made readily available just by publishing the web address on the bill if it isn't already there, and make more use of the CAB, Information centres, Jobcentres etc and general noticeboards and free newspapers like parish mags to get info out to Wealden residents.</p>
Case 347	<p>Question 2: Lower the wages of the higher earners. Stop these high settlement figures.</p>
Case 348	<p>Question 2: Cut pointless council jobs</p>
Case 349	<p>Question 2: Stop wasting money.</p>
Case 350	<p>Question 2: Slim lining the refuse collections system currently in place. Keeping a smaller amount in the reserve fund and using it for this. Spend less on the gender diversity questions and services as these are not value for money and not on the whole needed.</p>
Case 351	<p>Question 2: Cut back on your own council spending rather than public services , I'm sure there are many ways you can cut costs in your own organisation rather the cutting public services</p>
Case	<p>Question 2: stop wasting money on rebuilding your offieces which were already quite</p>

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adequate.

DIRECTOR OF
12 NOV 2013
CHILDREN'S SERV

2 Buddens Green
Beckley
Rye
East Sussex
TN31 6TW

24 October 2013

The Lead Member
Children's Services
County Hall
PO Box 4
St Anne's Crescent
Lewes
BN7 1SG

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Transport provision for children in areas that are served by more than one school

I have one child at Robertsbridge Community College and another child who is due to start secondary school in 2014. If the proposal currently under consultation goes ahead, my youngest child will only receive transport funding to our nearest school, Rye College, which I do not consider an appropriate choice for her, in view of her academic strengths and her personality. Under the proposal, I will have to pay for her bus fare to Robertsbridge, which will be in excess of £540 a year. I do not qualify for benefits but it will be an enormous financial struggle to find this additional expense.

When my first child started at Robertsbridge, I assumed my second child would get free transport too as I had no idea the joint community area would cease to exist. Parents and carers should have had advanced warning of this proposal as, if I had known two years ago that I would be facing enormous transport costs in the future, I would not have allowed my eldest child to attend Robertsbridge despite the fact that we did not consider Rye an appropriate school for her. It would be devastating for my eldest child if we removed her from Robertsbridge to attend Rye but it would be equally distressing for my youngest child if she was not offered the opportunity to attend the school of her choice.

If the Council insists on removing the joint community area funding, effectively removing the choice of school for many families, perhaps it should consider making all

schools concentrate on academic subjects instead of allowing them to specialise in “soft” subjects, as is the case at Rye. Whilst it is undoubtedly a good thing for some children to have this option, surely it is not fair if academically able children are unable to fulfil their potential within the county. We are told that there is a nationwide shortage of maths and science graduates and this could be one of the reasons why.

Whilst I appreciate that many families do not have the luxury of choosing schools unless they pay for the transport, the joint community area has been in existence for a long time and will affect many families who already have children at Robertsbridge. Some local parents, particularly those who will have two or more children at school, have said they will have no choice but to drive their children to school. This will result in a significant environmental impact and increase the risk of accidents from the higher volume of traffic, particularly around Robertsbridge which is already heavily congested at the start and end of the school day.

On average, five children from Beckley go to Robertsbridge each year. The bus journey to Robertsbridge is approximately three miles longer than to Rye so how much of a saving will East Sussex County Council actually make by cutting the free transport? Most of the parents I have spoken to would happily pay the difference. This would give the Council some savings and allow children in joint community areas to attend their chosen school.

Another option would be for parents/carers to pay for an annual bus pass of approximately £150 per year, similar to the Freedom Pass that operates in Kent.

Children in Beckley and Northiam are within easy access of Homewood School in Kent which is a popular choice of school, particularly as it has a sixth form. In the past, many families who liked Homewood did not send their children there as they would have incurred transport costs. If the proposal goes ahead and local parents have to pay the fare to Robertsbridge, many may actually choose to go out of county, as they will have to pay for the transport anyway.

Some parents have told me that in order to pay for the cost of the bus to Robertsbridge, they will have to make savings elsewhere such as stopping music lessons provided by East Sussex Music Service as a year of music lessons equates to roughly half a year’s bus fare.

I would also like to say that the consultation was not widely publicised, therefore limiting the number of people who could actually “have their say” and giving an inaccurate representation. Only parents/carers with children currently in year 6 were

advised of this proposal although it will affect many families in the future. Most of us do not have the time to study the East Sussex County Council website on a weekly basis to ensure we are aware of all the consultations that are taking place. Parents/carers of all primary school age children who may be affected by this proposal should have been advised of the consultation.

