

Public Question Time - County Council 24 September 2024

	Name of person asking question	Time and date question received	Question
1.	<p>Amy Chesworth Concerned Resident and Parent in Penyffordd & Penymynydd Village</p>	<p>06/09/2024 15.36</p>	<p>The council’s decision to base transport eligibility on the “Nearest appropriate school” rather than the “Actual progressive school” for the area is creating significant disparities. Some children receive free transport while others, despite accessing the bus at the same stop as those approved for free transport, do not. There are many inconsistencies in the policy that need addressing, and it is concerning that these were not considered before implementation.</p> <p>This inconsistency has resulted in many parents struggling with the financial implications and undue stress as they manage transport costs. Additionally, there is the worry of children having to make their way to school if unable to pay for the bus due to the high costs per term, forcing them to walk down unsafe, highly trafficked roads at peak times. Furthermore, no assistance has been offered to families facing financial difficulties, nor has any exemption been provided for parents with health conditions that prevent them from driving their children to school.</p> <p>My question to you is, given the impact this policy is having on our village, could you commit to supporting a review of the policy or advocate for additional rules that consider the specific needs of our community? We are hopeful that with your backing, we can find a more equitable solution for all families involved.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p>