

APPENDIX 3

Consultation on changes to school catchment areas – 2/12/2016 to 27/1/17

E mails received

Good Morning,

I am writing concerning the proposed plans to change the Muxton School Catchment area. I am a Muxton resident with two children at Muxton Primary School.

I am concerned to discover that our new catchment secondary school will be Telford Priory School, a school that is commonly known to be having major issues at the moment, in addition to my concerns regarding the quality of the school, I was horrified to read in the council literature on the Cabinet meeting agenda, that the school is deemed to be within walking distance from Muxton.

From our home in Muxton that is easily a 1 hour walk each way up a busy main road, I think for an 11 year old child with school bags to carry this is a dangerous proposition, particularly during the winter months.

I have decided to walk the route myself at the weekend and would invite you to join me.

I'll be interested to hear your response.

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Good Afternoon Jim Collins

I've been recently informed of the councils proposed changes in school catchment in the Muxton area.

I am utterly against this proposition.

Furthermore it seems to be based upon revoking the councils 'financial burden' of transporting pupils from outside the immediate area.

'Well that makes sense'.

By saving £160,000, in one wave of an (overpaid) hand the future and aspirations of a whole community has been destroyed.

Well done someone has hit their cost saving target.

What the pen pushers in their ivory towers fail to comprehend is that the beating heart of the Muxton community is, and continued to be, built around the broader schooling system.

Already parents, including myself, have begun to think about moving away from the area. I'm not sure you're aware of the abject ratings and Ofsted reports of 'our new feeder school'?

For you to be successful in forcing through your proposal, you need to address one of two (ideally both) factors.

1. Keep the catchment as is and accept a community funded transport plan

2. Work with TPS and HTA (TPS seems to be more of a priority) to bring up to an acceptable level the quality of the culture/teaching/internal policies/transport system to these schools as they are still further away for us than BBS/AG.

Look forward to your reply

Mr Carter,

I have been given your name as a point of contact for the recent proposals for changing the catchment area of Newport schools and how this impacts Muxton. This news has caused uproar in the Muxton community. Many of us bought our homes because of the schools catchment and we feel the rug has been pulled out from under us. We feel hugely let down by our council.

I understand that councils are being expected to run like businesses now rather than a system to look after your constituents. This is the world we live in and that will not change, not until Jeremy becomes PM anyway! You need to find ways to save money and it seems you and your colleagues have decided to save yourself £160,000 per year in a simple and effective way. Drop Muxton from the Newport catchment and happy days we're up £160,000. Did you ever consider alternatives? I'm honestly interested. Personally I'd happily carpool my child to Burton Borough or pay for public transport or even pay the current coaches for the privilege. In fact surely that makes more sense? You'll have around 4 years worth of children from Burton Borough that I'm guessing you have to provide coaches for because they will have already been registered from 2017. Why not just charge for the coaches from 2018? Anyone who doesn't want to can simply go to Telford Priory School.

Please take the time to consider mine and I'm guess quite a few other pleas. What I expect from this government and this council is that your hands will be tied. That if you keep Muxton in the catchment by law you have to provide transport. I expect that this email will fall on deaf ears and this will be simply another example of how the system is broken. I look forward to hearing your response.

Hello

Further to my email below dated 10th November and to which I had no response or acknowledgement, I went ahead and walked the route from Muxton to Telford Priory School this weekend.

I started my walk at Muxton Primary School and walked to the TPS school via Asda. I am a fit and healthy adult and it took me 40 minutes each way going at a good pace, I had to cross 4 busy main

roads and breathe in lots of exhaust fumes. The roads and roundabouts I had to negotiate around Asda were particularly treacherous.

On the route back I took a different path through Donington Wood, again I had a number of busy roads to cross and is not a route I would particularly want to walk again or felt a child would be safe walking alone in this day and age.

Having done the walk myself I certainly wouldn't want my children to walk either route twice a day to get to school, it's simply too far and too dangerous. If my children are forced to go to this school in future I feel my only realistic choice would be to drive them there and back each day. A view I'm certain many other Muxton parents will share.

So by changing our catchment area to save money on buses you will almost certainly be putting dozens more cars on the road, adding to the rush hour traffic, increasing pollution and adding to the inevitable drop off congestion at the school, to me this seems to be counterintuitive.

Surely a better solution would be to retain the catchment as is and simply charge parents for the bus to BB, that way the council still saves money, the Muxton community is happy because they remain in catchment for Newport schools, and there won't be additional cars on the road.

The other issue I have is that by changing the catchment area (which we pay plenty of council tax to live within) you not only take us out of catchment for Burton Borough, but also Adams Grammar and Newport Girls High, having these schools within catchment was the sole reason for us buying a home in Muxton and paying more than the local average for it, so I'm quite sure that if this change goes ahead Muxton House prices will be negatively affected, how is that fair on hard working tax paying people of Muxton?

Furthermore, it is common knowledge that TPS is failing, I've no doubt that with the right management this could be turned around in time, however I am not prepared to gamble on my children's education and future by having them attend this school while this process happens, I work hard to give my children the best chances in life, we moved here from Wolverhampton because we thought we were ensuring a good education for them, we are shocked and quite frankly devastated to discover that this may be taken from us because of some council cost saving exercise... will we be getting a reduction on our council tax any time soon? I think not.

So whilst none of the above reasons might apply to your inevitable tick box criteria, I ask you to consider how you would feel in our situation. As a community Muxton does not want the catchment area to change, many of us bought houses here based on catchment area and the good schools within it, to change us to a catchment for what is commonly know to be one of the worst schools in Telford is just a terrible prospect.

I would welcome your response. I also have the data from my school walk if you need backup information.

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Dear All,

I wanted to send you all an email regarding the proposed catchment area changes in Muxton. I have completed the online survey, but as there is no confirmation of receipt of the survey I also wanted to send my concerns by email in the hope they will be considered by all on the council cabinet.

We moved to Muxton 6 years ago from Wolverhampton, solely because of the good standard of school options available for my children. The proposals would take these options away which is why I am opposed to the plans as they currently stand, my reasons for objecting to these proposals are as follows...

1. Cancelling the buses will ultimately put Muxton childrens' safety at risk. I have personally walked the walking route to TPS (and in an email dated 10th November 2016 I also invited Mr Collins to walk the route with me, he didn't respond or acknowledge this email). The route is long and in places dangerous, with major roads to cross, dark under passes to negotiate and involves walking alongside a busy road inhaling plenty of traffic fumes. My eldest son is asthmatic and walking along such a busy road, inhaling fumes from up to two hours each day could have serious health implications for him. So this would leave me with no option but to drive him to school each day, but with the TPS unusual operating hours this would make it impossible to get my other son to school or get to work. Cancelling the buses to BBS may save money for the council in the long term but will undoubtedly put Muxton childrens' lives in danger and will result in dozens more cars on the road each day.