Following my attendance at Beckley Parish Council meeting on 9 October, I organised a petition which I attach in support of my concerns.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully



Louise Channon

cc The Rt Hon Gregory Barker MP
Councillor Nick Bennett
Councillor Angharad Davies
Beckley Parish Council

In the past, Beckley, Brede and Northiam have been part of a joint community area which means that children living in this locality have benefited from a free bus service to and from either Robertsbridge Community College or Rye College. However, East Sussex County Council needs to make substantial savings and intends to abolish the free service to Robertsbridge, thus removing the choice of secondary school for families who cannot afford the bus fare of approximately £600 per child per year. Although the County Council claims savings can be made by cutting this bus service, it may not have taken into account the potential additional expense of building extra classrooms and employing more teaching staff at Rye.

Robertsbridge Community College and Rye College offer different specialist subjects; all children are individuals and deserve to attend a school which best suits their needs. Furthermore, some local families already have children at Robertsbridge and may be faced with the dilemma of withdrawing those children because they cannot afford to give younger siblings the same opportunity, resulting in an unexpected drop in pupil numbers at Robertsbridge and a sudden influx of children at Rye.

We, the undersigned, object to this proposal which goes against the interests of both schools concerned, and which is already causing concern to the families and children involved.

Name	Signature	Address
SARAH KEIGHTON	[Redacted]	9 POTTERY CLOSE BREDE NR RYE, E. SX. TN31 6HE
FENELLA SEYMOUR	[Redacted]	OLD COTTAGE MAIN STREET BECKLEY TN31 6AG
DEBORAH SWANN	[Redacted]	3- BUDDENS GREEN BECKLEY TN3 6TW
Dan Channon	[Redacted]	2 Buddens Green Beckley, TN31 6TW
Julie Penford	[Redacted]	40 NEW WINCHELSEA RD RYE
LAURA PENFORD	[Redacted]	40 new Winchelsea Road Rye

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Name	Signature	Address
MRS. TERESA JONES.		HUNTERS MOON POTTERY LANE BREDE, E SUSSEX TN31 6HB.
MRS JULIA ELLIOTT		3 Gillysitz, Odcombe Road, Brede TN31 6BP.
Mrs J NICHFIELD		MARLOW'S, STATION RD NORTHIAM E SUSSEX TN31 6BA
TERI GOODWIN		6 HYLANDS CLOSE NORTHIAM, E SUSSEX TN31 6LZ
Clare Jones		2 CORNE VIEW, DIXON LANE Northiam. TN31 6PP.
Sally J Newton		Glebe Stables, Hasting Road Northiam, TN31 6NH <small>3 mile difference Rye / Robertsbridge</small>
KAREN MURPHY		27, GODDENS GILL, NORTHIAM TN31 6QE
MICHAEL KNIGHT		27 GODDENS GILL, NORTHIAM TN31 6QE

Name	Signature	Address
E Vereall		28 Goddens Hill, NORTHAM, TN31 6DE
P. Michie		MARLOW'S STATION RD NORTHAM E Sussex TN31 6BA
V Jones		Hunbys Mead Pottery Lane Breda
L Butler		Losselen Cottage Newerden TN18 5QQ
A. Morton		MEAD MEADOW, KINGS BANK LANE Beckley TN31 6RT
E. Cyster		Gate Court Farm, Northam, TN31 6QT
R. N. MORTON		Mead Meadow, Kings Bank Lane, Beckley, Rye, E. Sx TN31 6RT
L. TURP		SOUTH NEW, RYE ROAD SANDHURST, KENT TN18 5TE

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Name	Signature	Address
Amanda Rogers		Rosebank Peasmarsh Road Beckley
Christine Mack		Hop Cottage, Beckley Ave TN316UB
Paul		Little Bellmest Farm, Hobbs Lane, Beckley
Debbie White		The Chestnuts, Clayhill Beckley.
Jo Pappenheim		Orchard House Cattstall Stone & Oxney TN307JR.
Pip Lavelle		2 Wharf Cottage, Bodiam, E. Sussex.
Sophie Bull		Farm Cottage, Furnace Lane Broad Oak, Rye
ANNA GRIFFITHS		22 Hobbs Close Beckley - E. Sussex TN316TP

Name	Signature	Address
Pippa Lewis		8A CADBOROUGH CHAFF Rye East Sussex, TN31 7EB
Clare Layzell		Godsaw, Clayhill, Beckley, TN31 6SG.
Suzy Oliver		Tile Barn Cottages Beckley TN31 6SB
Barney Grice		1 Millfield Cottages Beacon Lane Northiam TN31 6PJ
Rachel Matthew		Oxney View, Peasmarsh Road Beckley TN31 6TG
Jenny Edbrooke		Main Rd , 6 Roberts Row, Beckley, Rye. TN31 6TY.
VERITY LANGLISH		Wolver Farm Bungalow, Wolver Hill, Beckley, East Sussex. TN31 6XP
Nicole Wakeley		The Granary, Main St Beckley TN31 6RS
J. COSENTS		Shorelands Cottages Main St TN31 6YG.
A. Blopp.		Wildenatt, Stradbald Lane, Beckley, Rye, East Sussex TN31 6UE.
E. Lyward		4 Farm Gardens, Peasmarsh. Rye. E. Sussex. TN31 6AR.
S. GRICE		1 Millfield Cottages Northfield TN31 6PJ.
Misa Goble		Sassonmeadows, Main St. Beckley E. SUSSEX TN31 6RN

