

Online Consultation

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

09 August 2024 - 12 September 2024

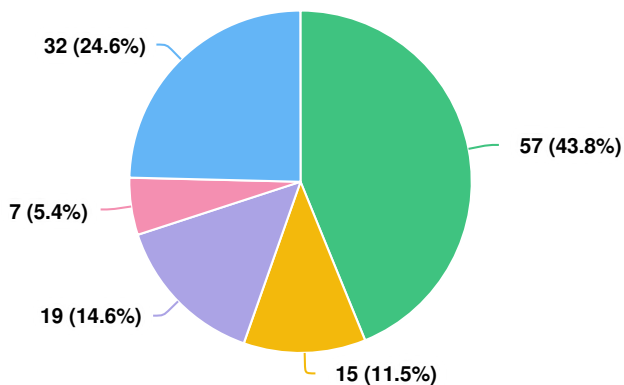
PROJECT NAME:

Home to School Transport Policy - updated



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 Throughout the updated policy we have removed reference to ‘nearest suitable school’ and left it to read as ‘catchment scho...

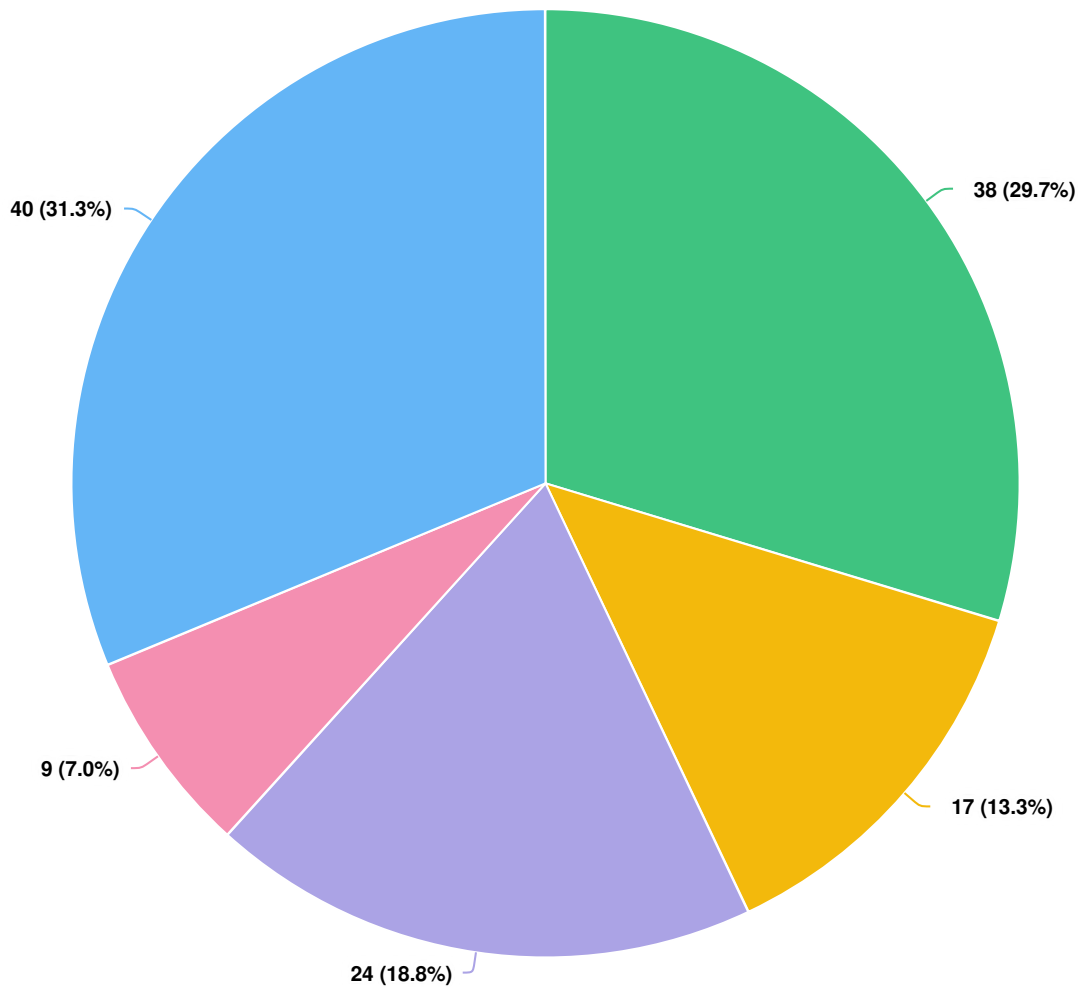


Question options

- Agree - easy to understand
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Disagree - not each to understand at all

Optional question (130 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with this change to the policy?



Question options

● Agree ● Slightly agree ● Neither agree nor disagree ● Slightly disagree ● Disagree

Optional question (128 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q3 Do you have any additional comments regarding question 1?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:10 PM

The catchment school may not be the most suitable school

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 08:08 PM

Clarification that the school hasn't changed would be helpful.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 08:31 PM

Does this mean that pupils will no longer attend the closest school?
But will only have free transport to school within the catchment area
in which they live?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 09:30 PM

I feel in our village where there was much debate over 'catchment'
there is still a justifiable need for transport to both catchment and
nearest schools.

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 10:54 AM

Why should you decide which catchment I live in and which school
you will provide transport for when that school may not be my nearest
school. Does Powys CC have a legal duty to provide transport to the
nearest school?

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 02:45 PM

I think it unfair to expect my child to travel 28 miles (1 hr) when there
is a Welsh medium high school 10 miles (20 minutes) away and
another 20 miles (40 minutes) away. Another example of a complete
lack of common sense.

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 07:26 PM

The Welsh stream catchments are not made clear in the policy.

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 07:55 PM

"Nearest Suitable School" is much clearer for parents to understand.
Especially given the changes to the language status of some schools.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 09:02 AM

The policy needs flexibility to deal with siblings travelling to different
schools Where there are areas with little difference in distance
between schools there should still be parental choice in choosing a
school when there are buses passing pick up points to different
schools

Screen Name Redacted

If parents do not wish for their child/children to attend the catchment

8/12/2024 02:14 PM

school where transport is provided then that is down to them, but they need to accept responsibility for the provision of everything that would otherwise be included were they choosing the catchment school. Councils/tax payers cannot be expected to fund personal preference if the catchment school is adequate and can meet the child's needs.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:58 PM

If the catchment school is not of your children's language then transport should be provided to closes one that is.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:03 PM

Don't feel that rewording makes a difference.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:30 PM

It would be helpful if Primary Schools had one or more Highschool catchment schools available for choice

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:49 PM

This appears to take away more choice/opportunities in an already heavily eroded education system. 'Suitable' would allow for a child to access special needs help where available, move away from bullying etc... 'catchment' means a child must attend a school, if its can provide for their needs or not. Another attack on families and our young people by Powys

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 06:45 PM

no

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 09:45 AM

With the change of language category to Ysgol Bro Caereinion, moving it along the continuum to provide Welsh medium education, this now differs from the category of Ysgol Llanfyllin's Welsh provision. Parents of Welsh medium children in the Ysgol Llanfyllin catchment should therefore also have the choice to attend Welsh medium provision rather than a bilingual setting if they so choose. Transport should be offered to all students in a wider North catchment area for Ysgol Bro Caereinion to ensure fairness of opportunities for Welsh medium students. The difference in language categories between the two schools highlight this need to offer the same Welsh education opportunity to these students.

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 09:46 AM

No.

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 12:15 PM

There needs to be a policy for mitigating circumstances, ie if sibling attends school, if a child has to move due to bullying, children placed

in care, just to name a few situations where a child may need to attend a different school to their catchment

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 01:34 PM

Bwlch must stay in the catchment area for llangors school (& gwernfyfed) we have long argued to Powys to see sense and realise that the bridge to llangynidr is not a suitable route. (fact prove this week when Bwlch residents have been banned from pasting over it during green man festival)

Screen Name Redacted

8/14/2024 07:45 AM

Parental choice should be recognised

Screen Name Redacted

8/15/2024 12:10 PM

I totally disagree with this. As it stands the catchment school for our daughter is Llanfyllin, but her most 'suitable' school is Bro Caereinion!

Screen Name Redacted

8/16/2024 01:12 AM

Reading both the admissions policy and the draft transport policy - there is conflicting information. In the admissions policy for 2025 - 2026 it states: Home to school transport will be provided for learners who ordinarily reside in Powys to attend their nearest suitable school or catchment school subject to them meeting the qualifying criteria (Page 17 - under school transport). Which implies you will get transport to your nearest school or catchment school. I live in Bwlch - my catchment school is further afield. There was reassurance given that Bwlch would maintain it's dual catchments due to it's location. Reading the admissions policy that would give me the impression my child gets transport to their nearest school - which would make sense, your policy then says catchment school. The policies need to align.

Screen Name Redacted

8/19/2024 09:19 PM

This policy works in most situations, but will have a detrimental impact to those living in Bwlch whose nearest school is Llangynidr, when the local authority have changed the catchment school to this area to be Llangors. This will mean that those children will not be entitled to school transport.

Screen Name Redacted

8/19/2024 09:40 PM

Once again this seems a very back handed way of trying to close smaller schools and making things difficult. Lack of transparency once again with an ulterior motive

Screen Name Redacted

8/19/2024 09:52 PM

Utterly disgusting! It should read as NEAREST school not catchment school. Is this another way for Powys to drop the numbers in Llangynidr School???

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 11:08 AM

Please proof read before publishing; see Q.1 answers. Your nearest suitable school is not your catchment school for all learners. Those with significant ALN will go to the nearest special school or unit. In the case of south powys, that's 40 minutes away. That should be clarified in the policy and wording to reduce the anxiety for ALN parents who read the policy document.

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 11:28 AM

My daughter had been in Maesydderwen school for a year before I found out there was a bus available and when I asked other parents they didn't have a clue.

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 08:07 AM

I think that free transport should be provided to the catchment's school. Suitable is a matter of opinion. If the catchment area includes small parts / properties that should really be in a different catchment, then the catchment areas can be changed. I think going to your nearest school builds community and encourages walking and cycling to school. This is important for health (mental and physical) and our environment.

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 06:27 PM

No.

Screen Name Redacted

8/25/2024 04:14 PM

How will this work if they live on the border of 2 catchment areas?

Screen Name Redacted

8/31/2024 11:53 AM

Catchment area school may not be a suitable school

Screen Name Redacted

8/31/2024 07:43 PM

I was unable to access info on the catchment areas for secondary schools (I'm doing this on my phone so this may be why I struggled to find the info?)

Screen Name Redacted

9/02/2024 06:21 PM

What happens if the nearest catchment school is dual campus and child needs access to both campuses for lessons?

Screen Name Redacted

9/03/2024 11:02 PM

I do not understand how the Council can legally change the wording of the policy when the Welsh Government legislation (Learner Travel Measure) states that the Council MUST provide to the nearest school. If the catchment school designated by the council is not the nearest school then this is confusing to parents who are legally entitled to travel to the nearest school (irregardless or whether it is the

catchment school).

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:54 AM

catchment areas are not made clear enough, needs to be more heavily publicised and more communication from primary Schools

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 11:26 AM

This changing of wording means that my children will be going to different schools just because of our postcode. I will have one child in one school and another 40 minutes away in another just because you have changed the wording to 'catchment school' instead of 'closest school'.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 03:18 PM

It seems some pupils will be disadvantaged

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 07:30 AM

Why doesn't the question simply ask, 'Do you agree with this change? Why?' This would have invited parents and carers to highlight that the change undermines/removes flexibility of Local Authority officers to respond exceptional circumstances of children and their families. The nearest/catchment school may not be the most suitable school for a host of reasons specifically related to each child. Parents and carers ought to be able to make the case for free transport based on the suitability of the school, rather than solely on the grounds of geographical proximity/catchment. In short, this appears to be an attempt by the Local Authority to restrict parents' choice of suitable school by removing their ability to make a case for free transport to an out of catchment school. The opportunity to make a case for free transport is especially important in a rural area like Powys where transporting children to the catchment school may take much longer, or require traversing a much more hazardous route in winter, or cause travel sickness, and so on. Powys should build in flexibility for parents to have free out-of-catchment home-to-school transport in such circumstances. The new policy removes the option to listen and respond positively to such well-founded parental requests. This is especially pertinent when the Local Authority continues to use a bus fleet that has not yet met PSVAR requirements resulting in the removal of the vacant seat scheme (which provided a degree of flexibility for parents to access out-of-catchment transport, albeit at a price).

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 08:14 AM

I still don't understand if catchment area means an area or closest school.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 10:53 AM

No

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 11:09 AM

I think greater efforts should be made to provide transport to school for children outside of the catchment areas. Powys is a very rural county. There are various reasons that children attend alternative schools to the ones in their catchment area. From a personal point of view, it would greatly reduce my carbon emissions if my children could go on the bus and I know many families in the same situation.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 11:45 AM

Having the catchment area maps easily accessible and ensure they don't change. Pupils should not need to move school just because their house has been moved out of a catchment area

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 12:04 PM

I find that with catchment school you should consider if the school is appropriate for the child. You only do transport for the catchment school and if that school isn't appropriate but the neighbouring school is there should be support for parent with transport to and from that school

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:31 PM

Agree with the wording but disagree with the concept, as it removes choice from parents and pupils. Particularly where the home is between two schools, there should be provision for children and parents to choose schools and be able to purchase seats on school transport to allow them to have some choice.

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 07:08 PM

Which retard came up with this idea!

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 10:47 PM

Why have pupils from Bryn hafren going to Llanfyllin via four crosses on the bus, but refuse pupils who live on the route in Llandrinio and four crosses to get on the bus? Does not make sense! I pay for my daughter to get transport to Llanfyllin from four crosses, yet twice this week she has been left stranded in Llanymynech on the way home - how on earth is that considered safe for a young girl?? So dangerous! School transport should be free and get them safely from home to school and back. I do hope this is updated to nearest suitable school, for the safety of young girls. It is so worrying to think what could happen if not changed.

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:09 AM

The catchment school divides through my property. Also, my dead end lane with 7 houses and only 2 with school age children is split

with the two houses with children having different schools. Seems daft that the council would send 2 buses

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:39 AM

It is still not clear, if my child would get transport? Your catchment is the whole of powys. If I want my child to stay in the English medium and my closest school is welsh does she get transport?????

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 10:59 AM

As the nearest school, Llangynidr should be given free transport to pupils living in Bwlch

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 11:29 AM

The wording as it stands makes perfect sense. Nearest suitable school is the most logical choice and should remain. Powys is a rural authority not all pupils live closest to their catchment schools. Or even if they do the route to a school further away maybe far more suitable and quicker. Or convenient for them as a working family. By stating that only free transport is available for a catchment school removes choice for parents about what is the best option for their child. Once again Powys are making ridiculous semantics changes to make their residents lives more difficult. Why can parents not have a choice of nearest suitable schools.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 01:36 PM

Why should we travel to a school further away from our place of residence to a school that we do not want to attend as this is a longer travel journey. We should be able to attend the nearest school to our residence and be supported in doing so.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 02:16 PM

Bwlch should still be bused to nearest school (Llangynidr) without Powys trying to force us to send children to a faith school in village further away. Faith based education should be parental choice not state forced. Particularly with the bad management and unrest at the church school in question.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:25 PM

It is a cloaked way of taking school transport from Bwlch to Llangynidr, despite it being a catchment for many years and existing siblings going to the school. It's a money saving exercise for Powys CC to stop existing transport and cause MORE problems on Llangynidr bridge. You are being extremely short sighted. You have messed up Llangorse, hands off Llangynidr!!!!!!!

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:46 PM

Still some ambiguity as not all primary catchment schools feed into nearest secondary school .eg Brynhafren

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:36 PM

There is clearly an agenda to limit the intake into Llanfyllin School. The new Welsh medium transport from my area would only transport to Llanfair high school resulting in additional costs to PCC and further miles being travelled by the pupils, against a more sustainable and environmentally friendly council policy. More lies from schools transport. Limiting a children's educational choice is a poor narrow minded view taken by powys council. This will have a greater impact 10 years to come when we realise that children did not get the higher grades in education because they were forced to attend a school they were unhappy in as parents were unable to pay £240 per term per child to get the education that they deserve. There would be no further cost to the council to provide transport to Llanfyllin school as there are multiple buses that pass through the village every morning going to this school. Enforcing this new policy early was complete rubbish and questionable under legal terms. You can launch an appeal but you will never receive the feedback as they sweep these things under the carpet. Corrupt officials with personal relationship/ friendships with bus company owners lining each others pockets. Corruption at the highest levels being seen but everyone happy to promote the people that are in the wrong to continue to hide the details of what has been done previously.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 12:43 AM

This is really sly. The policy should absolutely NOT only provide free transport to the catchment school. In our case, Bwlch children's nearest school is Llangynidr, and it was until very recently their catchment school. It made no sense (and was contrary to parents' preference expressed in consultation) to make Bwlch's catchment school a more distant one (unless it was done for cynical reasons such as to ensure a flow of secondary students to the underpopulated poorly performing Brecon High Schools). To now penalise parents in Bwlch for continuing to choose their nearest school, (Bwlch as a village has long been more aligned with Llangynidr than with Llangorse - for example we have joint gardening societies, joint WI, joint Facebook buying and selling page, and a shared village newsletter.) Whilst - if implemented - that free transport is only available to the catchment school I agree the policy wording in Q1 is now super clear, I vehemently disagree that this policy should be brought in. Transport should be to the nearest suitable school. Think of a SEN child or a significantly physically disabled child: their catchment school may easily not be their most suitable, and are you saying you won't provide free transport for them?! Shame on you Powys. Don't do this.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 06:54 PM

The change to the catchment only allows the local authority in essence to choose the school that the student goes to instead of the

parents. Lots of English speaking families and other European families want their children to be taught through the medium of English but that choice has now been taken away, due to the `Railroading ` of the Council on the Welsh school only issue.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:31 PM

This does not allow for the flexibility proposed in a motion at the full council meeting in October 2022 when members unanimously agree to support greater parental choice of school, where this can be done without increasing the total school transport budget

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:51 PM

I am very disappointed to see this change in wording to catchment instead of nearest suitable school. For the village of Bwlch the nearest high school is Crickhowell (6.1 miles) and yet the catchment map has put Bwlch in catchment for Gwernyfed (12.2 miles). Does this mean that there will be no transport provided to Crickhowell despite it being so much closer? Very confusing for parents who will be expecting a school so much nearer to be the school transport is provided for. During the consultation on catchment maps we proposed on multiple occasions that Bwlch be dual catchment for this very reason over transport but it was continually rejected. We were assured that the change of catchment would not impact transport as Crickhowell was still the nearest school (minutes from full cabinet meeting, March 2023) but now this does not appear to be the case. Families will now be expected to transport their children to clearly the nearest school whilst the council pays to transport learners to a school double the distance.