2. The standard of education currently on offer at TPS is not equal to that currently offered by Burton Borough School. I feel that this change would negatively impact the quality of education my children would receive. I strongly feel that it would be fairer if a shared catchment option was made available to Muxton, including us in catchment for both BBS AND TPS, as this would give us the choice to send our children to the school which best suits their needs and would also give time for TPS to raise its standards and become a school that we would want to send our children to.

3. I understand that this decision is also in part being based on the amount of houses being built in the area, which will eventually place extra demand on Burton Borough School. However these houses have not even been built yet and so I feel that this decision is a little premature. As it stands there are currently enough spaces at Burton Borough School for

Muxton children and more places could be made available by using the unused sixth form places. The uncertainty of the impact of new housing on school places is another reason why the shared catchment situation would work well in my opinion.

Finally a note on TPS school. This school is currently rated amongst the worst in the county, current Ofsted parentview feedback from children and parents is horrifying and clearly the school is struggling. What parent would want their child's education to be placed in this kind of environment? Mr Collins pointed out that things MAY improve, they MAY get better but he could offer no guarantees on this, for me this is an unacceptable situation. Yes we can apply for another school but without being in catchment for that alternative school we will have no guarantees.

Muxton as a community strongly feel that a shared catchment would be the fairest solution at the current time, this would at least give parents some degree of choice while relieving the council of their requirement to provide free transport and buses, so I hope that you will all give this some serious consideration.

I hope that you will make the right decision for our children not just the accounting department of Telford Council, our childrens' education and futures are in your hands.



Good evening,

I would like to put forward an objection about the proposed change of school catchment areas.

I have 3 sons one which has left BBS last year, one in year 9 at BBS and one in year 4 at Lilleshall Primary.

I work full time so it would be impossible to take my sons to Burton Borough in a morning so I rely on the transport.

I would prefer my sons to have all gone to the same school, I have heard negative comments re TPS so would not be happy sending them there.

Why does this have to change after all this time of it running smoothly.

Would Newport have enough children to fill Burton Borough if it wasn't for Muxton children? A vast amount go there from the Muxton area.

Please consider the publics views.



Dear Mr. Collins,

I am writing to you to express my concerns regarding the proposed changes to the school catchment area for Muxton. There are many reasons for my concerns, amongst these is the fact that the bus currently available to pupils living within Muxton and attending Burton Borough will be withdrawn in future. There is not a secondary school within reasonable, or safe, walking distance and so if the bus is stopped this will result in a huge increase in traffic leaving Muxton each day going either to Burton Borough or TPS. As somebody who concerns themselves with environmental issues, the environmental impact and congestion this will cause is of great concern. I would ask you to consider a joint catchment area, with a bus to Burton Borough being maintained for safety and environmental reasons.

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-mail, and I hope you will give this further thought.

Jim

As agreed at last night's meeting please find enclosed the key points that Charlie Scott and I shared with you regarding the concerns of the Muxton Action Group with regards to the proposed changes to the catchment area that will see Muxton removed from the Burton Borough School catchment and included in the Telford Priory School catchment area.

As you will have seen by the incredible turn out at last night's meeting, where over 100 parents felt strongly enough to arrange childcare, leave work early in order to show their support for the cause, this cause is engendering a very passionate response from parents.

One question we would like to ask directly is would a shared catchment area be considered?

Key points:

- a) A concern for the potential effect of the proposed changes on our children's education and future prospects. Our children should have access to good quality education that meets their educational needs.
- b) The first reason cited for the changes is that significant financial savings would be made for the council, as cancelling the 4 buses which are currently supplied to get Muxton Pupils to Burton Borough each day, will save the council £40,000 per bus per year. However the fact is that these savings will not actually materialize for some years, as there will still be an ongoing requirement for the council to supply transport to those currently attending the school. So these savings are a long way off in reality.
- c) Clearly having buses to transport children to school minimizes congestion and ensures our children get to school safely, losing this is a key concern for us with regards to safeguarding our children, especially for working families and those who have no alternative method of getting their children to school.
- d) In reviewing the ability to deliver children safely to Telford Priory School, council documents state that the assessment of a safe route assumes adult supervision. The walking route to TPS from Muxton is a long and in places dangerous journey, we have walked the route and can categorically say that we wouldn't feel happy for our 11 year old children to walk it alone. Many other parents feel the same way.

e) In modern working families, very few have the luxury of being able to walk their children to school each day. But even if a parent were free to accompany their child, the route from Muxton to TPS has been timed at 45 – 50 minutes each way, so this would mean around 3 hrs of that parents day would be spent walking to and from school! Lets also not forget the logistics of getting any potential siblings to school at other locations.. the proposed change in catchment will inevitably create logistical problems for many local parents and could compromise our children's safety.

f) For these reasons, we feel that the only viable option to get our children to school safely if these changes are implemented, will be by car, so as a direct result of this decision, many additional car journeys will be made each day, adding to congestion, environmental pollution and putting even more pressure on parking and drop off areas around the school.

With regards to the arguments the council puts forward on the pressure on places at BBS due to new Housing:

a) The key for us is choice. So the following points along with those above will support our argument for a shared catchment, which would see Muxton included within catchment for both Burton Borough and Telford Priory School, this being the most fair and sensible solution at the current time. A shared catchment would meet the requirement to increase parental choice as set out by the education act, giving parents the freedom to choose the school which best suits their child's needs. It would also provide the desired financial savings for the council, as the nearest suitable school would be under 3 miles, thereby negating the councils obligation to provide funded transport.

b) Publicly available statistics have shown that local governments have consistently underperformed on meeting their housing targets , so your points in various documents regarding the pressure on places in light of housing demand, does not stack up as an imminent threat.

c) We are not stating there should be no change, but at this point in time, changes are being applied when the housing situation is fluid. Changes should be implemented when there is a clearer view of what the true impact will be on the educational system rather than one couched in language such as “may” and “potentially”.

d) In addition we also understand, according to cabinet minutes that an additional 150 places were added to Burton Borough in order to allow it to develop post 16 provision, but will not be used, and by the councils own admission likely to be added to the mainstream school. This is an additional class. These numbers mean that Burton Borough (which is not oversubscribed at the moment) has enough places to take out of area pupils as well as take into account current additional demand on the school for secondary education.

