

Hampshire County Council

Regulatory Committee B

25 October 2012

School Transport Appeal: Quetta Park to Court Moor School

Report of the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment,

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1. Summary

1.1 Mr Underwood has appealed, on road safety grounds, against the decision not to award free school transport to his son, from Quetta Park, Church Crookham to Court Moor School, Fleet.

2. Background

2.1 Quetta Park lies 2.3 miles South of Court Moor School, Fleet. 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 Mr Underwood has raised concerns over the safety of the walking route to the school from Quetta Park to the school, via Aldershot Road.

2.3 There is a public bus service between Quetta Park and Court Moor School. The 2 ticketing options available are £12 for a weekly Fleet town ticket, or for pupils who do not travel by bus every day a 'Carnet' style ticket that offers 12 single journeys for £15

3. The Appeal

3.1 The route has to be considered against the national Local Authority Road Safety Officers' Association (LARSOA) criteria for the Assessment of Walked Routes to School (Appendix 2). This organisation changed it's name to Road Safety GB in 2009, but the same criteria applies.

3.2 An on-site inspection was undertaken on 6 September 2012 by a representative from Hampshire County Council's Road Safety Team. The salient points of this report are in Appendix 1

3.3 The walking route between Quetta Park and Court Moor School was deemed as 'safe', subject to the completion of the light-controlled Puffin Crossing on the Aldershot Road.

3.4 To enable Mr Underwood's son to be able to travel to school, the county has provided tickets for the bus service that runs between Quetta Park and Court Moor school. Tickets will be continued to be supplied until the Puffin Crossing on the Aldershot Road is operational.

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