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 06:56 PM

I'm writing as the Chair of Governors at Llangynidr Community Primary School. As we all know, the Local Authority's legal duty is to provide transport for primary school learners to their nearest suitable school. In the Cabinet Meeting of Feb 7th 2023, the decision to remove Bwlch from Llangynidr's catchment area was entirely predicated on clarification sought and received by Councillor Cox on this very point. The Leader in fact stated unequivocally "It is absolutely clear to me as leader that ... if a parent so chooses to send their child to that school (Llangynidr) then they will get transport." The minutes of that meeting state: "It was confirmed that if parents in Bwlch chose to send their children to Llangynidr County Primary or to Crickhowell High School this would qualify for free home to school transport because there was no safe walking route if Llangynidr CP and Crickhowell High School were their nearest school." This proposed change does not clarify that position for our parents- rather the opposite in fact. We expect the public commitment by the Leader of the Council that free bus transport will continue for our learners from Bwlch to be honoured - and hope very much that

this change in wording is not used as a pretext to renege on that position. Once again we find ourselves dealing with a consultation (run during the school holidays no less) with potentially significant implications for our long-term future, with no proactive engagement from council officials or members. Once again, I regret the impact this has on our staff and parents.

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 08:12 PM

Still confusing for parents

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 09:28 PM

How is it possible to change the wording to state catchment school when promises were made last year that nearest school would also have transport?

Screen Name Redacted

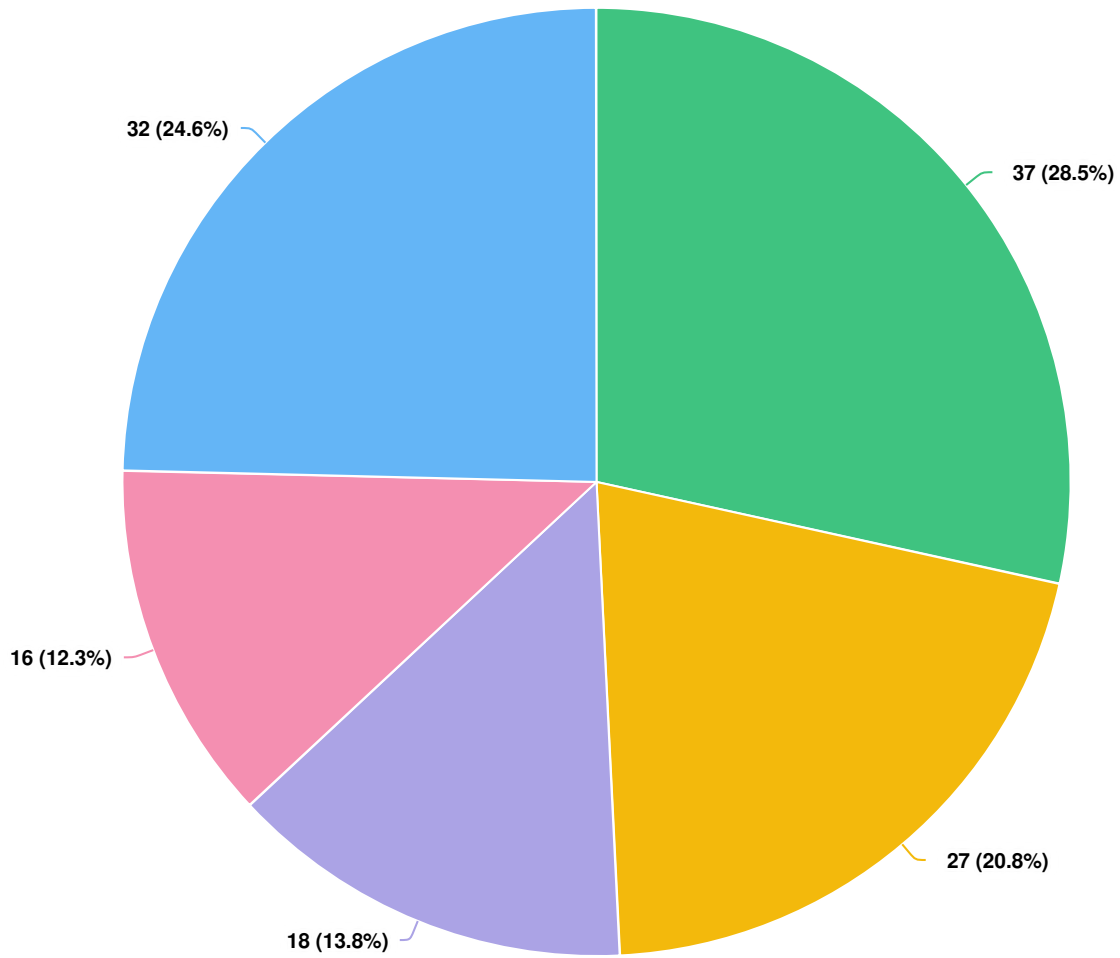
9/12/2024 10:55 PM

In our view all maintained schools are suitable schools and that the closest school in terms of distance to a child's / young person's home should remain along side the catchment school as a factor and therefore transport should be provided for qualifying pupils to the "Catchment School or nearest suitable School".

Optional question (63 response(s), 68 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q4 After reading Section 1.2, to what extent do you agree or disagree that the qualifying criteria is easy to understand?



Question options

- Agree - easy to understand
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Disagree - not each to understand at all

Optional question (130 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q5 | Do you have any additional comments regarding question 4?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 04:31 PM

Does compulsory school age mean 4 or 5yrs? Does it also includes yrs 11 & 12? Thinking the term 'walking distance' should be removed as a 2.5mile trip to and from high school is not walking distance!

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 04:43 PM

If Ysgol Calon Cymru is one school this doesn't support when challenged by PCC as a campus. The whole policy needs review over what the definition of suitable and "school" is.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 05:37 PM

Distance is unreasonable. All pupils should have access to school transport. Parents work full time

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 06:09 PM

Expecting a child aged 11 to 15 to walk 6 miles, to and from a school bus, each day seems way too far and also dangerous in tge current t climate. This needs to be reduced to 0. 7 miles maximum and should be flexible according to where the housing is. E. G are there pavements, would the walk consist lf dangerous lanes or canal paths which in winter would be highly dangerous? Expecting a primary school child to walk up to 2 miles to catch a bus is also dangerous. I know it says for free transport but you dont provide paid for seats either anymore.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:38 PM

Plain English is not in evidence!

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 08:08 PM

It's incredibly confusing and takes no account for parents that don't drive.

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 10:54 AM

what if the busy narrow road has no pavement and is unsafe for children 'each' ??????????

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 02:45 PM

Catchment school is obviously a poorly thought out process and will only increase the huge school transport costs which the authority has but put roads, pupils & staff under increased pressure

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 05:24 PM

Just have 3 mess for both

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 07:26 PM

The reference to walking distances is confusing as it tries on to say that it isn't actually related to a child's walking distance. Simply stating the statutory distances and that below these the family are expected to make their own arrangements would be clearer.

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 07:55 PM

Again, seems more complicated.

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 08:45 PM

How do Powys expect children age 4-11 walk to school alongside a main A40 road.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 09:02 AM

The detail is complicated and does not add clarity for parents to understand

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:14 PM

I agree that it's easy to understand but don't agree that any stone or tarmac surface should be considered 'walkable', it very much depends upon the classification of roads, whether they are all lit at school start/end times, whether a mobile phone signal exists right along the route, etc.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:58 PM

Two miles across a lonely, steep and twisty one carriage public road is different to walking across a town.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:49 PM

Concerned children will be forced to walk on dangerous roads in rural areas, will adversely affect low income families.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:54 PM

Punctuation is needed in this sentence as it doesn't read well - comma following 'of the measure, '. In Section 3 of the measure distances below these thresholds are referred to as "Walking distances." Just word things as simply as possibly - making sure it's clear, concise and to the point - too much wording makes it much more complicated for some who already struggle with literacy

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 05:28 PM

This is the sentence that is worded in a slightly confusing manner: In Section 3 of the measure distances below these thresholds are referred to as "Walking distances."

Screen Name Redacted

no

8/12/2024 06:45 PM

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 08:41 PM

Think each secondary school safe routes must be considered rural locations make 3 miles to secondary not appropriate due to speed of traffic on road

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 09:46 AM

No

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 12:15 PM

With measuring distance, I think it should be considered of local area, not just rights of way!! le I live on a major trunk road with no pavement.

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 01:34 PM

For Bwlch it remains that buses have to travel via tal y bont, NOT llangynidr Bridge. Llangors remains our closest school

Screen Name Redacted

8/14/2024 07:45 AM

Too wordy

Screen Name Redacted

8/16/2024 01:12 AM

It is not clear why a child cannot have transport to their nearest school - the admissions policy states nearest or catchment school - this is clear.

Screen Name Redacted

8/19/2024 09:19 PM

The entitlement to nearest suitable school should remain in place.

Screen Name Redacted

8/19/2024 09:52 PM

It should be nearest school not 'catchment' school. Powys are trying to change the catchment to some village schools so this will affect them greatly. Shame on you!

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 11:08 AM

You haven't included the duty to assess if the learner is able to walk.

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 11:14 AM

How is the distance measured?

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 01:20 PM

I disagree with needing to be more than 2 miles to qualify for school transport as children in ynyswen with parents that don't drive should have a bus up and running for all children as with experience myself with not being able to drive with the weather being mostly rain in the uk no child wants to be wet Turning up to school

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 08:07 AM

Have you talked with Dave Allday and Vince Goodwin? If not, please do. This is a great opportunity to increase positivity about walking - and cycling. No need to put 'at their own cost'. I think making own arrangements is enough. There's nothing wrong with children aged 4 to 11 walking 2 miles to school. I think "it does not imply that the learner is necessarily expected to walk" makes walking sound negative. We've walked/cycled nearly a mile to school since my 9 year old started school. It benefits children and adults massively to have exercise every day. Powys and the PSB say they are focused on helath (reducing obesity) and climate. This is a great opportunity to extol the benefits of active travel.

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 06:27 PM

No.

Screen Name Redacted

8/26/2024 09:53 AM

Should you say how the distance is measure, i.e. as measured along stone or tarmaced rights of way suitable for walking or cycling (that is what I assume), or as measured along roads accessible for cars, or as the crow flies.

Screen Name Redacted

9/03/2024 12:08 PM

This is worded appropriately but anomalies existed. For example, parents could bypass Ysgol y Cribarth (within their walking distance) and instead receive free transport to Dyffryn y Glowyr (involving a 5 mile journey). This anomaly should have been addressed in line with originally agreed conditions ready for the start of this academic year.

Screen Name Redacted

9/03/2024 11:02 PM

The legislation clearly states this is distance from nearest suitable school to your home. If this is not your catchment school but your nearest school and you fall into the above categories then transport must be provided. These statements are therefore confusing.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:54 AM

I would read this that parents living more than 3 miles away would have to take their children 3 miles to the nearest bus. This is a huge change in policy which is trying to be implemented by clever wording. Also with the new Welsh only school, you are forcing children from their own town to travel., By claiming that is there nearest school, you are forcing them to a struggled education if they are not welsh speaking, and then forcing English speaking to pay a penalty of transport costs for your decision

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 02:28 PM

Why use walking distance if that doesn't apply. Silly.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 03:18 PM

My concern is that if a path route is not suitable due to adequate lighting , It would be unsafe for the child to use it.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 07:30 AM

Why doesn't the question simply ask, 'Do you agree with this change? Why?' This would have invited parents and carers to highlight that the change undermines/removes flexibility of Local Authority officers to respond exceptional circumstances of children and their families. The nearest/catchment school may not be the most suitable school for a host of reasons specifically related to each child. Parents and carers ought to be able to make the case for free transport based on the suitability of the school, rather than solely on the grounds of geographical proximity/catchment. In short, this appears to be an attempt by the Local Authority to restrict parents' choice of suitable school by removing their ability to make a case for free transport to an out of catchment school. The opportunity to make a case for free transport is especially important in a rural area like Powys where transporting children to the catchment school may take much longer, or require traversing a much more hazardous route in winter, or cause travel sickness, and so on. Powys should build in flexibility for parents to have free out-of-catchment home-to-school transport in such circumstances. The new policy removes the option to listen and respond positively to such well-founded parental requests. This is especially pertinent when the Local Authority continues to use a bus fleet that has not yet met PSVAR requirements resulting in the removal of the vacant seat scheme (which provided a degree of flexibility for parents to access out-of-catchment transport, albeit at a price).

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 08:14 AM

Still don't understand what you mean by catchment school.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 10:53 AM

It is unclear if you consider the child to be in 'walking distance' based solely on distance from the school or if suitable walking paths/surfaces are taken into account when measuring the distance. For instance, if a child lives 2.5 miles from the secondary school but there are no safe routes for walking, is that child provided with transport?

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 11:09 AM

Again, Powys is a very rural county with many unsuitable roads that are unsafe for children of any age to walk to/from school (windy/unlit etc.). I think the statutory distance should be reduced for both primary

and secondary school children.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 11:45 AM

Will this include roads? Need to have some definition, when I was young my council (not powys) tried to make out we could walk a dangerous road as it was within the 2 miles, no other route was, parents had to challenge and get them out for them to realise it would be putting lives at risk. You must ensure childrens live are not put at risk if you are not providing the transport

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:31 PM

3 miles is not a walkable distance for many in Powys due to the nature of the roads/lack of footpaths/location of schools. The county is also poorly served by public transport, which limits accessibility to schools for children - especially to children whose parents cannot drive or do not have access to more than one vehicle, and are in employment meaning they are unable to privately transport their children to school. Public transport should be arranged so that children are able to attend school.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:32 PM

If families have more than one school near to there home and buses for both pass their house, families should have freedom of choice to choose which school they send their children to. By charging for school transport to the one that is not in the catchment areas, families are being influenced by the free buses. This is not fair, it should be a fair choice

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 08:49 PM

In our area there are two school buses, on for Llanfyllin and one for Welshpool. These should be made available for free to any children choosing either school regardless of the catchment primary school they attended. It makes no difference to the council.

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:39 AM

I don't want my child to learn all welsh, so I feel segregated and ousted from the area and the government. I still don't understand that in 2024 this is aloud to happen!!!!

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 11:29 AM

Again why catchment a school, what is wrong with the nearest suitable school. Making it difficult for parents

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 12:40 PM

You are missing the bit about if a parent is registered disabled and unable to collect their child under 8! I emailed several times re this as am registered disabled, and chronically ill, and was fobbed off every time. It seems there needs to be some training for staff to understand

what that means.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 01:36 PM

Regardless of how close the school is, if there is no option to walk to the school, there should be support on transport if you are making it compulsory for children to attend. If you ask a 4year old to walk 2miles to school this not within reason.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 02:16 PM

A lot of waffle and variables complicating understanding

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:25 PM

Disgraceful- taking away transport from Bwlch!

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:46 PM

With a general lack of footpaths and bridleways on most rural Powys routes, wellington boots (which are not a normal school footwear) would be required to walk on the ditch/verge. It is unclear whether free transport would be available to the numerous Powys pupils within a 2/3 mile walking distance encountering such hazardous terrain.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 12:43 AM

See my previous additional comments. The policy should prefer and actively encourage parents to choose the nearest school! What were you thinking, by redefining Bwlch's catchment school to be a less proximate one!!! You will cost the taxpayer MORE money by having to travel further!!!

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 06:54 PM

If your nearest school is Welsh Medium, the parents have no choice but to send their children to that school. Otherwise it will cost them more money (that some can not afford) to get them to the school that they CHOOSE.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:51 PM

The wording should align with the Learner Travel Measure 2008 of 'nearest suitable school' and not catchment maps prepared by the council which place learners in a catchment school a considerable distance from their home address. In the case of Bwlch transporting learners further for both primary and secondary education.