e) Another area of concern is the ability of the Borough to meet their obligation to promote high educational standards and to ensure fair access to educational opportunity.

f) Muxton's current catchment school, Burton Borough is a proven school, which is currently rated as good by Ofsted. Telford Priory School is a new and unproven school, which is currently rated as inadequate . To take our children out of catchment for a good school and put them into catchment for an inadequate school will undoubtedly have a negative impact on their education and therefore their future prospects.

g) The Ofsted parent view shows a very low level of satisfaction for parents and pupils, highlighting significant issues in the school. .Would it not be fairer to wait until TPS has reached a stage where it can promote high educational standards and 'fulfill our children's educational potential's' BEFORE moving our children there?

h) To support this argument we would also need to look at exam results. In TPS 40% pupils achieving a grade C or better in English and maths , compared to 64% at Burton Borough at GCSE.

i) The attainment 8 score for TPS is 41.8 points, compared to 50.4 points for Burton Borough.

j) So the results back up our argument, Telford Priory School does not offer a comparable quality of education to that currently offered by Burton Borough.

In summary, If we have a shared catchment area it gives the school time to improve, saves the council the transport funds, allows parents the choice between the schools based on what suits their children.

Actions:

1) You confirmed that the web site where the survey is located would be adjusted to ensure that a response was given to those to submitted their views. Currently there is no acknowledgement so it is hard to tell if your thoughts have been accepted and captured.

2) Muxton to TPS Route Reassessment – You stated the reassessment of this route would be initiated today. Please can you confirm when this has been done and when the assessment will take place please.

Dear Mr Collins

After attending the meeting on Monday 12th December I am contacting you to reiterate my concerns about the implications of the proposed catchment area changes affecting Muxton. I have also filled out the online consultation, but as we were invited to contact you further at the meeting I wanted to take the opportunity to do this.

As a parent who currently walks or cycles with my children to school (before cycling to my own workplace), I am genuinely concerned about the lack of healthy and safe transport to school, and the environmental impact of the additional cars on the road. I am also extremely concerned that my children will no longer be able to independently make their way to school, and the bus route permitting this was one of our reasons for choosing to live in Muxton. This has a long term impact on their independence and ability to access after school activities.

I also share the significant concerns expressed about the lower level of academic attainment at TPS that were discussed at the meeting. At present, the two schools are not comparable, and while I fully understand that the TPS and the Trust aim to improve upon this there is no guarantee that this will not take a significant period of time. To remove children from catchment for a 'good' school and place them in catchment for a school in special measures is not offering a suitable standard of education or equivalent parental choice. The concerns about child safety and happiness that are expressed on OFSTED ParentView also weigh heavily on my mind, no parent would be keen to send their child to a school where the majority of parents say their children do not feel safe.

As highlighted at the meeting, offering Muxton a shared catchment area between TPS and BBS would allow Muxton parents to continue to make a choice for their children, and give TPS time to move out of special measures. This would also allow the position to be reviewed once the various additional housing developments are in situ, rather than simply planned, as at present. I hope you feel able to consider this option, and look forward to hearing from you further.

Dear Mr Collins

I fully support the Muxton Action Group and their cause.

I am very dismayed at the proposed changes to catchment area for Muxton which means my son (in year 5 at Muxton Primary) will have to go to TPS, firstly, because of the lower academic attainment compared to Burton Borough. My other son is in year 9 at BB and although he has severe dyslexia, he is on the most able register. (I moved from Ketley Bank in 2006 purely because I wanted my children to go to better schools).

Secondly; the parents views on the Ofsted website, for TPS are diabolical. Over 80% of the parents would not recommend the school and 67% say their child is not happy there. 40% say their child does not feel safe there and nearly 50% say that bullying is not dealt with effectively, which is my biggest fear.

Thirdly; the walk to TPS is far too dangerous, I simply would not allow my son to walk or bike ride there. On average it would take him 45 mins to walk to the school.

When the council sent out surveys for people's views on proposed budget cuts, earlier in the year, I made it clear that I would pay for my son's transport costs to BB, or pay more council tax to support the transport costs, or if there is no other choice I will drive him there. I think this is what the real issue is; money.

Dear Jim,

I have been asked by the Parish Council to invite you to its next meeting to discuss the proposed changes to the school catchment areas within the Borough. Its next meeting will be held on Monday 12th December 2016 at Turreff Hall, Donnington commencing at 7pm.

I would be grateful if you could let me know if you are available to attend the meeting so that I can include the item on the agenda.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks.

Dear Sir

I was present at the meeting on Monday evening and fully support the protests about the proposed changes to Muxton's catchment area that were presented by the Muxton Action Group, particularly the concerns regarding the safety of children walking to and from TPS (not only safety from traffic but also in light of the recent attempted child abductions across the area) and the imbalance of academic attainment between TPS and BBS which will have a direct impact on my child, being in Year 5 and one of the first affected. I would request you seriously consider the shared catchment area proposal please as this would seem to satisfy the council's concerns regarding cost of bus provision and place availability, whilst also being acceptable to myself as a Muxton parent.

Good afternoon Mr Collins,

As I couldn't attend this weeks parish meeting I would just like to offer my support for the Muxton Action group and say I completely echo the worries and concerns they have.

I was brought up in Newport, so was my husband ,we attended moorfield and Newport infants and juniors I attended burton borough and so did my husband - I decided to move to Muxton in 2014 just before my daughter started primary school - I was pleased that I could live in Muxton and have her attend Burton Borough or the Newport Girls high school.

I am not happy with having to accept that the council thinks it is ok to have our children sent to an previously underperforming amalgamation of schools - without providing a serious plan of how the school will be up to an acceptable standard in just over a years time And the reason for this is saving money on transport?

Why should I have to accept that my daughter will attend an underperforming school because of the council?

Also just to say "Muxton children would have to walk" to TPS - I for one would not be happy with my daughter walking there and back at any time especially the winter months, along busy roads and crossing busy roads

Children really are the future and I for one agree that we all want the very best for our children

I really do think a joint catchment would be better if money really does have to be saved or as some parents have specified I would be willing to contribute for travel arrangements.

I hope that the council really do understand how much this means to us here in Muxton - we want the very best for our children!

Mr Collins

I would like to convey to you my support for the **Muxton Action Group** that attended the Parish Council Meeting on the 12th December.

I wholeheartedly challenge your proposals to change the secondary school catchment area for Muxton residents as I have deep concerns on the impact this will have on parental choice and the education of Muxton children.

- I have serious concerns that Muxton residents will have the choice of only 1 secondary school as yet unrated by OFSTED
- I am concerned that the current choice of a school with an OFSTED rating of 'good' is being removed
- The proposed change would mean Muxton children walking 3 miles along an unsafe route at a very early time of day.