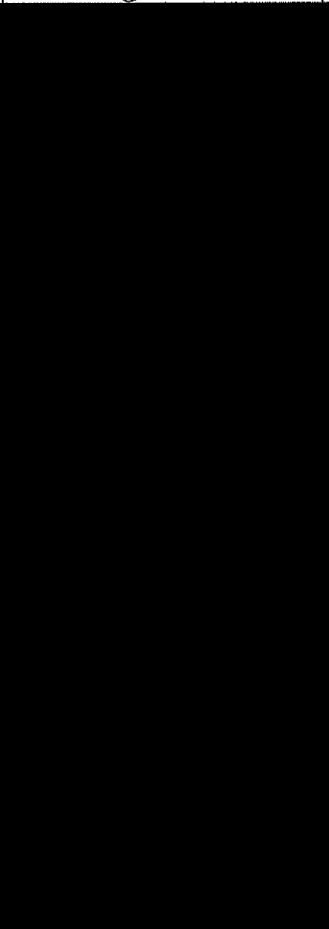
Name	Signature	Address
Katherine Oliver		Broadlawns, Whitebread Lane Beckley, E. Sussex TN31 6TY.
M C EMA		The Poplars Beckley TN31 6AR.
T. Langmead		Southcoat Clayhill TN31 6SG
Jenny Symonds		3 Ewhurst Lane Northiam TN31 6PD
Deborah Weston		The Willows, Sea Road, Winchelsea Beach TN36 4LA
CARMEN GREGORY		9 THE PADDOCK, NORTHIAM, E. SUSSEX TN31 6QF
Lynette Downey		30 Forge Meads Wittesham Penlenden TN30 7PE
Kirsty Tallett		East Dene, Udinore Rye TN31 6BA
Hayley Archer		22 SPRING HILL NORTHIAM TN31 6PX
Jo Mason		The Wheelwright's Cottage Main St Beckley TN31 6KS
MANDY BOTTING		46 OAKHILL DRIVE BEAD OAK BEEDE TN31 6DT
Julie Channon		Yew Park Cottage Main Street Beckley TN31 6RR
GRAEVE DINNING		ASHVILLE, WYMORE ROAD, BEAD OAK, TN31 6DS.

Name	Signature	Address
Patrick Channon	[REDACTED]	Yew Park Cottage Main Street Beckley Nr Dye Essex TW20 6AA
Julie Beckley		The Duka, Beckley
CATH HARRIS.		3, ROBERTS Row. BECKLEY, TW20 6TY.
NICOLA WOODGATE		OCKFORD FARM, MILL CORNER TW20 6HP.

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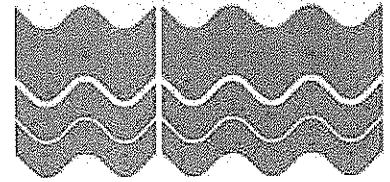
Name	Signature	Address
Sharan Parker		Rye. East Sussex
Sarah Wyatt		Broad oak, Rye, East Sussex
Louise Tufekci		Rye, East Sussex.
Lisa Taylor		pedsmarsh, east Sussex
K Taylor		rye harbour
J. Osborn		Beckley.
Julie Lomath		Lydd Road, Comber
Susie Hall		Tenterden, Kent.

East Sussex County Council

Councillor Nick Bennett
Lead Member for Learning and
School Effectiveness

c/o Security Desk
County Hall
St Anne's Crescent
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1SG
Tel: 0345 60 80 190
Fax: (01273) 481367

**East Sussex
County Council**



Private and Confidential

Ms Louise Channon
2 Buddens Green
Beckley
Rye
East Sussex TN31 6TW

Date 25 November 2013

when responding please contact
Councillor Nick Bennett
01273 481112
cllr.nick.bennett@eastsussex.gov.uk

our ref

your ref

Dear Ms Channon,

Thank you for your letter of 5 November 2013 which arrived with me on 19 November (I am also responding on behalf of Cllr Sylvia Tidy). As Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness the decisions regarding home to school transport will eventually fall to me to decide.

I will make sure that your comments, along with all the signatures, are included in the consultation process, as part of the report to the Lead Member meeting on 20 January 2014.

I am sure that you understand this Authority, along with all the others, is unable to maintain the level of non-statutory services that we have all enjoyed for many years. I will do my best to ensure that we comply with all our statutory duties and take into account of, as far as possible, the particular needs of pupils and families that you describe.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the councillor.

Councillor Nick Bennett
Lead Member for Learning and School Effectiveness