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 06:56 PM

The existing wording is clear, simple and accurately reflects the legal obligation of the council. The proposed new wording is none of these things.

Screen Name Redacted

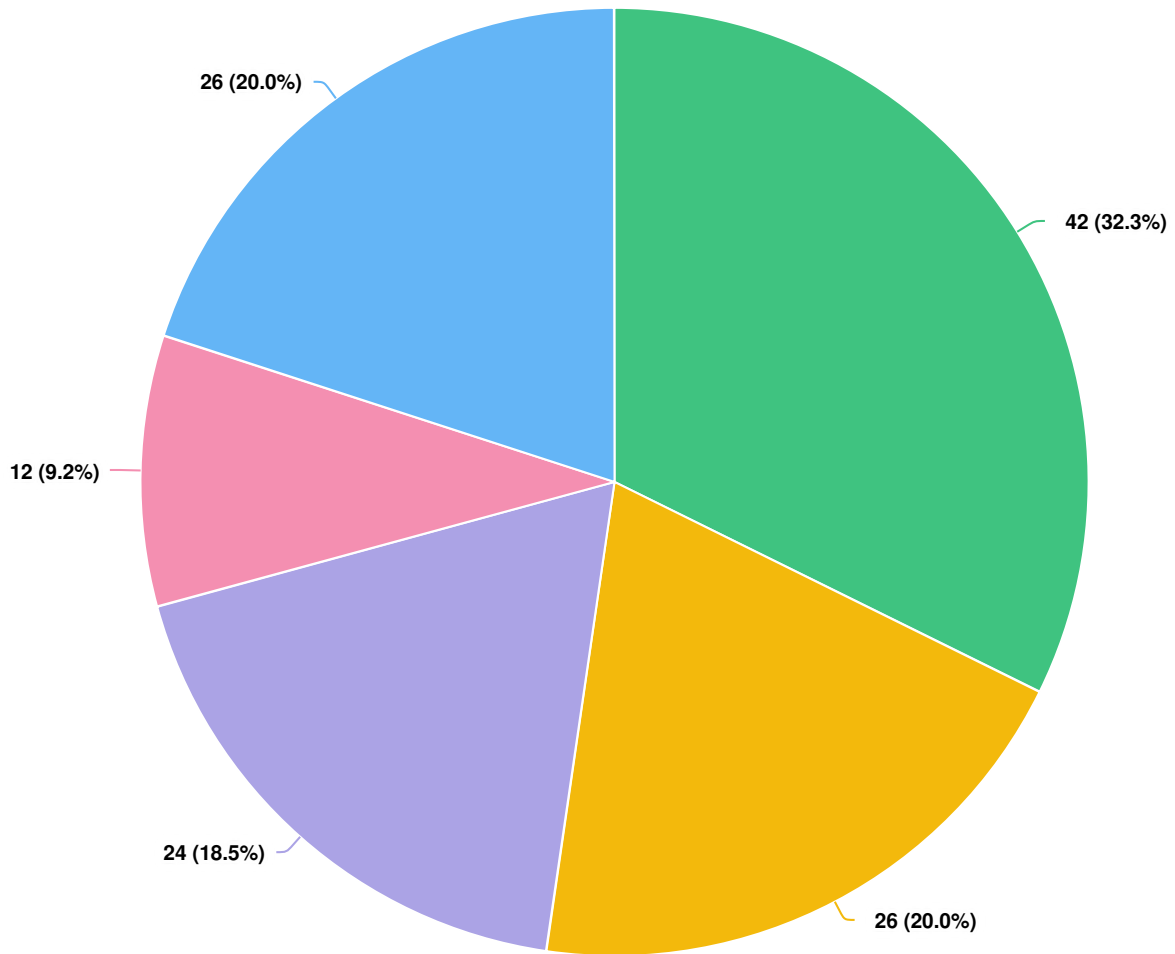
9/12/2024 10:55 PM

As in Q3 above we strongly feel that "the nearest suitable school" should be the key factor used to determine if a child or young person qualifies for free Home to School Transport. The criteria as written is silent in respect to the all through Schools in the Authority and we would suggest that "aged" is included to read "Primary Aged Children" and "Secondary Aged Children".

Optional question (58 response(s), 73 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q6 After reading Section 1.7, to what extent do you agree or disagree that this section is easy to understand?



Question options

- Agree - easy to understand
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Disagree - not each to understand at all

Optional question (130 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q7 | Do you have any additional comments regarding question 6?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 04:43 PM

If PCC close the school transport should be provided to any school the parents choose as the closure was forced upon families.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 06:09 PM

Does this mean that current secondary pupils on free bus transport to Ysgol Bro Caereinion will no longer be entitled to free transport?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:38 PM

'not each to understand at all' is pure gibberish!

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 08:08 PM

Why are you talking about school closures ? This is very stressful

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 10:54 AM

Gives Cabinet the freedom to do whatever they like and treat every school closure in a different way

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 07:26 PM

It is not clear what will happen if a new school opens closer to home after a child is settled. Will they lose transport to their current school that they have settled into and effectively be forced to change schools if their parents aren't able to provide transport to the extorting school that stops being their catchment school? This would be detrimental to a child's education.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 09:02 AM

Parents have difficult decisions to make surrounding school closures and this change to policy makes decisions more difficult rather than help

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:14 PM

I agree that it's easy to understand but believe that the type of journey that a child might be expected to undertake is far more important than distance. A mile and a half along unlit, narrow, winding unrestricted lanes can be harrowing for anyone let alone a child. I also believe that if transport passes the home of a child that doesn't qualify to reach that of one that does then that child should also have access to transportation.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:58 PM

If a school is closed and the new school is Welsh language only. Will travel be provided to nearest English language school? This is not clear at all.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:03 PM

New wording is easier to understand.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:54 PM

Note previous comment

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 05:28 PM

This statement is very long and is not user-friendly: When a school undergoes changes through a statutory reorganisation process, such as closure, merger, establishment of a new school, change of language category or change of age range, free home to school transport will be provided in accordance with the arrangements outlined in the notice published as part of the reorganisation process.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 06:45 PM

no

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 08:41 PM

Funded transport should be available half term before closure to support transition and wellbeing of pupil and parents

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 09:46 AM

No

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 12:15 PM

Again there needs to be mitigation, what if the school had ms closed due to roads flooding, which is a yearly event lately! In these circular stances it may not be safe for children to walk walk home.

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 01:34 PM

If parents have moved their child from their closest school. Bwlch parent moving from llangors to llangynidr they do so at their own cost. Llangynidr is further away by main road (bus travel)

Screen Name Redacted

8/14/2024 07:45 AM

Again, confusing.

Screen Name Redacted

8/16/2024 12:14 AM

Current wording much easier to understand.

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 08:07 AM

The first sentence is a bit long. Please make it into 2. I understand it, but shorter sentences make things easier to understand.

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 06:27 PM

No.

Screen Name Redacted

8/31/2024 11:53 AM

Parents should be legible as soon as changes to schools have been confirmed not when the change is implemented

Screen Name Redacted

9/03/2024 11:02 PM

It is a shame that Powys feel they need to consult on this and is an indication of the number of schools at the heart of communities that they are closing.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:54 AM

As my previous comments, you are just covering your tracks and forcing segregation and punishment on English speaking children and parents

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 03:18 PM

The nearest school to my home is within two miles walking distance of the nearest school. The school offers a Welsh Language stream that does not include immersive learning. There is a tarmac path between the two locations, The route is not lit and includes crossing two national speed limit roads. Therefor would not be suitable for a child wishing to be educated through the medium of Welsh or safe for them to walk between the locations

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 07:30 AM

If a school facing imminent closure shows evidence of becoming demob happy in a way that adversely affects pupil standards, or if staff pre-closure exodus similarly adversely affects standards, then perhaps this change ought to be revisited.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 10:53 AM

Here you have retained nearest school or catchment school. For residents close to the English border, the nearest school may lie in England. My reading of your proposed changes suggests that you will provide transport to an English school which might be closer (if John Beddoes closes, for instance).

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:39 AM

Do I get a choice in which school the transport is given?? I could only get my child into 1 school??

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 11:45 AM

I disagree with this as if you choose to close a school and a child is placed in another school they should be allowed to stay with their peer group who they are familiar with

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:29 AM

The transport should only be provided to the bilingual outcome Welsh medium stream of a receiving dual stream school and Trochi should be provided if the closing school is English medium. Otherwise progress along the language spectrum is in the wrong direction.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 11:29 AM

I find this very hard to understand the terminology is not simplistic at all

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 09:22 AM

Where pupil are affected before a actual change, I believe that transport should be covered if a parent is willing to drive their child to a catchment village. For example pupils in year 6 at Ysgol Meifod now going to Llanfyllin with younger siblings in Ysgol Meifod should have transport provided from Meifod village.

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 08:12 PM

This is clearly discrimination against those wishing to study in English

Screen Name Redacted

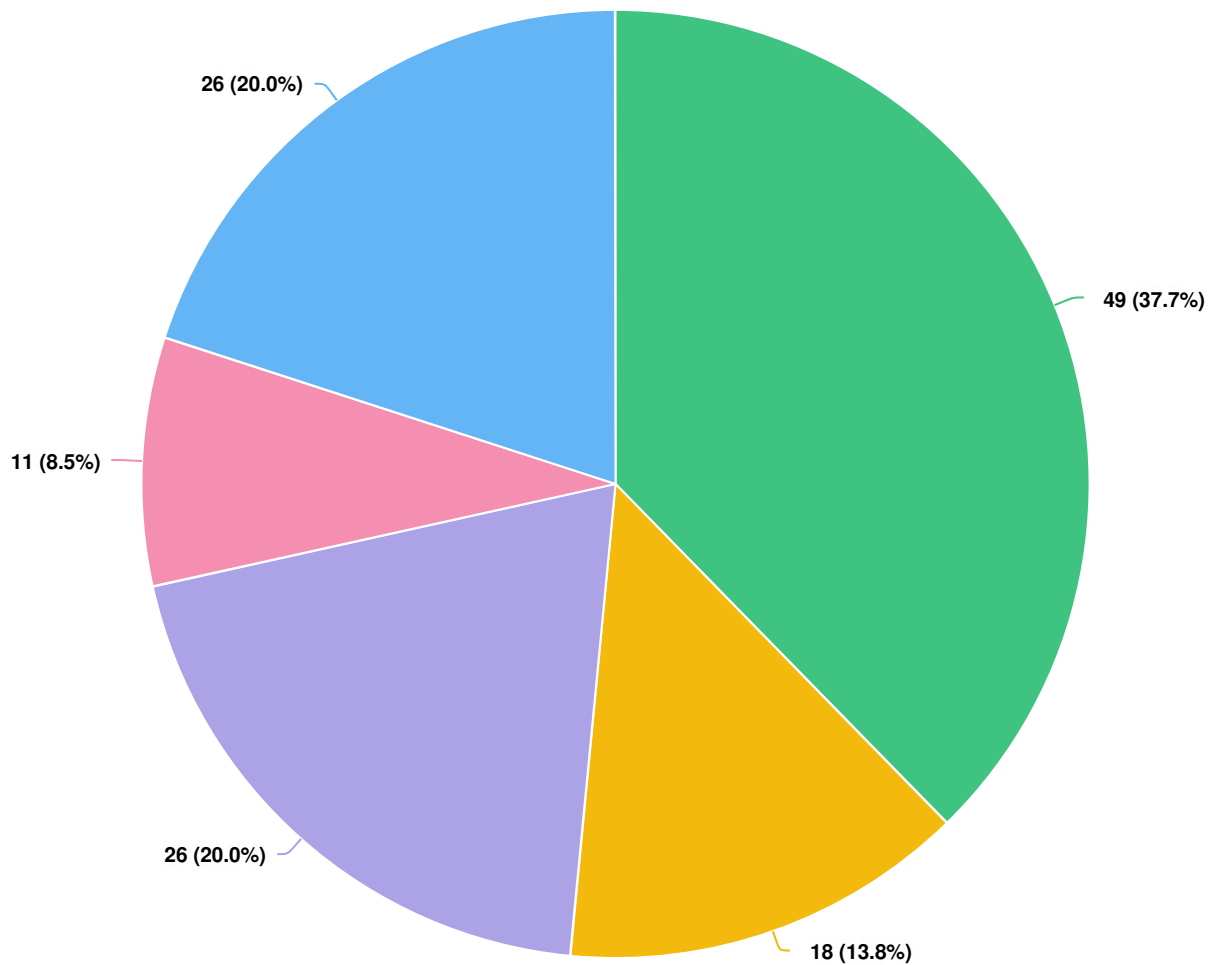
9/12/2024 10:55 PM

Although agreeing with the spirit of the changes as it is currently written it can be interpreted that free transport will be available on the date of the School Closure, and we suggest that it should be amended to state the day following the formal date of the School Closure.

Optional question (34 response(s), 97 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q8 After reading Section 1.8, to what extent do you agree or disagree that this section of the policy clearly lays out the responsibilities of both the local authority and the parent?



Question options

- Agree - responsibilities are clear
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Disagree - responsibilities are unclear

Optional question (130 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q9 Do you have any additional comments regarding question 8?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 04:31 PM

If a walking route is potentially hazardous there should be a designated timescale for the assessment to be completed.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 05:37 PM

Paths to a schools must be individually assessed. "Tarmac" does not mean it's safe. Location must be taken into account. I.e. next to main road

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:38 PM

More gibberish

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 08:08 PM

What happens if the parent doesn't drive ?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 08:31 PM

No pupil should be put in the possession of getting to & from school, down to lack of officers unable to do they're job. Not every person has transportation

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 09:53 PM

The timescale to assess should be clear.

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 10:54 AM

why 'may provide' not 'will provide' Max time for assessment?

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 09:22 PM

What is the time frame for the assessment?

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 07:26 PM

The responsibilities of parents are made clear however the policy gives no indication as to how long Powys will take to assess a route. This schools be carried out quickly and ideally before the school year starts so that parents can make arrangements according to the outcomes of the assessment. There should be a right to appeal a decision that a route is safe and timescales for doing so. There should also be a right to request a re-assessment should any circumstances change either with the route or the child.

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 07:55 PM

There needs to be a time limit set for the council to undertake the assesment.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 09:02 AM

How does this help

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:14 PM

I agree, but believe that the 10 year old guidelines should be INDEPENDENTLY reviewed and revised to ensure they reflect the concerns of parents in 2024 as society has changed enormously over that decade.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:03 PM

section 1.2, the Local Authority may provide transport - the use of the word 'may' is very unclear

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 05:28 PM

In Section 1.8 there is no information about timescales within which the authority will assess a route that has been reported as hazardous.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 06:45 PM

no

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 08:41 PM

Needs a timescale on review. What is responsibility of headteacher?

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 09:46 AM

No

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 01:34 PM

Walking route to school must have a pavement for the length of the journey and it must be well lit

Screen Name Redacted

8/14/2024 07:45 AM

No joined up thinking, again.

Screen Name Redacted

8/19/2024 09:19 PM

Office based staff should not be making the decision as to whether a route has been deemed as hazardous.

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 11:08 AM

Again, you've fudged the legal duty to assess the ability of the learner not just the suitability of the route. You also haven't included the mechanism to ask for a reassessment of the route for that learner that is provided by the learner travel measure.

Screen Name Redacted

Maybe replace 'the' with 'Powys County Council's' Passenger

8/24/2024 08:07 AM

Transport Unit. Then a new sentence. In the same tense. authority, (please add the comma). It includes what it needs to, but could be clearer.

Screen Name Redacted

No.

8/24/2024 06:27 PM

Screen Name Redacted

The word catchment must be replaced to include nearest suitable as stated in the legislation.

9/03/2024 11:02 PM

Screen Name Redacted

What your saying is, you will not actually access it, just follow some written procedure by someone that has never even accessed the access to walking to school

9/04/2024 09:54 AM

Screen Name Redacted

Safety of learners walking in dark, wet and hazardous locations

9/05/2024 03:18 PM

Screen Name Redacted

I think this needs clearer time frames. It is all well and good saying that you have to carry out the assessment and the parent is responsible until thos is done. However, the assessment needs to be carried out and reported on in a reasonable time frame (e.g. 6 weeks).

9/06/2024 10:53 AM

Screen Name Redacted

This needs moving up to join the other sections that I commented this on

9/06/2024 11:45 AM

Screen Name Redacted

I think any journey considered hazardous should be avoided and transport given without any quibble - these are children

9/07/2024 10:47 PM

Screen Name Redacted

The council 'may' provide transport if it is deemed hazardous. You are saying here that even if it is deemed hazardous you also may not. So which is it, further clarity is required parents. We live in rural areas it is the councils responsibility to ensure children can get to schools safely

9/09/2024 11:29 AM

Screen Name Redacted

In reference to second paragraph. With the length of time county can take to make decisions or carry out appropriate assessments that could be a long time waiting to receive transport. There should be a reasonable time frame for Powys to complete assessments and make decisions.

9/09/2024 02:16 PM

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:36 PM

This was looked at previously and the transport team deemed it fully acceptable for a child to walk home 3 miles down the A483 which is the Manchester to Wansley TRUNK road with NO footpath. Local transport officers do not care about the welfare of the children they are only in force to tick a box to make things look like they work on paper

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 09:22 AM

This means that the parents have to wait until the council get around to checking, it should be the other way around to ensure that pupils have safe access to school

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:31 PM

There should be some mechanism for appeal

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 08:12 PM

Should not be the responsibility of an officer to assess what is a hazardous route. Clear guidelines required.