I support maintaining parents full choice of schools and therefore propose the catchment becomes shared between Burton Borough and TPS.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this email.

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- I have grave concerns that my choice of secondary school could change from one that is rated 'good' by OFSTED to one currently unrated but formed from failing schools.
- I have grave concerns over safety of the walking route to Telford Priory School as well as the distance and time of day children would need to start that walk to make a school start time of 8.15am.
- I support maintaining the current catchment area ideally but a shared catchment would give parents full choice.

Many thanks for your time to read this email.

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I wholeheartedly challenge your proposals to change the secondary school catchment area for Muxton residents as I have deep concerns on the impact this will have on my grandchild's education, safety and independence.

- I have grave concerns that the choice of secondary school could change from one that is rated 'good' by OFSTED to one currently unrated but formed from failing schools.
- I have grave concerns over safety of the walking route to Telford Priory School as well as the distance and time of day children would need to start that walk to make a school start time of 8.15am.
- I support maintaining the current catchment area ideally but a shared catchment would give parents full choice.

Many thanks for your time to read this email.

Regards

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Good morning,

I wish to protest about the proposed school catchment changes for the Muxton area.

I live in Muxton , and moved here purposely for the schools and the options that being included in the Newport school area allowed. I paid a premium in regards to the house prices as my son and daughters education was of paramount importance and a definite deciding factor . Although this has been tough financially it was a worthwhile sacrifice for a good education. Will this affect our house prices I wonder ?

My son attended Lilleshall school and then Burton Borough , These were our first choice primary and secondary. My daughter attends Muxton , which again was our first choice Preference and I would be happy for her to attend Burton Borough or Newport Girls high – which ever suits her needs and potential best.

I am extremely concerned that the standard of education at TPS is of a lower attainment and I feel that maybe Muxton school pupils may be used to bolster TPS academic results ? . I feel that this is unfair and unacceptable to “ my Child” who is my number one concern and is deserving of a good education which TPS does not deliver at this point in time. I hope this may improve in the future for those who do attend , but I do not want our choices of schools taken away from Muxton parents .

Also “The long walk” along busy main roads, or through the underpass in the dark is totally unacceptable and unsafe – This is an accident waiting to happen with more children (if this catchment area change goes ahead) joining the long dangerous walk each year. Do you find it an acceptable safe route ?.....would you be happy with a child of yours walking to this school from Muxton ??

Please Keep Muxton in the Newport school catchment area !!!

Please consider these important, and very relevant reasons and justifiable concerns .

Dear Mr Collins,

I am very concerned to hear of your proposal to change the catchment area for Muxton; taking our children out of the Newport catchment area.

There are several points I would like raise and for which I would welcome your comments:

1. Have you considered a shared catchment proposal to maintain parental choice, until such a time that TPS reaches a comparable level of academic achievement as BBS and the issue of oversubscription (which currently does not exist, and will not for at least 5 years) becomes real.
2. By removing the transport provision, does this mean the DoE is no longer concerned about the safety of Muxton children in terms of how they get to/from school?
3. Has there been an independent risk assessment of the 'on foot' route from Muxton to TPS. I am appalled to think that the route would be considered safe and appropriate for an unaccompanied 11 year old child.
4. Financial saving, on its own is an unacceptable and neglectful reason to impose a catchment area change, with the potential for such a detrimental impact on Muxton children's education in the short term. Having looked at the development plans and timescales you have referenced, do you not think we have at least 5 years before oversubscription becomes an issue?
5. How does imposing a catchment area change promote parental choice? Muxton parents are very passionate about our children's education and want the choice for them to go to the most appropriate local school rather than the closest one - particularly when the closest school has an appalling record of achievement and serious behaviour management issues.

This issue is clearly a cost saving exercise for DoE. The most sensible approach would be to decide on a shared catchment so that you can make your saving. BBS is NOT oversubscribed and welcomes Muxton children, so allow us the choice to make the best decision for our children's future.

Kind regards

Thank you. I attended the Donnington and Muxton Parish Council meeting last night, where Mr Collins stated that he would ensure that everyone who had submitted a completed questionnaire would receive acknowledgment that their questionnaire had been successfully delivered. Can you please advise when this is likely to happen?

Hi Jim,

I am definitely supporting the caused of Mag for having kids that are bright and wanting to learn good skills to pick and choose the school that can offer that.

I am very interested in my child's future, safety and good education. I would also like my son to have bully free environment where he can showcase his talents and contribute to the betterment of his and country future.

Please allow this choice. We count on you to give this to us. Will appreciate it.

Dear All,

I wanted to send you all an email regarding the proposed catchment area changes in Muxton. I have completed the online survey, but as there is no confirmation of receipt of the survey I also wanted to send my concerns by email in the hope they will be considered by all on the council cabinet.

We moved to Muxton 6 years ago from Wolverhampton, solely because of the good standard of school options available for my children. The proposals would take these options away which is why I am opposed to the plans as they currently stand, my reasons for objecting to these proposals are as follows...

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choice to send our children to the school which best suits their needs and would also give time for TPS to raise its standards and become a school that we would want to send our children to.

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Muxton as a community strongly feel that a shared catchment would be the fairest solution at the current time, this would at least give parents some degree of choice while relieving the council of their requirement to provide free transport and buses, so I hope that you will all give this some serious consideration.

I hope that you will make the right decision for our children not just the accounting department of Telford Council, our childrens' education and futures are in your hands.

To whom it may concern

I am writing to you in relation to the proposed changes to the attendance areas for Muxton Primary/Lilleshall Primary/Burton Borough School.

I am a resident of Lodge Road (TF2 7QN), having moved into the area in January 2016 from Oxfordshire. We undertook a lot of research before moving into the area, and one of our prime criteria was to find suitable schools for our children, aged 3 and 1 years at the time of our move. I had several conversations with the local authority to understand the school attendance areas, and was assured that the property we were proposing to buy fell within the attendance area for Lilleshall Primary and the Newport schools for secondary education. My eldest child now attends Lilleshall Primary School, and my youngest child is currently at nursery school with a place reserved for Lilleshall pre-school when he turns 3, with the intention that he also then attends Lilleshall Primary. This is not only because of the excellent education that my eldest child has received to date, but also because it would prove impossible to ensure that two children arrive on time at two

separate schools, and also because friendships will have been forged at the pre-school with children who will undoubtedly feed into Yr R at Lilleshall Primary (something that I was very conscious of when our first child started at Lilleshall Primary as over 50% of the intake had attended the Pre-School and were therefore already familiar with their peers).

