

Hampshire County Council

Regulatory Committee B

12 October 2014

School Transport Appeal: Ropley to Perins School

Report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment,

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1. Summary

1.1 The appellant has appealed, on the safety of the walking route, against the decision not to award free school transport to her son, from Sunnybank Farm, The Dene in Ropley, to Perins School in Alresford.

2. Background

2.1 Sunnybank Farm in Ropley is 2.75 miles west of Perins School. The walking route is within the statutory three miles distance beyond which free transport is provided for children over eight attending their catchment area school, or a nearer school.

2.2 The appellant has raised concerns over the safety of the walking route to the school from the Ropley area.

2.3 Hampshire County Council provides a contracted coach service to Perins School which the appellant's son could use at a cost of £516 per annum.

2.4 There is also a commercially operated public bus service that comes along the A31 to Perins School, and there are bus stops near to the home address.

3. The Appeal

3.1 The route has to be considered against the national Road Safety GB criteria for the Assessment of Walked Routes to School (Appendix 2).

3.2 An on-site inspection was undertaken on 30 June 2014 by a representative from Hampshire County Council's Road Safety Team. The Senior Road Safety Officer's report is available in Appendix 1

4. **Conclusion**

- 4.1 Members will have had the opportunity to inspect the walking route. The County Council's position is that, under the criteria, the walking route is available.
- 4.2 It is for Members to consider, following the guidance of Appendix 1:
 - (i) Whether the nature of the route, or an alternative route, means that it is available for children if unaccompanied; and
 - (ii) If the answer to (i) is no, whether the route is available if accompanied.
- 4.3 If the answer to (ii) is yes, separate consideration by the Children's Services Department would be given to any representations by parents or carers who are unable to accompany their children by virtue of individual circumstances.

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background papers

The following documents disclose facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and has been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report.

NB the list excludes:

- 1. Published works.
- 2. Documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.

TITLE	LOCATION
Correspondence and notes from site inspections and telephone conversations	ETE Directorate Passenger Transport Group

NB