Screen Name Redacted

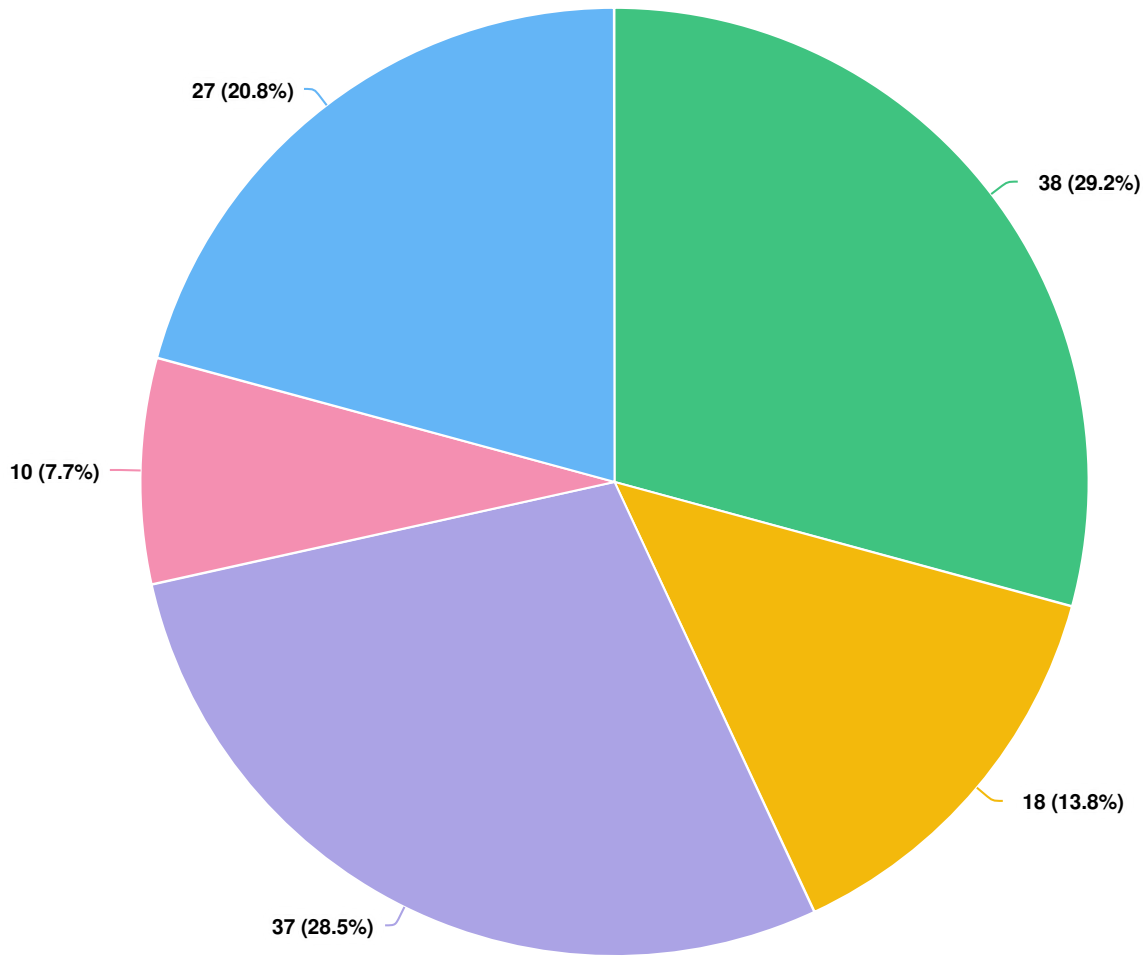
9/12/2024 10:55 PM

This appears to be an appropriate proposal.

Optional question (36 response(s), 95 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q10 After reading Section 2.1, to what extent do you agree or disagree that the additional wording is reasonable and allows for discretion where appropriate?

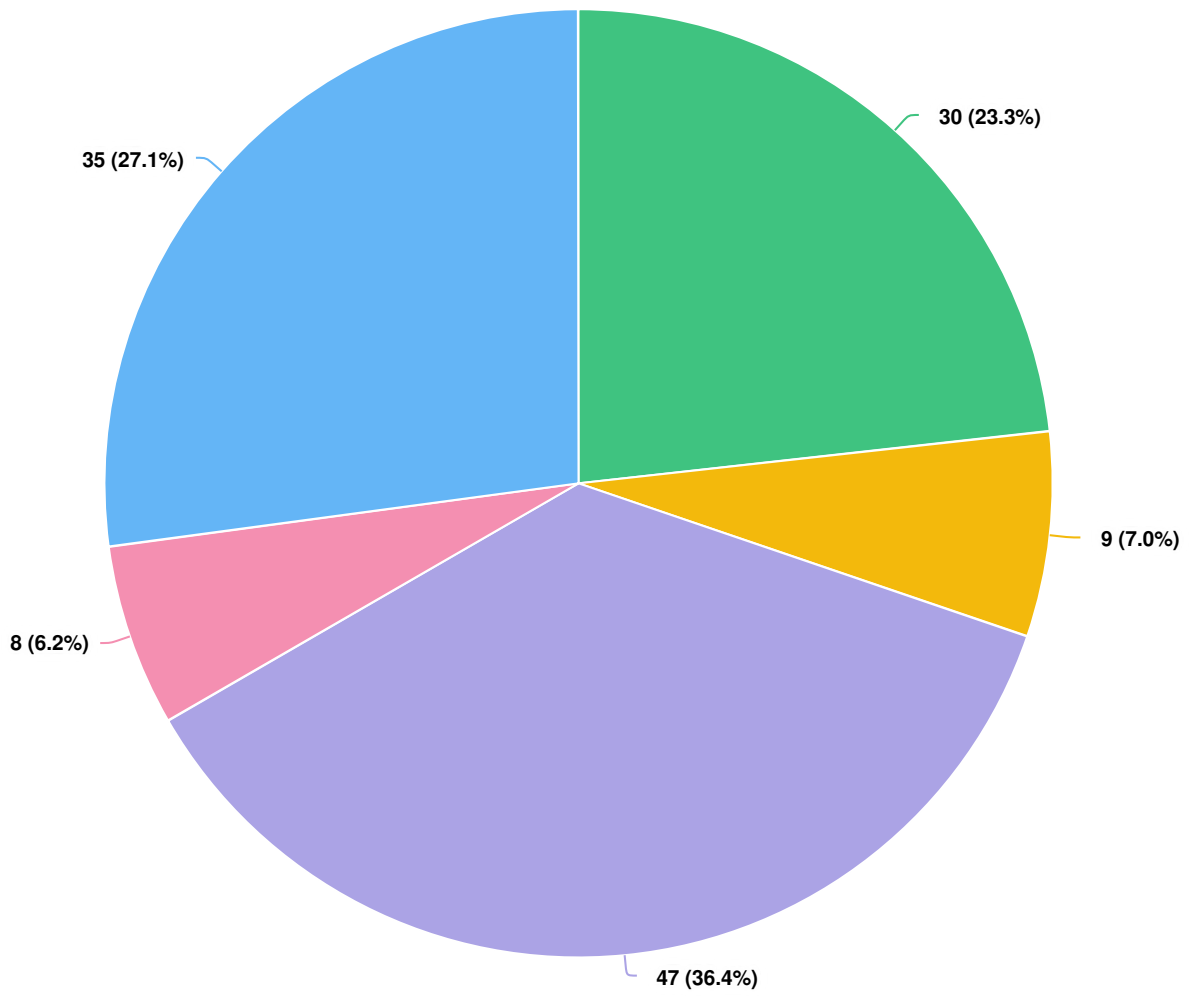


Question options

- Agree - the wording allows for appropriate discretion
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Disagree - the wording does not allow for appropriate discretion

Optional question (130 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q11 | To what extent to you agree or disagree with this change to the policy?



Question options

- Agree
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Disagree

Optional question (129 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q12 | Do you have any additional comments regarding question 10?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 04:43 PM

It is discrimination to English speaking pupils, most pupils move into the English stream half way through school due to inadequate Welsh provision of qualified teachers.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 06:09 PM

If this leads to children dropping out of school, even though the bus keep on running past their stop, seems a pointless thing to do. Unless you start providing the option of paid for seats, this will lead to more children dropping out of school because maybe they are struggling in the Welsh stream. I believe many school avoiders would initially have tried another school but strict and pointless rules about buses have made it impossible to access the school. Buses with seats free go past their houses to different schools but the catchment rules mean they cant access the transport even when the school is happy to enrol them. I think unless the school is full and the bus is full, there should always be an option of paying for the bus transport. Being back paid for seats. If someone is suffering bullying at one school, give them more options. Education should be accessible to all.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:38 PM

No one uses Welsh in East Radnor

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 10:54 AM

Only secondary referenced why shouldn't it apply to primary? Policy is far to open to interperion

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 02:45 PM

In a time of inclusivity, this policy is shockingly racist

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 09:02 AM

Surely this does not meet welsh government commitment to the welsh language . Pupils need access to welsh language provision

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:58 PM

It sounds as if powys county council are discriminating again English language pupils who do not want to attend a welsh language school. In my view that is racial discrimination.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:54 PM

Again the punctuation is missing - the first sentence is finished without being complete by having added a full stop - it needs a comma - also I find this newly proposed wording - paragraph 2 to be extremely confusing. The first paragraph states how transport is provided and considered the second almost rebuts this?

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 05:15 PM

Its a bit unclear

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 05:28 PM

This sentence does not make sense grammatically: For the authority to comply with Section 10 of the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 which states that each local authority must promote access to education and training through the medium of the Welsh language.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 06:45 PM

no

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 09:45 AM

I fully support the idea that transport should be given to students who choose to attend Welsh medium secondary provision, rather than a Welsh stream in a bilingual school.

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 09:46 AM

No

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 01:34 PM

Sorry Powys but I know you are paying for transport for a Powys family to be taken to a monmouthshire Welsh school. We have transport and Welsh school in brecon. STOP WASTING OUR MONEY!!

Screen Name Redacted

8/14/2024 07:45 AM

A money saving exercise at the expense of the child.

Screen Name Redacted

8/15/2024 12:10 PM

'Carefully considered' is NOT ENOUGH! It should stated 'be granted'!

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 11:01 AM

N/A to our children

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 11:14 AM

Don't understand what it's saying

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 08:07 AM

The first sentence could say PCC, not the authority. Important to provide free transport to Welsh medium schools. Perhaps 'Powys County Council must comply...' Does this next sentence mean 'If a parent/carer would like thier child to attend a 100% Welsh medium secondary school, rather than just a secondary school's Welsh

stream,..."? If a parent wishes their child to attend a designated Welsh medium secondary provider rather than a Welsh stream, the provision of transport will be carefully considered.

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 06:27 PM

No.

Screen Name Redacted

8/31/2024 11:53 AM

What about parents not wanting their children to attend a designated Welsh school? What rights do we have?

Screen Name Redacted

9/03/2024 11:02 PM

Preference and/or discrimination based on language should not be made.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 11:26 AM

This feels that parents are being forced to keep their child in a Welsh school purely because they can't afford to take their children to an English school that is further away. It also feels like the choice of an English education is being taken away.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 09:33 AM

Individual cases should be considered eg, if a child switches secondary schools due to bullying, taking them to a school that is not their 'catchment school' then transport should be provided, especially if it is readily available. I know of a friend who has switched from WHS to Ysgol Bro Caereinion (English) due to bullying who has been refused transport.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 07:30 AM

This change in policy is inequitable insofar as it does not allow parents whose children are entitled to transport to a designated Welsh medium secondary provider, the opportunity to apply for discretionary free home-to-school transport in a secondary provider with a Welsh stream. Parents may prefer to send their child to streamed Welsh medium provision for a host of good reasons, such as the inclusive ethos that does not fully segregate pupils along linguistic lines, standards, ethos, and so on. The proposal, thereby, restricts the choice of school for parents who would choose streamed provision for their child but are unable to fund/arrange transport (i.e. they would value similar discretionary home-to-school transport that is being proposed for families who want to send their child to a Welsh medium provider). In addition, the proposal appears to be an attempt at increasing uptake in the council's new Welsh medium secondary schools at the expense of streamed provision. The proposal undermines the value of streamed provision.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 10:53 AM

No

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 11:09 AM

I am pro Welsh Language, but the offer is discriminatory and not equal to both languages.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:31 PM

Grammatical error as first sentence is incomplete.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:32 PM

All families should have the choice of free transport to any school that has a bus passing their house, language is irrelevant. A family is still Welsh even if it doesn't speak Welsh first language

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 10:47 PM

'Carefully considered' isn't really very clear

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:09 AM

Seems like discrimination to me. Would it apply to anyone wanting to do the same but for English? Seems unnecessary council expense. Dual stream should be just as beneficial as Welsh only. No need for council to even consider those cases

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:39 AM

Basically the Welsh are racist against English speaking. I feel segregated and this shouldn't be aloud!!!! What ever happened to equal rights!

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:29 AM

Section heading should be Bilingual Outcome Welsh Medium to make it clear to parents that WM education achieves bilingualism in comparison to English Medium education that does not. The last sentence of paragraph 1 should be : If a parent wishes their child to attend a designated Welsh medium secondary provider rather than a Welsh stream, the provision of transport will be awarded. - not carefully considered

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 11:29 AM

A Welsh stream school is totally different to a Welsh school. If you want children to study in Welsh transport should be provided

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:46 PM

This policy positively discriminates in favour of those wishing to attend a Welsh speaking school. Presumably, an English speaking student who wishes to attend an English medium school rather than their Welsh Medium catchment school would not qualify for free transport to their most suitable school. This does not seem fair.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:36 PM

There is only mention of changing from Welsh to English. The transport team have failed AGAIN to address that if a pupil has to pay for transport to be taught in English what would happen if they then changed to be taught in the Welsh medium. Yet more issues that have not been seen or addressed

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 09:22 AM

This is showing preferential treatment to Welsh speaking pupils. If there is a dual stream school as their catchment school and it provides the education required, no transport should be provided to the Welsh medium school. I write this as a parent of children in the Welsh stream, access to both languages is healthy and reflects the society we live in.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:31 PM

This does not account for instances where Welsh Medium learners may prefer to attend a dual stream school, particularly if their contemporaries attend that school. For instance if a child from Bryn Hafren wished to transfer to a Welsh Stream they might be more likely to do so if they were able to enter a Trochi scheme in Llanfyllin and travel with their contemporaries rather than travel the longer distance to Llanfair Ceireinion. It is possible we might lose some potential Welsh learners as a result

Screen Name Redacted

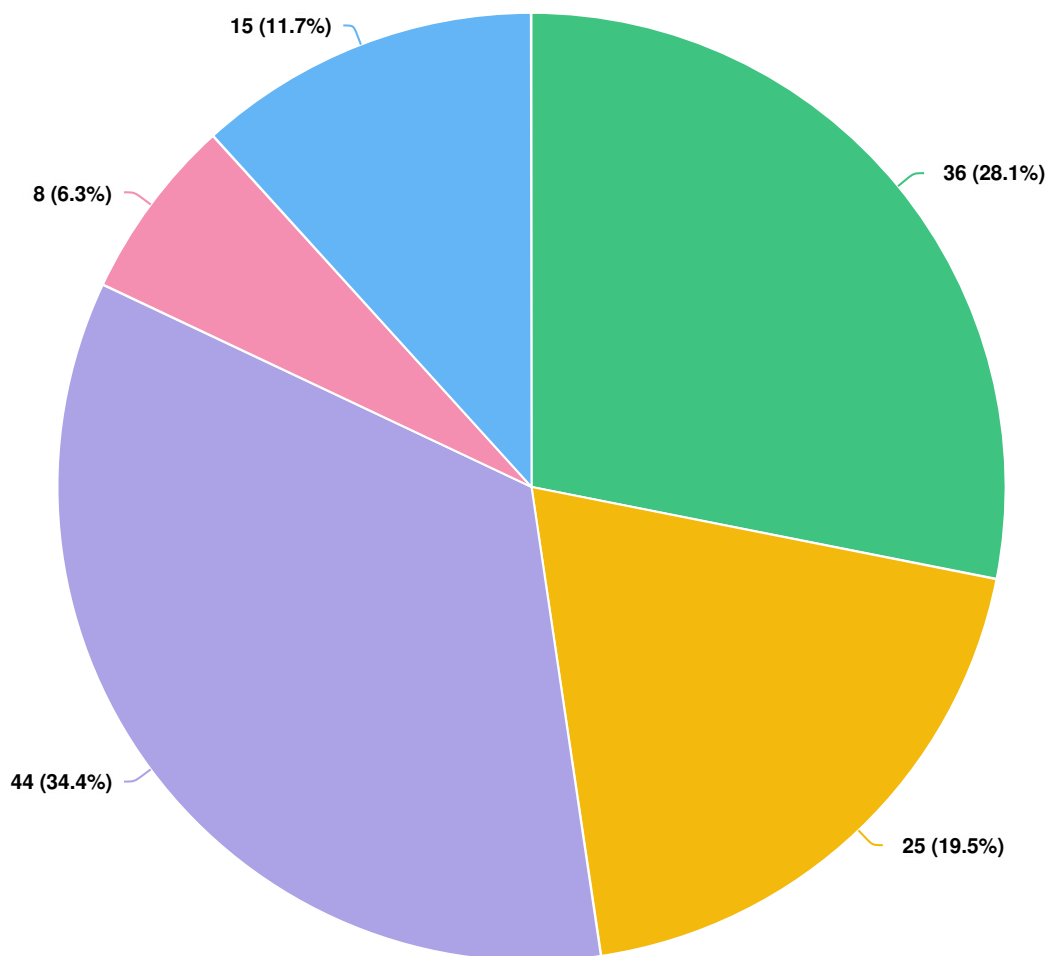
9/12/2024 08:12 PM

Discrimination against those wishing to learn in the English language.