It was explained to us at the Muxton/Donnington Parish Council meeting on 13 December the reasoning for the proposed boundary changes to the attendance areas. Whilst these reasons are acknowledged, the inclusion of my postal address/property within the Muxton catchment has several flaws, which are set out below:

Distance travelled

I believe it is evident from the proposed amendments to the attendance areas that this has been a plan based exercise and is not rooted in an understanding of the attendance area on the ground. Lodge Road is accessed via Lilyhurst Road. Our closest school is Lilleshall School, at a distance of 2.9 miles and travel time of approximately 9 minutes, should we go by car, or a 15 minute cycle ride. Should the proposed changes go ahead without further amendment to the boundaries, our proposed school would be at a distance of 3.4 miles and a travel time of approximately 12 minutes by car. This distance would not be feasible via bike in a morning due to work commitments, as well as having to navigate additional, much busier roads without provision of a cycle path. Furthermore, I also believe that we should be encouraged to use sustainable methods to get our children to school, not making changes to attendance areas such that we are then dependent on car travel, on roads which are already busy and contributing further to climate change issues.

Similarly, such travel problems would also be evident when our children are of an age to select secondary schools, should we be moved from within the attendance area for Burton Borough. The current bus service, for which we assume we would pay the bus fare, would allow a simple and easy journey between Lilleshall and Newport of approximately 15mins, and an approximate 300m walk to the secondary schools along a well lit and populated road with numerous safe and formalised crossing points. Whilst the journey to Telford Priory would offer a bus journey of a similar duration, the subsequent walk to school would then be in the order of 0.5km along busier roads with no formalised crossing areas.

Together with these issues, I also feel it is very valid to consider the potential emotional impacts these changes could have on children. As outlined above, we elected to move into the area so that our children could attend Lilleshall Primary and then move onto one of the Newport secondary schools. Close friendships are formed at primary school, with the vast majority of children also then moving onto the same secondary school. With the proposed amendments we would be removed from the Newport school attendance area, therefore our children are not guaranteed a place within the Newport schools. This could mean that they potentially have to attend a school where they will have no friends within their school year, which can surely only be emotionally disruptive to the child.

I believe it is also worth noting that at the Parish Council meeting on 13 December, the proposed amendments to the attendance area for Burton Borough was considered somewhat irrelevant to Adams' Grammar school due to the selective process arrangements they have in place. However, should Adams' Grammar be oversubscribed, there are a number of oversubscription criteria that currently apply, as set out below:

Where the number of candidates who have achieved the required standard exceeds the number of places available, the following oversubscription criteria for 2017 will be applied to decide which children are to be admitted:

1. A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. A looked after child is a child who is either in the care of a local authority or being provided with accommodation by a local authority as defined in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 – for example children in residential homes or foster care.
2. Boys in receipt of Pupil Premium, including children of service families, on the day of the Entrance Test. Documentary evidence that the parent is in receipt of the appropriate support payment will be required.
3. Boys who live within the Newport Attendance Area.
4. Rank order according to the result of the entrance test (assuming the applicant has reached the required academic standard).

You will note that number 3 relates to the Newport attendance area. Should the proposed amendments to the attendance area for the Newport schools go ahead, we would be placed even further down the oversubscription criteria outlined above.

With reference to all of the comments made above, I believe it would be advisable to amend the Muxton boundary as it is currently proposed. My suggested amendment are outlined on the attached figure and summarised below:

1. Amend boundary to include small triangle of land within the Muxton attendance area
2. Amend the Muxton boundary so that properties on the south western side of Lilyhurst Road are included within the Lilleshall attendance area
3. Amend the Muxton boundary so that properties along Lodge Road are included within the Lilleshall attendance area

I look forward to all my comments being taken on board, and I hope that within the decision making process both practical and emotional issues are considered.

Hello

I have been reading your admissions document which states the Lilleshall and Muxton primary have a shared attendance area.

I was speaking to the head from Lilleshall school and she is under the impression that this shared attendance area is ending. Is this occurring for admission 2017 September or for 2018 admission.

Sorry I thought I had said in my original question. The Council are currently running a public consultation regarding their proposal to change the catchment area for Muxton Primary School. They are asking the public to complete an on line questionnaire. The number of completed questionnaires that have been submitted to the Council is what I'm interested in.

Good afternoon,

Can I please ask if I could have an update on the number of completed consultation questionnaires received by the Council in connection with the proposed Muxton school catchment area change?

Hello,

Could you tell me what the process and timeline will be once the public consultation regarding school catchment areas is complete. When will a decision be made public and how will it be announced?

Many thanks

Dear Councillors

We're writing to formally object to the above change of catchment area for Muxton children, removing BBS as catchment school and replacing with TPS.

We have 3 children at Muxton Primary and they are fortunate to be receiving a good education, and performing well at their school. As you know, TPS is an inadequate school and we don't want our children to go there. **We want them to go to a 'good' school**, such as BBS, in order to continue with their current standard of education.

Those years of secondary education are so precious and impact so greatly on any individual's future. We've personally put a lot of time and effort into supporting our children in their educational journey. So we're asking you please, don't ruin their future.

BBS isn't full yet, the new houses aren't built yet.

Our home is 2.5 miles away from TPS. It will take an hour for our young children to walk there. We've walked the route together and found it to be fraught with danger. **Kids are going to get run over - and to be frank it's a paedophile's paradise.**

Do you think about real children when making such decisions? I hope so. **Please think about <personal details removed>.**

Maybe one day TPS will be a good school, but our kids don't get those years back again. **We are relying on you to safeguard their future.**

Yours sincerely

All

I would like to express my strong objection to the proposed change to secondary school catchment areas affecting the Muxton area. By now you will be fully aware of the anger this has caused amongst Muxton parents and I would like to outline why this is:

1. Many families chose many years ago to live in Muxton because of the access to good schools it brings. Your proposal removes this. The Telford Priory School is not a comparable school to Burton Borough in terms of academic achievement. You are failing Muxton children by this in the same way as you are failing the children currently attending the Telford Priory school.
2. The Telford Priory School attendance start time would mean children walking a long route at 7am each morning, no matter what the weather. We are working parents trying to juggle jobs with childcare and more often than not cannot accompany our children on this trip, it's simply not practical. Are you available at 7am to walk 45-1 hour? I suspect not.
3. The timescales for your proposed change are very short, leaving families little or no time to consider their options.

There are other choices you could make, a shared catchment would remove the obligation for the transport provision, and longer term, greater investment in schools to raise their standards making them more appealing to parents that truly care about the quality of education.