Optional question (39 response(s), 92 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q13 After reading Section 2.2, to what extent do you agree or disagree that this is helpful for parents to see in the policy?



Question options

- Agree - this is helpful to see in the policy
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Disagree - this isn't helpful to see in the policy

Optional question (128 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q14 | Do you have any additional comments regarding question 13?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 06:09 PM

Again, if you want to reduce 16 to 18 year olds leaving education, give them access to free transport. If a 16 yr old lived 2.9 miles from college, theyve got to leave their house and walk 40 minutes to catch a bus and then the same on return, a total of 5.8 miles. If their bus leaves at 8, they would have to leave and walk in the dark in winter. I think this is likely to de motivate the majority of that age group. The distance should be reduced to 0.7 miles maximum. It would be asking a lot to expect an adult to walk that far to work and back everyday but even more dangerous as theyre under 18.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:10 PM

Where the nearest secondary school does not provide the range of subjects that a student wishes to study, transport should be provided to the student to attend another secondary school within the authority.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:38 PM

Now you have opted out of 16-19 education they all travel to Ludlow or Hereford

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 10:54 AM

is there a list of subjects that out of county transport would be given for?

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:58 PM

Hopefully that will mean pupils taking A levels in the English language will have paid for travel to nearest English language School.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:49 PM

Should covet costs of transport in areas where post 16 education not available at reasonable distance. Ie, if an hour plus to travel to school within boundary, but half an hour outside, costs to travel should be covered for most reasonable distance from home. Or post 16 should be provided by all secondary schools.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:54 PM

In general as children are obligated to remain in post 16 education until the age of 18 I feel that transport should be provided as a matter of duty of care. If the government stipulates they have remain in education then transport needs to also be provided for free. The wording itself I am fine with

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 05:15 PM

Where we live in Powys, North Shropshire college or shrewsbury colleges are the only choice. There are no other choices of college.

Screen Name Redacted

no

8/12/2024 06:45 PM

Screen Name Redacted

No

8/13/2024 09:46 AM

Screen Name Redacted

There should be individual consideration, if a child struggles to get to school, providing transport might make the difference

8/13/2024 12:15 PM

Screen Name Redacted

As before

8/14/2024 07:45 AM

Screen Name Redacted

You reference the nearest secondary school - however this is different to catchment school. In my village - Bwlch. The catchment secondary school is further away than the nearest secondary school. Would that mean the child needs to change to their nearest school to get free transport?

8/16/2024 01:12 AM

Screen Name Redacted

Again, the appeal mechanisms and parameters for providing transport are excluded. What are the qualifying criteria. Who can access transport and why should be plainer.

8/22/2024 11:08 AM

Screen Name Redacted

Don't understand what it's saying - too much policy reference - doesn't make it clear for parents to understand- why can't it be in plain english

8/22/2024 11:14 AM

Screen Name Redacted

No.

8/24/2024 06:27 PM

Screen Name Redacted

If post 16 education is received at a dual based school where lessons are delivered on both campuses - can students access free home to school transport to either campus

9/02/2024 06:21 PM

Screen Name Redacted

Powys should be careful to avoid wording that opens the door to a student choosing an obscure course at an out-of-county destination to qualify for financial support with post-16 transport. All travel to Powys post-16 providers should be funded due to the rurality of the county and correspondingly high risk students will leave full time education due to punitive transport costs.

9/06/2024 07:30 AM

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 10:53 AM

Given Powys' inadequate education provision, kids near the border should be provided with free transport to college if what they need is in England.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 11:45 AM

This is wrong when powys have made it impossible to attend powys settings in many towns as yiu closed all the 6th forms. Provide transport to nearest college no matter if in your county

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:31 PM

Similar to question 1, this policy limits parental and child choice in their education, and is discriminatory to those who have private transport and are not in employment that limits their ability to privately transport children to schools that are not in catchment, or where they do not fit the 3 mile criteria. This is especially disappointing when the home address is between two or more schools and a preference is given for the school defined as 'out of catchment' by the council. This creates a 'postcode lottery' and further division in attainment in schools. It would be much better to subsidise transport for all pupils, irrespective of their home address (i.e. to a standard amount per week or a bus pass to use within a certian mile radius) allowing them to have some choice of education/school that best suits them. Otherwise children are limited by their address and parent's ability to privately transport them, which itself favours those who can afford not to work, or work flexibly. This is especially problematic for a county that is poorly served by public transport, where no alternatives are available should a child wish to attend a school that is a couple of miles further than the catchment school, for example.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:32 PM

If children need to stage in education untill 18 free transport must be provided. And it should be for all schools that have buses passing a flies home

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:09 AM

Vague

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:29 AM

The policy must include: Welsh medium students will not be disadvantaged by the lack of WM provision at their local school and transport will be provided to access WM provision wherever it is most appropriate for the student.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 11:29 AM

Funding should be made available to help learners. If Powys is unable to provide the education required then help should be given to all learners to access the course. Less ambiguity would be good. May

does also mean you may or so what is the criteria

Screen Name Redacted

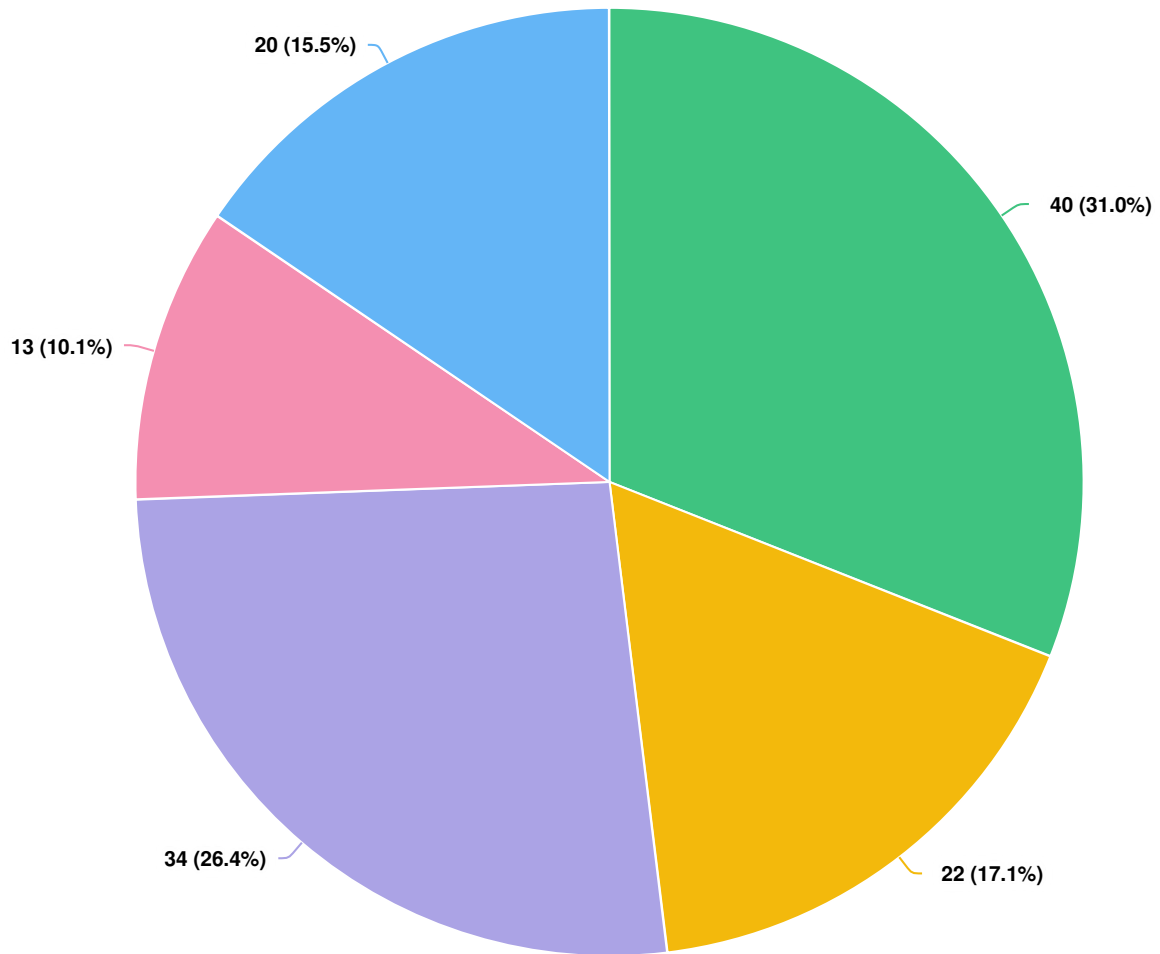
9/12/2024 10:55 PM

Although we agree that this is a suitable statement for mainstream pupils, it needs to be amended to include transport arrangement for the you people attending the 3 special school in the county up to the end of year 14. The proposed wording appears to only address the issues for those learners that are studying A levels and needs to be amended to reflect the other qualifications being studied by Post 16 learners.

Optional question (26 response(s), 105 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q15 After reading Section 2.7, to what extent do you agree or disagree that we have made how we manage the availability of spare seats clear in the policy?



Question options

- Agree - this section of the policy is clear
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Disagree - this section of the policy is unclear

Optional question (129 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q16 | Do you have any additional comments regarding question 15?

Screen Name Redacted
8/09/2024 04:43 PM
Access to paying for vacant seats was withdrawn so is this now an option to pay for seats on the school bus?

Screen Name Redacted
8/09/2024 06:09 PM
Gpod! Plenty of empty seats.

Screen Name Redacted
8/09/2024 07:10 PM
Again nearest suitable school may not be the designated catchment school

Screen Name Redacted
8/09/2024 07:38 PM
no

Screen Name Redacted
8/10/2024 10:54 AM
'Spare seats will not be made available for those learners who wish to attend a school that is not their catchment school.'.....wrong!

Screen Name Redacted
8/12/2024 02:14 PM
The policy is clear but inappropriate imho. If a child is given transportation that agreement should remain in place for at least a whole term and reasonable notice given of its withdrawal as it may impact the employability of a parent if they have to transport the child to/from school.

Screen Name Redacted
8/12/2024 03:27 PM
Typographical error in paragraph 2, the word leaners is printed instead of learners

Screen Name Redacted
8/12/2024 05:28 PM
It would be useful to know who to contact to request a permit for a seat on a dedicated school bus.

Screen Name Redacted
8/12/2024 06:45 PM
no

Screen Name Redacted
8/12/2024 08:41 PM
Powys staff are not clear on this wording. Issue with disability access needs to be resolved as learners are being disadvantaged in Powys

Screen Name Redacted
8/13/2024 09:46 AM
No

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 01:34 PM

If there is a seat to buy on a bus I think that's a good idea. BUT if its a high school pupil the parents must drop them off at pick up point and leave. They are causing congestion for villagers.

Screen Name Redacted

8/14/2024 07:45 AM

Disorganised and unfriendly

Screen Name Redacted

8/16/2024 01:12 AM

Parents/carers should be able to purchase seats on school transport if their child is not eligible but there is transport going from their village/area. E.g. if my child was not eligible for the Crickhowell High School school transport - but the bus is still going due to previous years children still being eligible - I could pay for a seat on the bus.

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 11:08 AM

Again, complete disregard to ALN, and vague on who can access which services.

Screen Name Redacted

8/22/2024 01:20 PM

I feel transport should be free for all learners within reason and within reason i mean children shouldn't be made to walk to learn if after 1 mile

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 08:07 AM

Doing this in my own 'spare' time and I don't have much of it, so not studied this one.

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 06:27 PM

No.

Screen Name Redacted

8/26/2024 09:53 AM

Why do we need the rule that parents cannot pay for spare seats if the school is not the catchment school, for instance, if parents move house part-way through the child's education but want the child to continue going to the original school, and if a spare bus place is available that would help this (for instance the parents just taking their child a short distance to somewhere the bus passes, rather than all the way to the school) this would be a better solution at not cost to the LA so why should we not allow flexibility to do this if a spare space exists. There could still be a rule that children within catchment would take priority.

Screen Name Redacted

9/03/2024 11:02 PM

There is no criteria published in this new wording to show how decisions are made on who would have a seat removed over others. Again, the policy can not only refer to catchment school and must include nearest school to allow for those areas where the council

have allocated a school a considerable distance more from a learners address as their catchment school, despite another suitable school being closer.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:43 AM

I feel that children out of the catchment area should have the option for a seat if there are seats available and pay the appropriate fee. Currently they aren't able to have a seat even though seats are available and parents are willing to pay.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:54 AM

to unsustainable for most families.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 11:26 AM

Again people are losing the choice.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:31 PM

I disagree with the last sentence - paid seats SHOULD be made available to children attending schools out of catchment where an accessible bus route is already in place and seats are available, and there are no alternative public transport options. Otherwise, as per previous comments, the policy is discriminatory and hinders children and parents having choice in their education. It contradicts environmental sustainability and accessibility principals to deny a child an available seat on a school bus to an out of catchment school, where a bus route exists - meaning the council are consciously making the decision to contribute to carbon emissions and traffic by making out of catchment children drive privately to school where this is not needed. A good case study is here in Abermule, where we are one of at least 3 families we know about who have children going to Welshpool High School, and despite there being a school bus route already in place from Abermule to Welshpool, our children have been denied access to the bus by the council because they are 'out of catchment'. This means 3 cars needlessly travelling a 40-mile round trip each day when all children could pay for seats to catch the existing school bus.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:32 PM

Families should be able to choose the school.best for their child

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:29 AM

Powys County Council must put arrangements in place with Shropshire CC and Herefordshire CC to ensure residents of those counties have access to Bilingual Outcome Welsh Medium Education. Parents are currently forced to travel over 100 miles a week to give their children an opportunity to that which should be an entitlement. This has to be taken seriously.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 11:29 AM

Not clear what the changes are

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:25 PM

It's ridiculous that you would have empty seats and parents driving kids to school rather than letting them buy a place.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:46 PM

The introduction of making vacant seats on dedicated school buses available to those who do not qualify for free school transport is a welcome and sensible addition.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 07:22 PM

I think the last sentence regarding children not in catchment should be removed. There is inequity in providing transport for children who are close to school but not those who aren't in catchment. Also environmentally the children not in catchment should be considered even more so. These children cannot walk and therefore several parents making several trips that are unnecessary when seats are available seems absurd.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:51 PM

Parents in Bwlch should not be expected to provide transport to the nearest suitable school (Crickhowell) as learners do live over the qualifying distance.

Screen Name Redacted

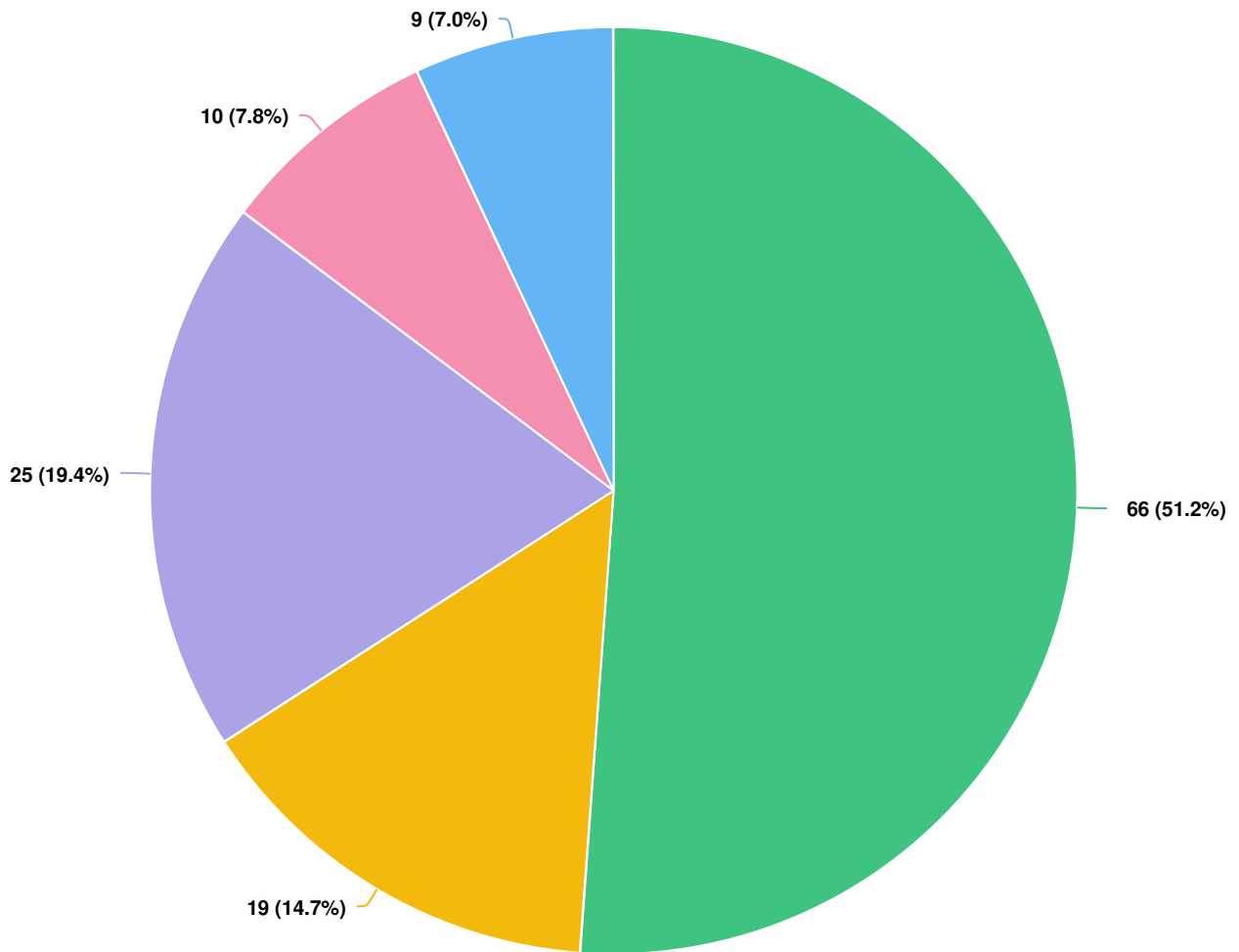
9/12/2024 10:55 PM

We welcome the proposed change to the wording

Optional question (32 response(s), 99 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q17 After reading Section 3.13, to what extent do you agree or disagree that the inclusion of bus passes should form part of the policy?



Question options

- Agree - the use of bus passes should be included in the policy
- Slightly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Slightly disagree
- Disagree - the use of bus passes should not be included in the policy

Optional question (129 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q18 | Do you have any additional comments regarding question 17?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 04:43 PM

Pupils should not be questioned in regards to their bus passes when monitoring. My child was upset following a session as the monitor challenged them about their status.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 06:09 PM

Bus passes should be shown for safety reasons.

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:38 PM

No

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 09:30 PM

Having 2 boys under 9 years old, we're on our 3/4th bus pass! Surely there must be a better way for young children to be able to access the transport? They don't carry wallets or have anyway of keeping them safe before coming home, let alone keeping them all year.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:14 PM

I agree but no child should be denied access to their regular transport if they cannot provide their pass. The reason should be noted, transport provided, and validity of the excuse investigated without impacting the child's safety which denying transportation could do. It's a key to bullying imho, some would find hiding/destroying young Johnny's pass and watching the distress and mayhem caused most amusing. Hence your response to a missing pass should be one that avoids causing undue stress, etc.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:49 PM

Likely SEN children will forget, loose pass and will gave negative impact on attendance. Similarly, application process may be a barrier.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:54 PM

Also as a parent of a student starting high school in September it's unnerving when they receive their bus pass and it has incorrect codes on them - leading to brand new codes and cards having to be issued at great expense.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 05:28 PM

'This pass must be shown AM/PM to...' would perhaps be better worded, 'This pass must be shown every time the learner accesses a school bus.' 'It is the responsibility of the parent and learner to ensure they carry a valid pass.' is an ambiguous sentence due to the use of 'they'.

Screen Name Redacted 8/12/2024 06:45 PM	children should always be transported even if they cannot produce a pass, the pass, or payment can be provided later
Screen Name Redacted 8/13/2024 09:46 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 8/13/2024 01:34 PM	Bus drivers have to show some empathy the pupils with SEN
Screen Name Redacted 8/14/2024 07:45 AM	Only sensible recommendation so far
Screen Name Redacted 8/16/2024 01:12 AM	Bus passes are important - however you are forgetting the age of some of these children. 4 year olds struggle to remember anything, and can lose things such as bus passes. There needs to be some lenancy with the primary school children e.g. maybe just check them in the morning so parents can keep hold of the bus pass!
Screen Name Redacted 8/19/2024 09:52 PM	The bus drivers know what children are on the bus. So if they forget a pass one day, they are not allowed on? Just use common sense.
Screen Name Redacted 8/22/2024 11:14 AM	Too much complicated terminology used. Please use plain English
Screen Name Redacted 8/24/2024 06:27 PM	Would be an idea to have an app for this?
Screen Name Redacted 9/02/2024 09:18 AM	if bus passes are stated in the policy then they should be issued promptly to all students who are supposed to hold them. This has not been the case in personal experience
Screen Name Redacted 9/04/2024 02:28 PM	Children are usually known to drivers. Seems an necessary decision
Screen Name Redacted 9/06/2024 07:30 AM	If a child turns up having forgotten their pass - which will happen - are they to be left on the side of the road? This paragraph does not adequately reassure parents/carers/schools that no child will be left in an unsafe position as a result of forgetfulness.

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 10:47 PM

Surely the bus driver will recognise pupils using the bus?

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:09 AM

What if lost pass or have need to use different buses such as different parents or care givers, going to visit friend etc

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 11:29 AM

There needs to be a level of common sense here too. What happens if a child forgets their pass , is a phot of it acceptable?

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:25 PM

For the primary school kids this is ridiculous. The bus drivers know who is who.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 07:22 PM

What if a young child loses their pass? Or and older one for that matter. The child/young person cannot simply be denied to get on the bus when they may have been left by parents to access the transport. This obviously applies to older children but needs consideration. I.e. it's at the discretion of the driver might be more appropriate.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 06:54 PM

Who is going to be checking the bus passes twice daily, teachers should be teaching and not being bus Inspectors!! As it will come back on the school staff to monitor on the bus park.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:31 PM

The need for bus passes needs to be made clear to parents but the policy may not be the best way to do this as many parents won't read the policy.

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 08:12 PM

Makes complete sense

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 10:55 PM

Although we understand the purpose of the section, we feel that the wording needs to be amended to consider alternative methodology of checking the passes for Children in the early years and KS1 phase of the Schools

Optional question (28 response(s), 103 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q19 | Powys County Council will be looking to bring forward additional changes to the Transport Policy to take account of the introduction of designated Welsh medium secondary

education. Ysgol Bro Caereinion and Ysgol Bro Hyddgen are two all-age schools that are changing their language category from dual-stream to Welsh-medium on a phased basis. The change in the secondary phase starts in 2026 at Ysgol Bro Caereinion, when the Year 7 intake will be Welsh-medium only. A similar change will take place at Ysgol Bro Hyddgen in September 2029. What changes to the Home to School Transport policy do you think need to be made to secure access to designated Welsh medium secondary provision?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:38 PM

What a tragic waste of money

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 10:54 AM

The policy should support parental choice whatever the language category is.....the current policy doesn't

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 02:45 PM

As a Welsh speaker with pupils in the Welsh stream, this is a terrible idea, can't teach the Welsh pupils they have properly at the moment, the Welsh higher education failed to teach me in Welsh after the first term as well. Proposed policies are akin to racial segregation.

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 12:34 PM

Free transport should be made available to parents wishing to send their children to dual or English schools where they feel that school would be the best place for their child, regardless of if there is a nearer Welsh medium school.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:14 PM

None, sounds harsh from a proud Englishmen but if parents do not wish their children to be taught principally in Welsh they shouldn't be living in Wales! The only thing I would expect is for those nearing the end of their schooling in a principally English speaking school to be transferred to another to complete it at PCC's expense, as otherwise I anticipate that it could seriously damage the rest of their education if they don't speak Welsh as well as might be expected for their school year.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:58 PM

Welsh medium secondary provision is extremely well provided for and always has been. The changes to the Home School Transport policy need to make secure access to the English medium secondary provision

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 03:27 PM

I'm not sure, however the restriction to entry of non Welsh speaking students feels discriminatory

Screen Name Redacted In general policy wording is poor and not accessible, for SEN families.
8/12/2024 03:49 PM

Screen Name Redacted I would envisage this being along the same lines as the previous
8/12/2024 03:54 PM mention of Welsh Language provision and transport

Screen Name Redacted Free
8/12/2024 04:14 PM

Screen Name Redacted do not know
8/12/2024 06:45 PM

Screen Name Redacted We live in Dolanog, which is currently in the Llanfair Caereinion
8/13/2024 09:36 AM catchment. We moved to this area in 2020 after 10 years living in Welshpool. As a result our son attends Guilsfield CP School and learns through the medium of English. We believe that due to the changes in language provision at Ysgol Bro Caereinion that Reggie should have the option to attend a fully bilingual school from 2026 when he is due to start year 7. Discretion should be given to parents of English medium children who do not wish them to attend Llanfair. There is already school transport collecting children from Llanfihangel which is 3 miles away from our home.

Screen Name Redacted The opportunity for students to access transport from outside the
8/13/2024 09:45 AM current catchment area in order to attend a designated Welsh language setting.

Screen Name Redacted None.
8/13/2024 09:46 AM

Screen Name Redacted Free transport for all.
8/14/2024 07:45 AM

Screen Name Redacted As Ysgol Bro Caereinion's language category is now T3 (transitioning
8/15/2024 12:10 PM to Welsh medium) I believe that any pupil wishing to commence in Bro Caereinion prior to 2026 should be granted transport now!

Screen Name Redacted I don't think anything should be altered, changes to this policy already
8/15/2024 08:42 PM allows for discretion if a parent wants their child to go to a dedicated Welsh medium high school, what is needed is equity across the county boyh these schools are in the north so why would I want my child to travel that far from Builth to get the education they need.

Would it not be better to provide more equitable provision across all the dual stream secondary schools so they provide good quality English and Welsh education first and give parents better choices. What is going to happen in the north for those who just want English provision when they live in Mach or Caereinion? Why should those who are Welsh but don't speak Welsh or want to speak Welsh not be able to choose. That's what is so nice about dual stream schools you get to be exposed to both making communities stronger.

Screen Name Redacted

8/20/2024 07:35 AM

The distance to school to receive transport should be equal for all pupils.

Screen Name Redacted

8/24/2024 06:27 PM

Need to make sure that that learners who don't want to attend a Welsh-medium only school don't miss out on free transport to dual-stream.

Screen Name Redacted

8/26/2024 09:53 AM

As with children wanting to attend Welsh medium education, there should be provision for parents wanting their children to be educated mainly in the medium of English to have free transport to the nearest school offering English medium education.

Screen Name Redacted

8/31/2024 11:53 AM

What about the children who do not want to be taught in an all Welsh school? What rights do they have?

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:46 AM

All children who chose to be in a English speaking school if that's what they wish, so transport should be provided for them all

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:54 AM

None, you cannot secure free transport for Welsh speakers to this school form outside their catchment area - as just stated in all your new wordings. You cannot possibly think it is acceptable for Welsh to get free transport outside their catchment area but not for English speaking. This is racist to the extreme

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 11:26 AM

Provisions need to be made for children to be able to get transport to English schools if they live in catchment areas of these a schools.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 02:28 PM

Free transport should a child want to learn in the medium of welsh

Screen Name Redacted

I think plans needs to be in place for students travelling further afield

9/05/2024 02:07 PM

whether it be a taxi or shared tranaport

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 07:30 AM

I think the LA officers, through this survey, are unfairly devaluig local dual stream provision. The transport policy appears designed to boost uptake in designated Welsh Medium schools at the expense of dual stream provision. Why does this question not ask, 'What changes to the home to School Transport policy do you think need to be made to secure access to Welsh medium secondary provision (at designated Welsh medium or dual stream schools)? Why is free home-to-school transport only being considered out of the catchment areas of dual stream providers to designated Welsh Medium schools, but not out of the catchment areas of designated Welsh medium schools to dual stream providers? In rural Powys, local dual stream provision is essential and its importance should have been reflected through more equitable proposals in this survey.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 08:14 AM

I think you need to consider the English pupils and how not providing transport to English schools will affect them.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 12:04 PM

This doesn't matter to my children as there English and English speaking so the school is unsuitable for there educational needs and have to go to welshpool.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 02:32 PM

No comment

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 07:08 PM

Do not agree with the catchment areas

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 08:49 PM

Provision should also be made to Llanfyllin and other dual steam schools for those choosing Welsh medium.

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 09:46 PM

Children in four cross and llandrinio should have the option of being able to use Llanfyllin or Welshpool high school bus free as it travels through both these villages anyway!

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:09 AM

Give transport to any English speakers to their nearest school

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 11:45 AM

I think that transport should be offered to all children choosing to attend Welsh medium education as I feel if this isn't an option it will

deter a lot of parents including myself as my daughter currently attends a Welsh medium primary school and we drive past 2 English medium schools to get there but at secondary I feel if transport wasn't available I would have to seriously consider reverting to English stream but as a preference I would of chosen Welsh medium as I feel the use of Welsh language is very important as if we don't use the language it will sadly become a lost language. But transporting your child to the further distance for Welsh medium is a very big commitment.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:29 AM

If only one school in Powys (Maldwyn) is given Welsh Medium secondary designation then transport will have to be provided to that school from all parts of Powys. It is the only conclusion possible. A wiser way forward would be to create one Welsh Medium and one English Medium secondary school for each of the four hub areas of Powys thus reducing the number of secondary school from 13 to 9 (leaving Bro Hyddgen as an outlier and Ystradgynlais to continue feeding Ystalafera).

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:25 PM

You cannot discriminate against Welsh learners so the policy has to match.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:46 PM

With regard to Welsh speaking children accessing Welsh Medium education, the School Transport policy seems to meet their needs. It is to be hoped that English only speaking children would receive a reciprocal arrangement, giving them free transport to their nearest English medium school.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 09:22 AM

It should only be the same catchment area as now - if parents choose to send their children to a designated Welsh medium school, they should pay for their transport.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 06:54 PM

The policy needs to be a lot fairer and not loaded towards the Councils wishes and requirements.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:31 PM

Pupils who choose to learn through the medium of Welsh should be allowed to attend a dual stream school if it is the closest school providing elements of Welsh Medium and that is what they would prefer. They should not be forced to attend Welsh-medium only.

Screen Name Redacted

Those wishing to learn in the English language MUST be provided

9/12/2024 08:12 PM

with free transport otherwise it is clear discrimination

Screen Name Redacted

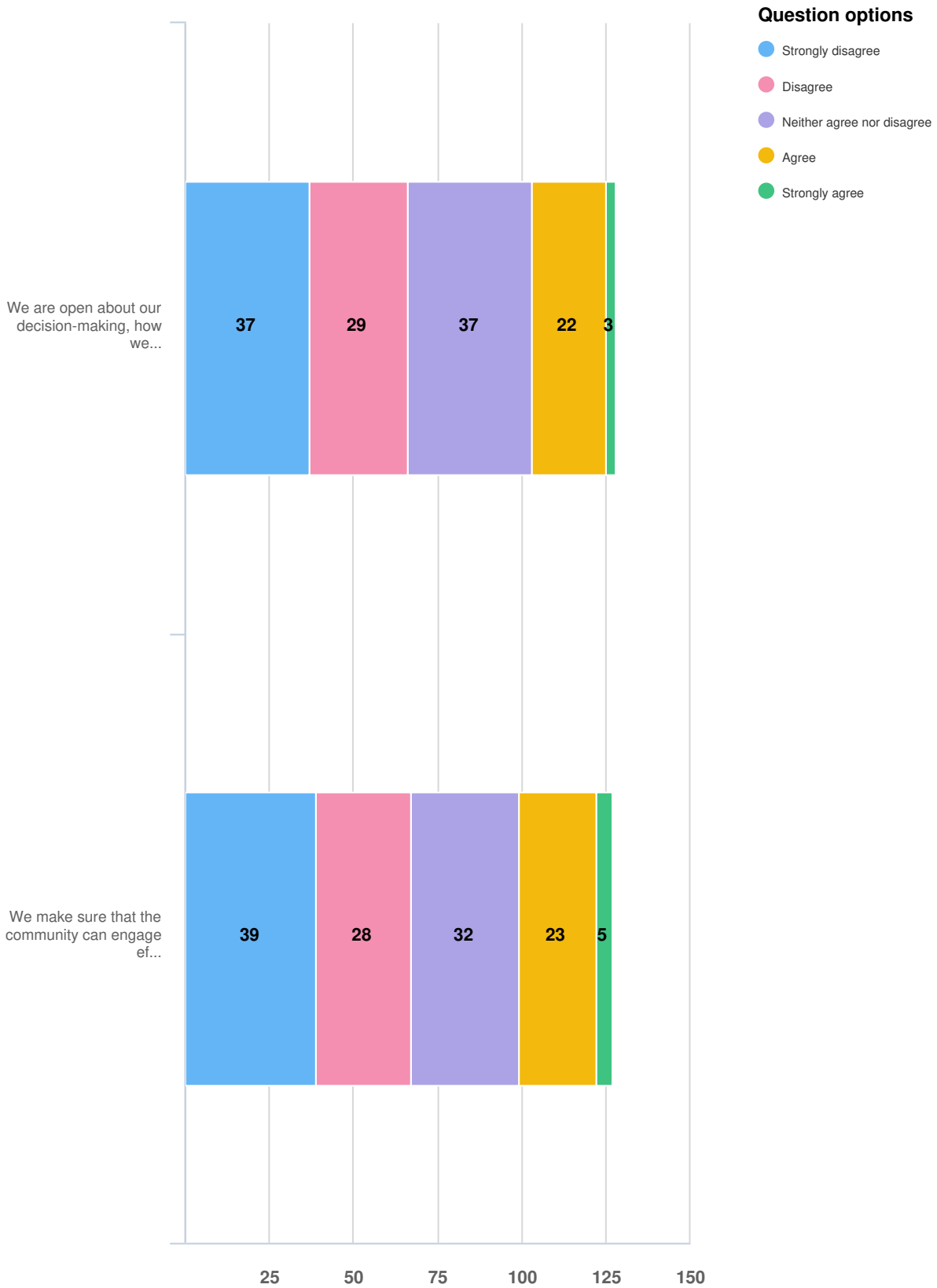
9/12/2024 10:55 PM

We feel that the current policy is clear for those parents whose children are in the Welsh Stream /School, but we believe that there is an inequality in access to education in the language of choice for those parents choosing English medium Education for their children and although it may not be a significant issue in these two catchment areas, it will be a significant issues if the Builth Wells Campus of Ysgol Calon Cymru and other similar Schools become Welsh Medium Schools and not Dual Stream Schools. We therefore believe that consideration should be given to make free home to school transport be awarded to children to both their closest English and Welsh medium schools / streams