I look forward to your response.

Dear Councillors

I am writing to formally object to the above change of catchment area for Muxton children, removing BBS as catchment school and replacing with TPS.

I have 3 children currently attending Muxton primary school, <personal details removed>.

I feel the proposed changes will have a negative impact on their education, as has been proven TPS is currently not at the same standard as Burton Borough. Currently the housing that will eventually take up space at BBS are not yet built meaning Muxton primary children can attend BBS without causing any problems.

Also I need to add the journey from Muxton to TPS on foot, which is part of the proposal (being closer and deemed walking distance) is extremely unsafe in my opinion. Travelling at peak traffic times across busy roads and walking through an underpass in the dark is not something I would allow to happen to my children, I won't allow my children to play outside any further than the end of my road for

fear of something happening to them so why would you expect me to put them in that danger every day. It also takes a minimum of 1 hour to walk to TPS which would have a further negative impact on my children as they would be exhausted at the end of the week!

I work in Birmingham and have for a few years now, my partner and I decided not to move out of Muxton due to the quality of education available to our children at Muxton Primary School and then going on to Burton Borough School. I know TPS isn't an adequate replacement yet for BBS as all the stats show, and while there is no space issue at BBS this change doesn't need to take place, it is denying my children the best possible chance in their lives for no other reason than a small cost saving.

On behalf of not only myself and my partner but also for <personal details removed>, please protect them and their futures.

Dear Cabinet Members, Local MP and Councillors,

We are writing to you with regard to the proposed secondary school catchment area changes for the Muxton, Donnington and Humbers area.

We have completed the online questionnaire which my husband and I felt was quite leading in how it was worded and therefore we could not really convey clearly enough the many concerns we have.

Your proposal to change the catchment from the Burton Borough school to the Telford Priory School we feel is an unacceptable alternative. The BBS is a good secondary school within Telford and Wrekin, children are achieving good grades for C and above, this however is not the case for the TPS. We therefore feel there is no justification to change the catchment on the principle that education outcomes are not the same. Our children deserve to continue receiving good quality education.

When we looked to purchase our home a key factor in buying was the excellent schools within the catchment area, at no point could we have imagined that this could be at risk in the future. The impact of such a change would we feel be of a detriment of all residents. It would impact on our children's education, their safety, social and emotional well being as well as property desirability and house prices being highly likely to be affected.

We feel like Telford and Wrekin Council are trying to rail road a decision through and therefore we feel undervalued as a residents.

Your decision will have huge ramifications, not just for my family but for most families within the current BBS catchment.

We feel the social and emotional impact on our children would have a very negative effect on them. They currently attend Lilleshall Primary school, they have strong friendship bonds, many of these children live in Lilleshall village. The bonds they have built would help in their transition to secondary school. With your new proposals they would no longer be in the same catchment area, it would be very upsetting for them.

Lilleshall School have lots of links with BBS and our children are already familiar with the school, they are settled in their minds that this is where they will go. We have shared numerous conversations with our children about their future and going to BBS secondary school has always been a part of these discussions. They are more prepared for this as their next step in school.

Our children are part of a cubs group which is within the Newport area and therefore they have formed friendships over time. If your proposal goes ahead we know how upset and worried our children would be. Please tell me why you think that these years of social bonding should be eliminated and why the comfort of knowing the school they are likely to go should be compromised?

Children's Safety we feel is of great concern. We live about 2 and a half miles from TPS. We understand you have completed a safe walk to school assessment, we feel this however is flawed and unacceptable.

We believe the assessment was done at 1.6 and 1.7 miles away from the school and completed during the morning. We have some questions on this assessment that we would appreciate your response on.

Firstly why has no assessment been done from the furthest point which we believe could be at the Humbers, (3 miles away from TPS). If your assessment took 40 minutes for a 1.6 mile walk then the children from Humbers would take approximately 1 hour and 20-30 minutes. Practically double the assessment.

From our house this is likely to take about 1hr 10 to TPS meaning the children would have to set out at 7-7.10am to ensure they were at school for the 8.25am registration. This in itself we feel is totally unacceptable. During winter months it would be pitch black outside. Can you advise that when safe walk to school assessment was done was this completed in the dark? If not why not? as this is what you are expecting our children to do.

We understand that when you look at safe walks to school routes the children have to have good visibility of traffic around islands from both directions, we feel they won't have this in the dark and therefore request you do an assessment that will actually reflect what you are expecting the children to do and also not from one of the shortest distances but from the furthest point.

We also understand that you do not have to consider a child's personal safety but only their road safety, however we feel that safeguarding is of such a high importance and this should be the case for you as a council also, irrespective that they will be 11 and deemed able to walk up to 3 miles to school.

These are our children and members of Telford and Wrekin we would like to think you care about their safety especially because We have the highest sexual exploitation claims in Britain and after being dubbed by national papers that Telford is the 'Child Sex Capital of Britain', We call upon you to please think about our children's welfare. Only last week we read of a child being approached by two men in a van and another having a male expose themselves to them whilst walking. There are many routes to TPS and some routes are secluded with underpasses close by, Humbers children have to cross a major trunk road (A518). These are areas we would not wish to walk, let alone our children.

Working families that would have relied upon the school bus as enabling their children get to and from school safety this would be stripped away. I personally work in Newport area and start at 8.30 so I could not take my children to school unless I leave my job. My husband works miles away and leaves at 7am so he would be unable to either. Our current situation gives us peace of mind to know they could get a school bus from around the corner which takes them direct to school. I do not have the luxury of not working and could not walk/transport them to school every day. Another concern is the time they finish school. TPS finishes at 2.30pm We feel this is too early for a secondary school. We would have to put them into after school clubs of which they wouldn't want to be in and at a cost.

The current bus that you provide to residents we understand is of a high cost but the peace of mind it provides is invaluable.

We would also like to know if the proposed changes were to go ahead, what happens to the children already in BBS? Will the bus not be available at all? If this is the case we instantly know of many neighbours that this would affect dramatically. Some single parent families that work. How would you propose they get children to school?

With regard to our children's education, Lilleshall school where our children currently go is 8th in the league for primary schools performance. They have high aspirations and children work hard and achieve. The education delivered is excellent. The BBS has a proven high quality education and we fear Our children's quality of education would suffer greatly if your proposals go ahead.

We feel there would also be an impact on house desirability and house prices. The schools currently Within our catchment are excellent schools and likely to be a key reason for people purchasing/moving in to the area. Changing the catchment to schools that are not achieving well we feel sure would impact on saleability of homes in the area and prices achieved. We therefore request that you look into this as such a serious decision could be of the detriment to homeowners within the current Humbers/Donnington/Muxton BBS catchment.