Optional question (43 response(s), 88 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

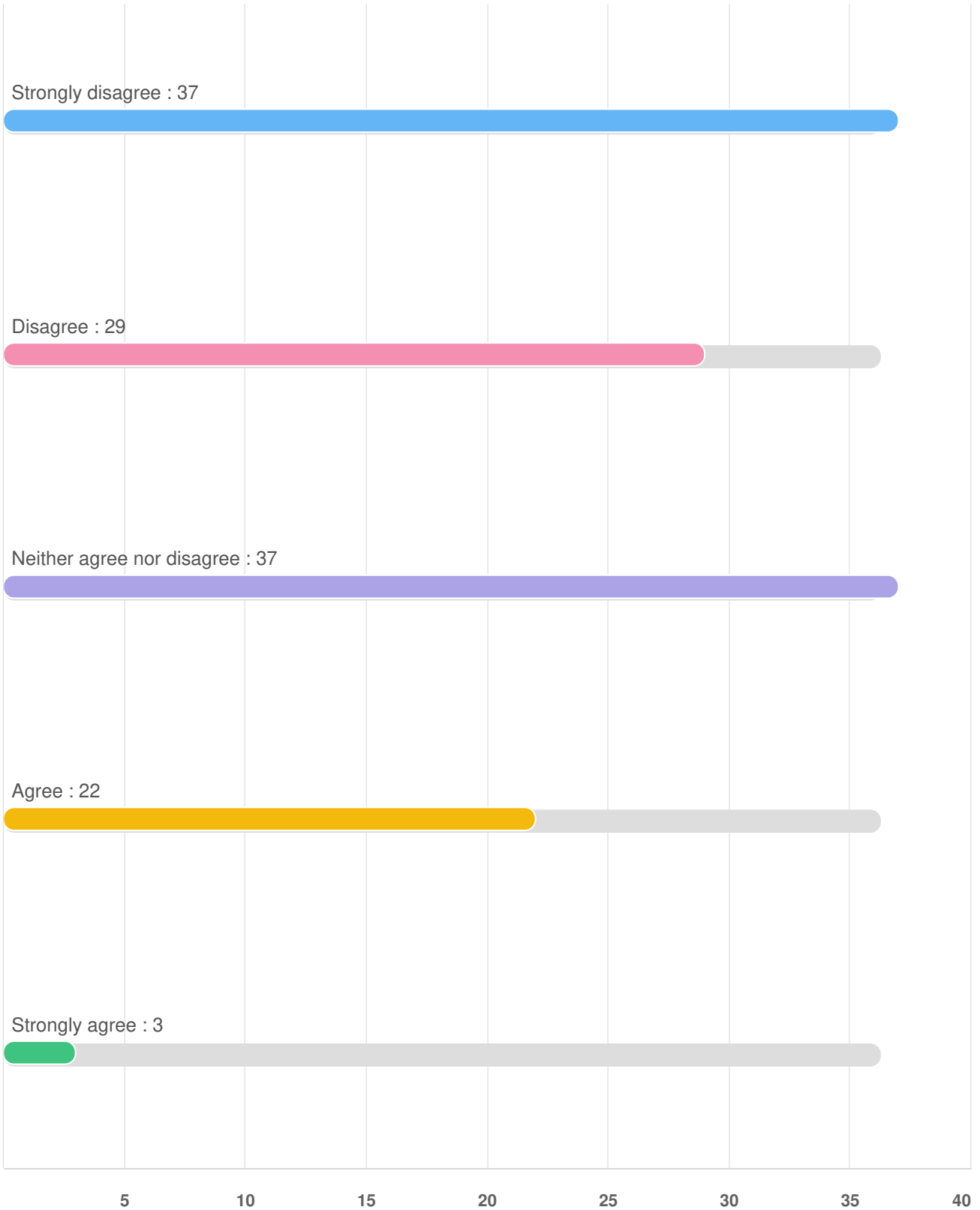
Q20 How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



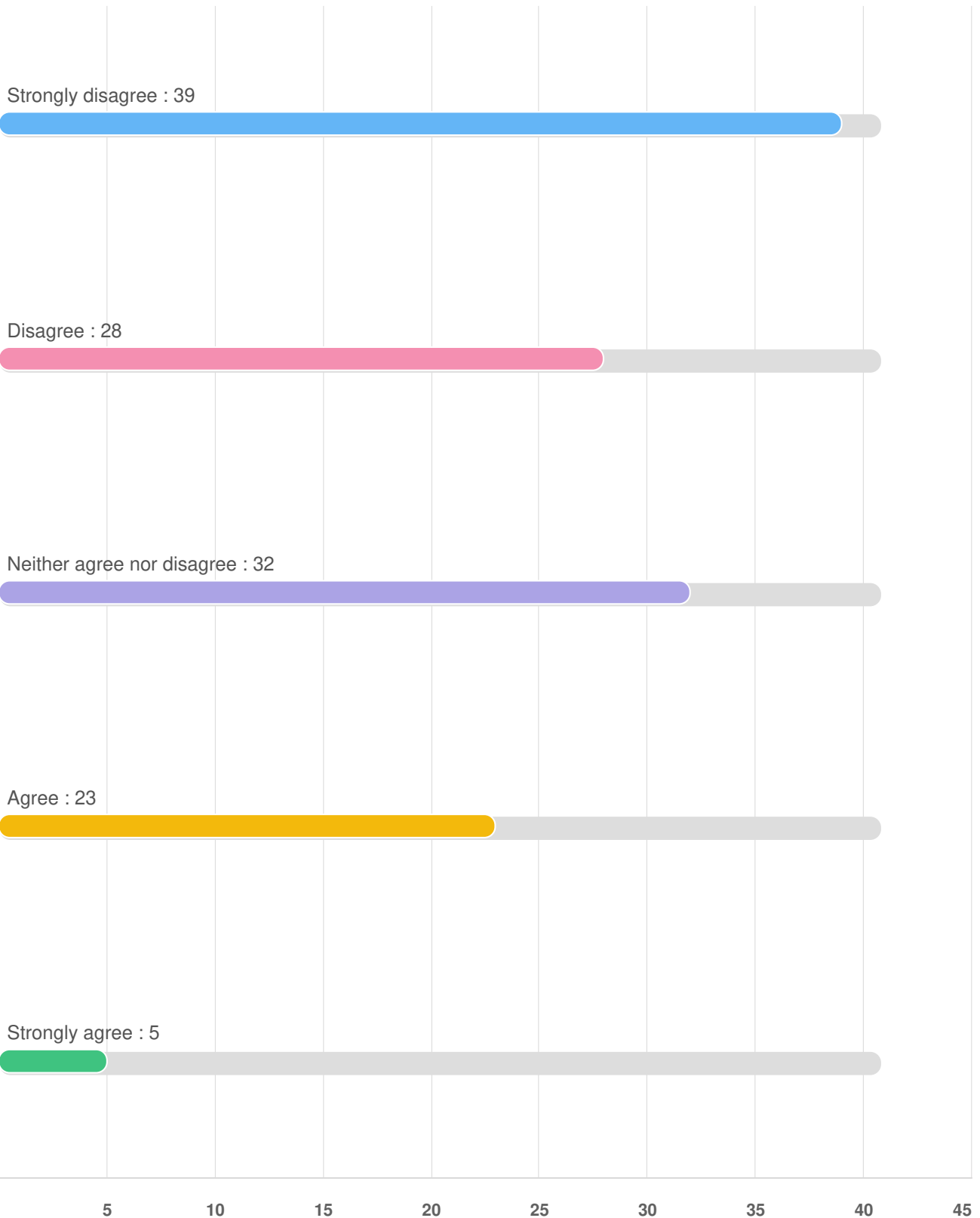
Optional question (128 response(s), 3 skipped)
 Question type: Likert Question

Q20 | How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

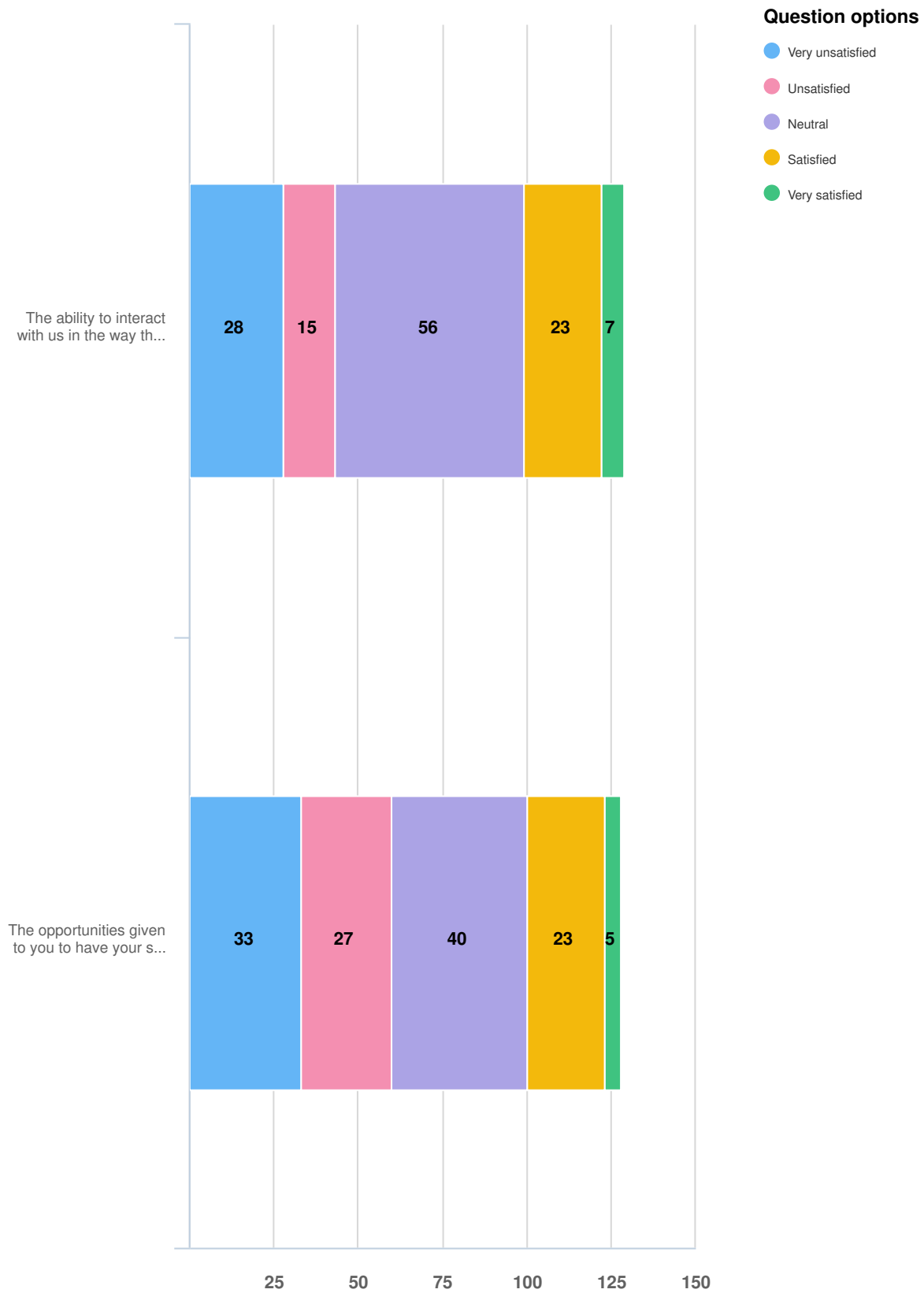
We are open about our decision-making, how we're managed, and council staff are open with the public



We make sure that the community can engage effectively with decision-making processes and council actions



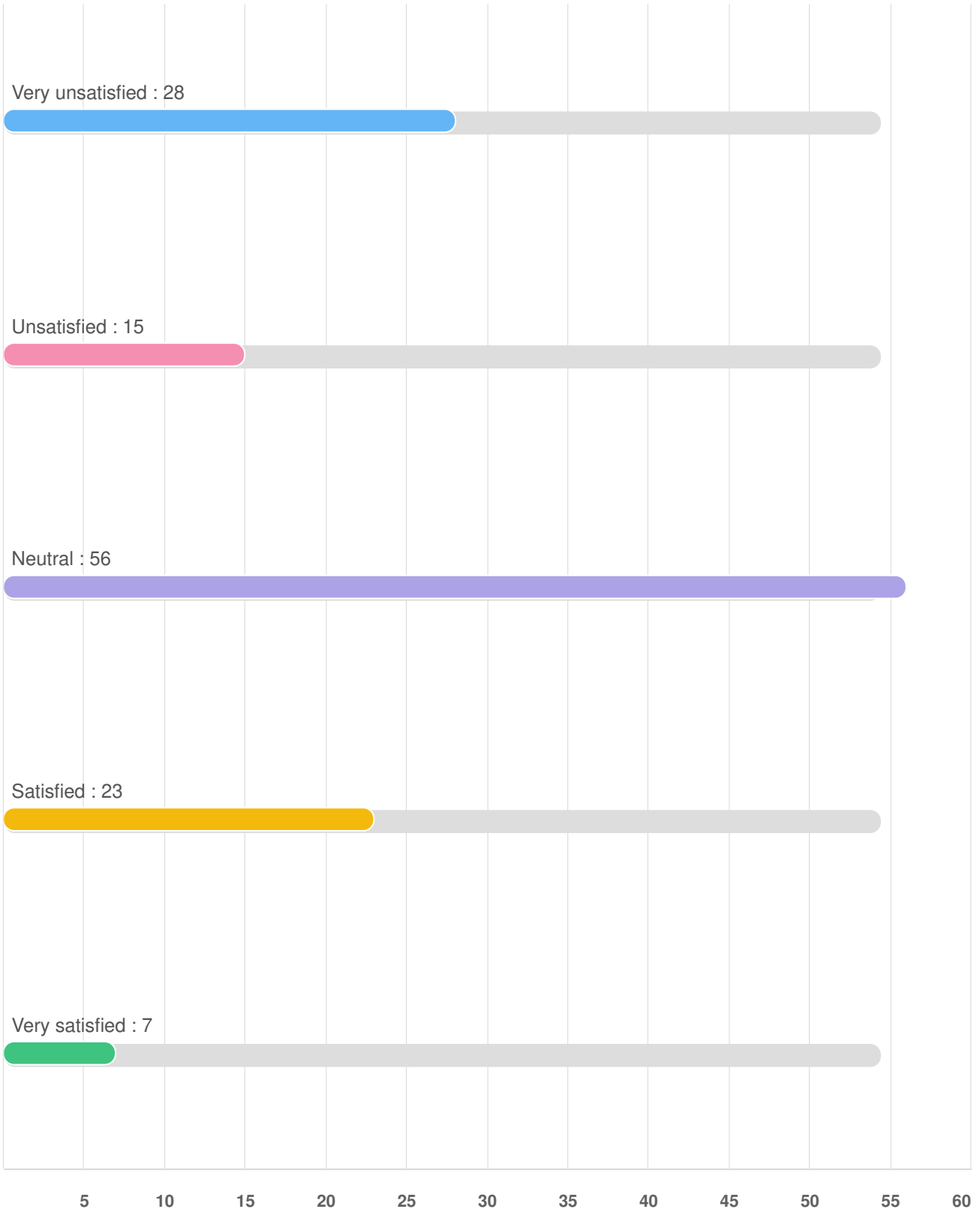
Q21 How satisfied are you with...?



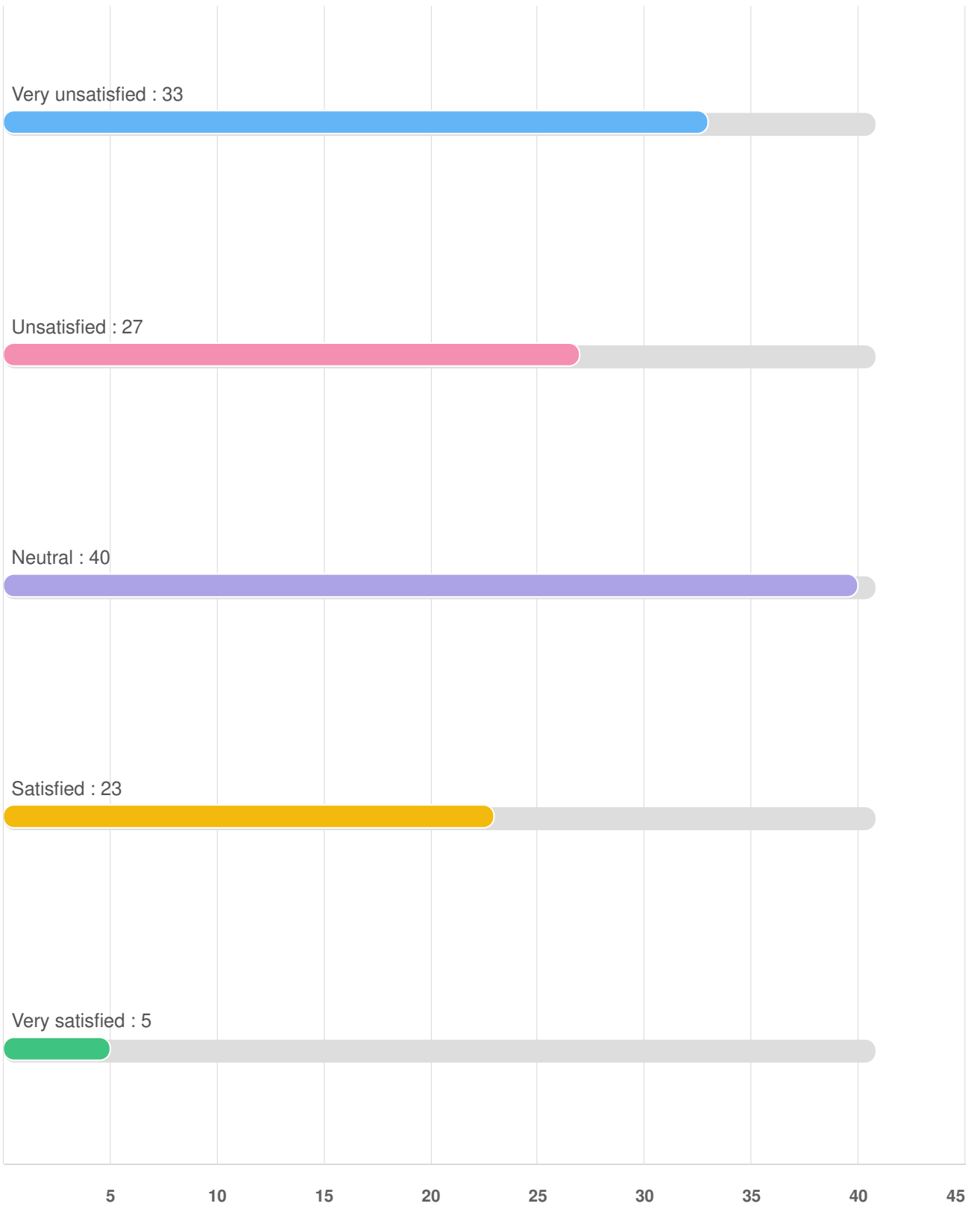
Optional question (129 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Likert Question

Q21 | How satisfied are you with...?

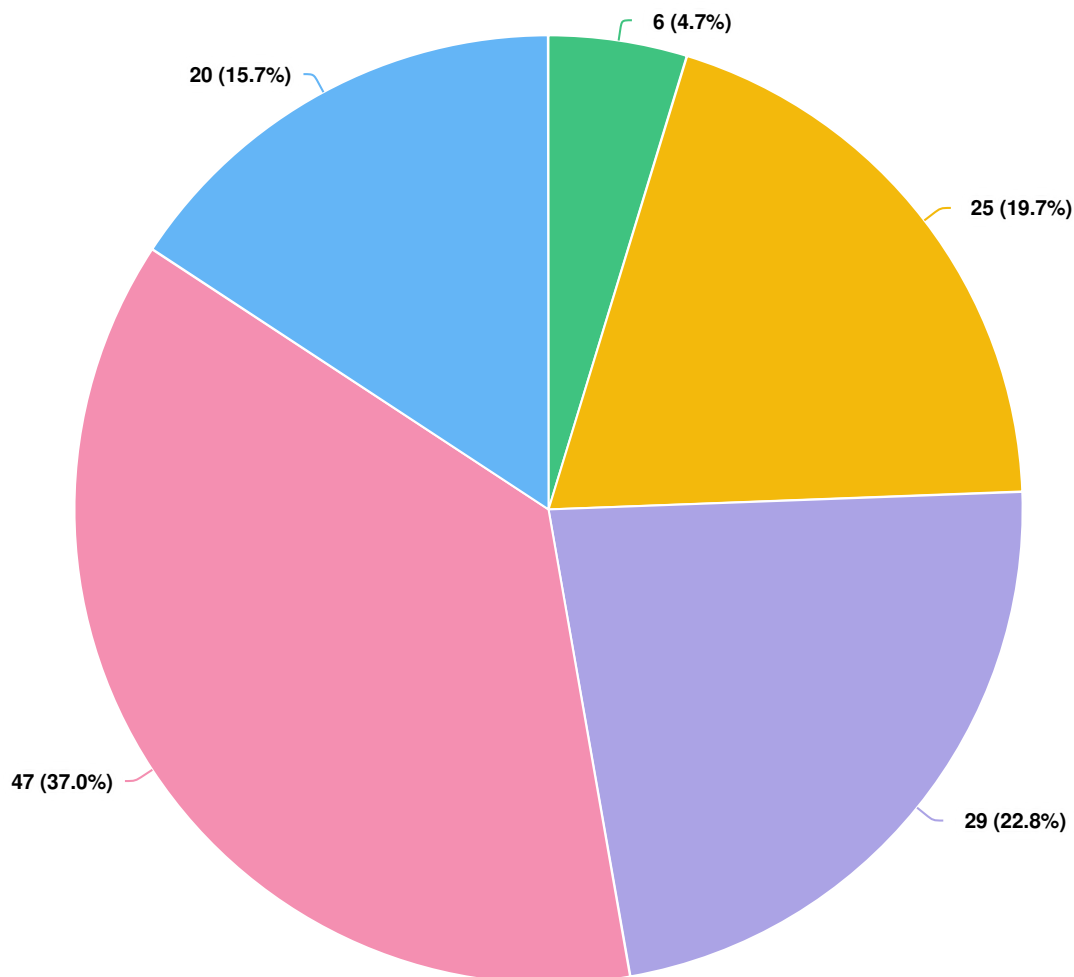
The ability to interact with us in the way that you prefer, e.g. phone, email, website, language of choice



The opportunities given to you to have your say and participate in our decision-making processes



Q22 Which of the following statements comes closest to how you feel...?

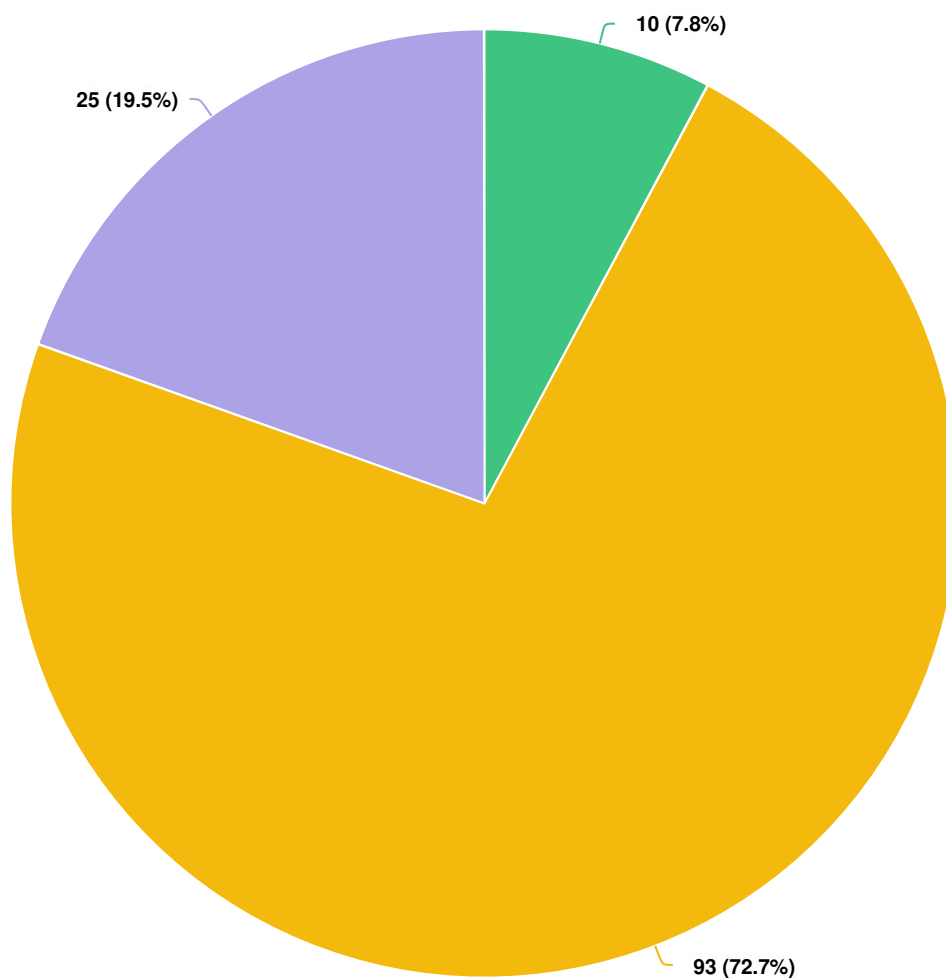


Question options

- I speak negatively about the council without being asked
- I speak negatively about the council if I am asked about it
- I have no views one way or another
- I speak positively of the council if I am asked about it
- I speak positively of the council without being asked

Optional question (127 response(s), 4 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q23 | Do you have any concerns or evidence to suggest that the council is treating/using the Welsh language less favourably than English in relation to the objectives listed in this survey?



Question options

- Unsure
- No
- Yes

Optional question (128 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q24 | If yes, please give details and state how the proposal suggested in this survey will affect opportunities to use the Welsh language in your view?

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 10:54 AM

see previous answers

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 09:02 AM

How does this policy fit in for the needs of the whole of Powys. Surely the demographics of Powys does not allow a one size fits all document to be successful. It surely should have flexibility to deal with individual situations

Screen Name Redacted

8/13/2024 12:15 PM

It's known the Welsh speakers percentages across Powys work force is low. However it is promoters to the best of staffs ability

Screen Name Redacted

8/15/2024 12:10 PM

Ysgol Llanfyllin cannot provide the same level of Welsh medium education as that on offer in Bro Caereinion. However, our daughter is being refused a place at Bro Caereinion when it is her desire to receive a FULL Welsh medium education i.e. to undertake all of her GCSE and A Level subjects in Welsh. If she is only offered transport to Llanfyllin this will not be the case and will be in contradiction to your current policy which states: "In order for the Council to comply with Section 10 of the Learner Wales Travel Measure 2008 which states that each local authority must promote access to education and training through the medium of the Welsh language, the Council will make an exception to the qualifying criteria if your child attends a Welsh medium school, and the chosen school isn't the nearest to their home address.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:54 AM

Everything you have just said. Children from their local town will now have to pay for their own transport to a different school. How this is not a racist move I do not know.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 07:30 AM

Treat dual stream provision with the same respect as designated Welsh medium provision.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:29 AM

Transport for improved bilingual (Welsh medium) opportunities should be treated as entitlements not privileges i.e. they should be awarded as required and not only at the discretion of officers/cabinet members.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 06:54 PM

I believe that as a Border area with England and seeing an influx of people coming to live in Powys who are NOT Welsh speaking the Council are almost forcing their wishes onto these people. If parents choose to move their children to English speaking schools we are in danger of seeing Schools close through poor numbers (perhaps our Councillors' want to close schools through the back door!!

Optional question (8 response(s), 123 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q25 | What changes could be made so as to have a more positive effect on the Welsh language?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 07:38 PM

Why on earth would anyone want that?

Screen Name Redacted

8/09/2024 08:08 PM

You can't there isn't .. it's nothing more than an anti English vanity project. Such a shame because there are so many other ways you could promote Wales and foster being Welsh.

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 10:54 AM

Invest in schools.....decision making by this Council has been atrocious

Screen Name Redacted

8/10/2024 02:45 PM

I think that the Welsh language is favoured so much that it is biased towards it, putting English speakers in more difficult positions and causes unhealthy rivalry with cuts in funding for English schools

Screen Name Redacted

8/11/2024 12:34 PM

Why would I want there to be a more positive effect on the welsh language? Odd question.

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:14 PM

The broad education of our children to be able to go out into the big wide world beyond Wales should be a far far higher priority than making changes to have a positive effect on the Welsh language.....

Screen Name Redacted

8/12/2024 02:58 PM

The Council would have a more positive effect if they stopped bullying, intimidating and discriminating against the Powys residents who don't speak or have any intention of speaking Welsh. Coming from someone who is Montgomeryshire born and bred. Grew sick and tired and turned against the welsh language in the early seventies when the welsh language terrorists were active.

Screen Name Redacted
8/12/2024 03:49 PM

Residents should be able to opt for Welsh or English communications to save paper/ink etc...

Screen Name Redacted
8/12/2024 03:54 PM

No comment on this question but on question 22 - it depends on the nature of the subject as to how I approach this.

Screen Name Redacted
8/12/2024 06:45 PM

community based chat groups

Screen Name Redacted
8/13/2024 09:36 AM

If anything the Welsh language is being favoured more than English. Whilst I agree the preservation of the Welsh language is important it should not be at the discrimination of English speakers.

Screen Name Redacted
8/13/2024 09:46 AM

N/A

Screen Name Redacted
8/13/2024 12:15 PM

Offer Welsh classes to staff

Screen Name Redacted
8/15/2024 12:10 PM

If pupils desire a Welsh medium education they should be allowed it, full stop!!!

Screen Name Redacted
8/16/2024 12:14 AM

Why does every questionnaire have to have this question? Apart from being grammatically incorrect their should be equity all languages used in schools.

Screen Name Redacted
8/22/2024 11:08 AM

On transparency, I will agree the Authority does seek views. The problem seems to come with the listening, not the gathering.

Screen Name Redacted
8/22/2024 11:14 AM

There is too much emphasis and funding for Welsh medium schools in my area. English medium schools are being left under funded as a result. The bias is far tooo much on Welsh medium

Screen Name Redacted
9/03/2024 11:02 PM

There should be no preference or discrimination either way. Education is education in either medium and equal resources should be allocated to both. The questions from this survey seem to suggest preference to Welsh medium. Is this to the detriment of children in Wales being taught through the English medium?

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:54 AM

The schools should stay as learning in both languages.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 11:26 AM

Personally I think you are in favour of welsh but not of English! We all know about the Welsh government's deadline of a million welsh speakers and how they are chucking money at it, which Powys are happy to take but actually not thinking about the consequences with children not having an English education. I feel I am being forced to make my child a welsh speaker purely because of where I chose to live. Had I known about this years ago, I would have found a house in a different catchment area.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 07:30 AM

Offer discretionary, free home-to-school transport out of catchment area of designated Welsh medium schools to dual stream providers, in recognition of the value attached to this provision by many families.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 08:14 AM

This is a joke - this policy seems to favour welsh speakers over English speakers.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 11:45 AM

Get more lessons of welsh in schools

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 09:46 PM

I think welsh language is least of the councils problems

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 07:39 AM

Stop segregation!!!! Stop segregation!!!!

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:29 AM

Immediate discussions with Shropshire county council to prevent parents having to travel 100s of miles a week at great expense to ascertain bilingualism.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 10:59 AM

You are destroying small community schools over time and it doesn't feel all objections are overrideen

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 11:29 AM

All interactions I have had with Powys are long-winded and take a ridiculous amount of time. I know we are in a coat of living crisis but I pay a considerable amount of council tax for which I do not seem too reap many benefits. Consultations are hidden and not publicised very

well. It's disappointing. Why are these consultations not actively published on social media so we know they are happening

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 03:46 PM

Access to Welsh language education seems to be well covered in the School Transport policy and in fact very few changes have been made to policy. However, significant changes have been made to method of transport, prioritising the use of public transport over dedicated school transport and yet we have not been consulted as to our opinion. Unless all passengers are DBS checked, how can the Council guarantee safeguarding of pupils? Also, it is proposed the exercising of discretionary transport powers outside the terms of policy will not create a precedent. Again we have not been consulted and surely in line with Welsh Government Transport policy it is fairer to continue to implement a policy where exercising such discretionary powers would apply to all pupils in similar circumstances within the Local Authority area.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:36 PM

This is a change in transport policy. This question has very little to do with Welsh language. You have again just bolted this on as an add on so it appears you are asking for feedback on Welsh language learning. Powys need to get a grip of themselves

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 09:22 AM

train teachers who want to speak Welsh in English medium schools, up skill the workforce

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 06:54 PM

More encouragement to use the Welsh language, through Adult learning courses, encouragement in the workplace.

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 08:12 PM

Council is discriminating against learners in the English language

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 10:55 PM

Establish a primary Welsh Medium stream in a School in the Crickhowell, Gwernyfed and John Beddoes Catchments.

Optional question (34 response(s), 97 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question