We recently saw a letter from Telford and Wrekin Council that was a response to safety concerns raised by another parent. We were horrified to read that it clearly stated "**TPS will be the new catchment School**". How

can such a statement be issued in a formal response, when we are supposed to be in a consultation? Please can you advise on this? I would also like to draw your attention to the Government principles on consultations process (www.gov.uk).

Consultations should have a purpose

Do not consult for the sake of it. Ask departmental lawyers whether you have a legal duty to consult. Take consultation responses into account when taking policy forward. Consult about policies or implementation plans when the development of the policies or plans is at a formative stage. Do not ask questions about issues on which you already have a final view.

So with the above principle in mind please can you answer how a notice from Telford and Wrekin has stated the TPS will be the new catchment area before the consultation has closed?.

We would also like to know what happens when all the new houses are built on the Wrockwardine Wood Site and Trench site as surely these extra houses will create a strain on TPS.

We would appreciate if you could acknowledge my letter and respond to all points raised.

Our children's futures are in your hands and we hope you consider what the residents real concerns are. Every child matters and we hope we've conveyed to you how worried and distressed we are about our children's future.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Hello

I am writing to you to express my concern of your proposed catchment changes in Muxton.

I live in Muxton and I have 3 children, 2 of them attend Lilleshall primary school. I have a 1 year old who I assumed would be able to attend the same school once she turns 4. This is very worrying to me that this could possibly not happen now if your changes occur.

In addition once my children are the age to go to a secondary school I am also very concerned of the change proposed for that. I have seen the images of the route you expect the children to take on a daily bus which personally I feel is unsafe and also too far. I would personally find a way to get them there myself so with this in mind I don't understand why you would change the option of children going to Burton Borough (BB) or TPS regardless of cancelling the school bus to BB.

I am a student nurse and we are trained the concept of person centred care meaning the patient is at the heart of what we do and this also involves informed choices. With this in mind this should be used when thinking about the children who are the future and what is important to them and giving them choices not what saves money.

Another point is the issue of increased emissions of children being brought to school by car which also impacts the school traffic around the school. Car sharing is not an option for me as my car is full on a school run.

Furthermore, these children have built bonds with children in their classes over the years and this could be possibly broken due to saving money. Some children may choose to go to TPS for reasons to suit them but why take away this choice as a quick fix for the council. I feel this can be an additional negative impact on children's mental wellbeing which is a raising concern for the NHS and also there is not enough services for this demand. Moving up to secondary can be a

stressful time for most children as it is and adding this change could add additional stress for some children.

I hope that you really consider the points raised and use these to rethink about the decision. We all should think about the children and provide them with the best possible future. Showing them that everything isn't about saving money and that their education, health and wellbeing is important and these need to be protected.

Dear Sirs,

I am a parent of a pupil at Muxton Primary School. Although my son is only in reception year, I am deeply concerned about the proposed changes to the school catchment areas that looks to effectively 'swap' Burton Borough for TPS.

Having attended Burton Borough myself, along with my younger brother and sister and stepfather, I know the quality of the school and quite frankly TPS does not even come close to the high standards of BBS. I know schools need to be given time to improve, but I feel aggrieved for the parents of the older children at Muxton Primary, who will be first affected by this decision. TPS will not have improved sufficiently by then.

I understand the issues around growing student numbers in the Newport area, but surely there is room for the idea of a shared catchment area? I gather that Lilleshall are already in the plans for the BBS catchment area going forward?

I am also concerned from a safety perspective, in terms of my son having to walk to TPS. I have seen the photos from the walks undertaken by families at Muxton Primary and I am appalled at the response from the council that the journeys do not appear to pose any issues whatsoever. The pictures certainly don't paint that picture and it is worrying that the concerns appear to have been dismissed so easily. If cost is an issue, I, along with many other parents would be willing to supplement the bus service to and from Newport.

I implore you to consider a shared catchment for Muxton Primary and Burton Borough - to at the very least allow us more choice as parents.

Thank you for your time.

Good afternoon,

I am the Chair of Muxton Action Group that has been campaigning for a review of the catchment changes that are currently planned. We have been to Parish and full council meetings and care passionately about our children having a good quality education.

As you will have seen from the various press coverage and our attendance at Parish as well as full council meetings, the strength of feeling amongst Muxton Parents is high. We are very concerned about the proposed catchment changes and their potential impact on our children's educations and future prospects.

I would like to share with you the rationale behind our concerns. The overriding point is that we all want our children to be able to access to good quality education that meets their individual needs.

I will cover each of the reasons cited for these changes and our views on them in turn,.

The first reason cited is that significant financial savings would be made for the council, as cancelling the 4 buses which are currently supplied to get Muxton Pupils to Burton Borough each day, will save the council £40,000 per bus per year. However the fact is that these savings will not actually materialize for some years, as there will still be an ongoing requirement for the council to supply transport to those currently attending the school. So these savings are a long way off in reality.

Clearly having buses to transport children to school minimizes congestion and ensures our children get to school safely, losing this is a key concern for us with regards to safeguarding our children, especially for working families and those who have no alternative method of getting their children to school.

In reviewing the ability to deliver children safely to Telford Priory School, council documents state that the assessment of a safe route assumes adult supervision. The walking route to TPS from Muxton is a long and in places dangerous journey, having walked the route myself I can categorically say that I wouldn't feel happy for my children to walk it alone, I know that many other parents feel the same way. I attach a copy of the photos we took of the walking route. You have reassessed the route but:

- a) Chose the closest point to the TPS
- b) Paid no attention to the fact that although there are tarmac paths many are covered by bushes and trees, not visible from the road, poorly lit and dangerous underpasses were part of the route.

In modern working families, very few have the luxury of being able to walk their children to school each day. But even if a parent were free to accompany their child, the route from Muxton to TPS has been timed at 1 hour each way, when starting from the school gates of Muxton Primary, so this would mean around 4 hrs of that parents day would be spent walking to and from school! Lets also not forget the logistics of getting any potential siblings to school at other locations.. the proposed change in catchment will inevitably create logistical problems for many local parents and could compromise our children's safety.

For these reasons, the majority of us feel that the only viable option to get our children to school safely if these changes are implemented, will be by car, so as a direct result of this decision, many additional car journeys will be made each day, adding to congestion, environmental pollution and putting even more pressure on parking and drop off areas around the school.

I would also like to address the issue of pressure on places at Burton Borough due to new housing.

The key for us is choice. So my following points, along with those above, will support our argument for a shared catchment, which would see Muxton included within catchment for both Burton Borough and Telford Priory School, this being the most fair and sensible solution at the current time..

A shared catchment would meet the requirement to increase parental choice as set out by the education act, giving parents the freedom to choose the school which best suits their child's needs.

It would also provide the desired financial savings for the council, as the nearest suitable school would be under 3 miles, thereby negating the councils obligation to provide funded transport.

So what argument do we have to support this view? Publicly available statistics have shown that local governments have consistently underperformed on meeting their housing targets , so your points in various documents regarding the pressure on places in light of housing demand, does not stack up as an imminent threat.

We are not stating there should be no change, but at this point in time, changes are being applied when the housing situation is fluid.

Changes should be implemented when there is a clearer view of what the true impact will be on the educational system rather than one couched in language such as "may" and "potentially".

In addition we also understand, according to cabinet minutes that an additional 150 places were added to Burton Borough in order to allow it to develop post 16 provision, but will not be used, and by the councils own admission likely to be added to the mainstream school. This is an additional class. These numbers mean that Burton Borough (which is not oversubscribed at the moment) has enough places to take out of area pupils as well as take into account current additional demand on the school for secondary education.

Another area of concern is the ability of the Borough to meet their obligation to promote high educational standards and to ensure fair access to educational opportunity.

Muxton's current catchment school, Burton Borough is a proven school, which is currently rated as good by Ofsted. Telford Priory School is a new and unproven school, which is currently rated as inadequate . To take our children out of catchment for a good school and put them into catchment for an inadequate school will undoubtedly have a negative impact on their education and therefore their future prospects.

The Ofsted parent view shows a very low level of satisfaction for parents and pupils, highlighting significant issues in the school. .Would it not be fairer to wait until TPS has reached a stage where it can promote high educational standards and 'fulfill our children's educational potential's' BEFORE moving our children there?

To support this argument we would also need to look at exam results. InTPS 40% pupils achieving a grade C or better in English and maths , compared to 64% at Burton Borough at GCSE.

The attainment 8 score for TPS is 41.8 points, compared to 50.4 points for Burton Borough.

So the results back up our argument, Telford Priory School does not offer a comparable quality of education to that currently offered by Burton Borough.

In summary, If we have a shared catchment area it gives the school time to improve, saves the council the transport funds, allows parents the choice between the schools based on what suits their children.



Hi,

I am writing about the proposals to change the Muxton School catchment area from Burton Borough to TPS.

I am against these proposals as I will have to send my (just) 11 year old daughter to walk to school and back each day (approx. 5.2 miles each day!). This walk will involve her going on unlit footpaths and down alleyways as well as going through an underpass. She will have to leave the house at 7.30 in the morning when in the winter it will still be dark.

I would like to see a shared catchment to give us the choice of going to TPS or Burton Borough, if this is not possible then I would like it to remain as Burton Borough.

Last year there were 53 places available out of area for the Burton Borough School. 30 children went from Muxton School (Burton Borough's biggest single intake of children) this would mean that there was 83 places available out of area this year if Muxton was taken out of catchment. If you look at TPS there were 226 children who applied to the school last year (there are 240 places), this would mean if the 30 Muxton children went there it would be oversubscribed by 16 children. The numbers going to TPS don't make any logical sense.

If the issue is about Burton Borough being oversubscribed in the next 2-3 years then I can't see it happening as I can't believe there is going to be 83 new children going there due to the new houses. Maybe in 10-15 years there will be but not anytime soon. Additionally if it's a money issue all Muxton parents I have spoken to are willing to contribute/pay for their child to go on the organised bus.

I hope you see the points of view of all the parents when you make your decision.

If you would like to speak to me about my concerns then please feel free to message me back and I will reply by email or telephone you.

Further to the recently announced proposals regarding catchment area changes in Muxton. I share the worries of fellow residents of Muxton that were raised in the meeting held December 12th regarding the safety of the children walking to school. I would be surprised if any parent would willingly allow an 11 - 16 year old child to walk this route unsupervised, especially on a dark morning or an evening following an after school club similar activity. However, given the nature of your proposal and the school hours currently adopted by Telford Priory School that is the reality that will be facing many children as their parents will be left without alternative due to work commitments and the needs of their other children. In addition to this, I do believe that you will be pleasantly surprised at how many parents will be willing to contribute towards some or all of the transport costs involved in maintaining the current bus service between Muxton and Newport, I would certainly be prepared to cover the full cost for my Daughter who is currently in Year 4 at Muxton Primary School.

Furthermore, I am not wholly convinced that Telford Priory School can currently offer the same level of academic provision for my Daughter as Burton Borough School will be able to, and firmly believe that I should still be offered the choice between the two as our catchment schools. As a family we feel that we have a personal connection with Burton Borough as my two elder Daughters attended and my middle Daughter is a current pupil there. We would not wish for my youngest Daughter to be offered a different opportunity to that which her Sisters had enjoyed given the evidence that we have from the current league tables. Indeed, from her earliest days at school my youngest has mentally prepared to attend "Borough" (as it is known in our house) and follow in the footsteps of her Sisters in secondary education.

To conclude, I do firmly believe that a shared catchment area in Muxton that includes both Telford Priory School and Burton Borough School would be a compromise that would best serve the interests of both the local authority and the Muxton Primary pupils. Along with all the other attendees at the meeting on Monday December 12th, plus many more who were unable to attend, I would be most grateful if you could give this revised solution your full endorsement.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this matter in more detail.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposals to change Muxton's School catchment area.

I feel that taking the children off a safe school bus and making them walk a clearly dangerous 2.5mile/ 1hr each way route, sometimes in darkness during winter is completely irresponsible,

this is an accident or abduction waiting to happen. Please let's put children's safety above savings that are in reality a long way off.

The educational standards at Telford Priory School are way below that which is currently provided by Burton Borough, recently release league tables certainly back that up. So if this change goes ahead as proposed it will undoubtedly have a negative impact on Muxton children's educations and therefore also their future prospects.

These are real children, not numbers on a spread sheet or Guinea pigs who can be shuffled from pillar to post in order to fill empty spaces or help raise standards at an underperforming school. These children will have one chance at their education, let's give them the best possible chance they can have.

As parents we would like to retain the freedom to choose the school which best suits our children's needs. Many of us moved to Muxton specifically because of the educational pathway it offered, this change is throwing many local families long term life plans into jeopardy, already people in the area are selling up and moving away, all this before a final decision has even been made!

For all of these reasons I propose that a shared catchment would be the fairest solution at this given time. A shared catchment would see Muxton's catchment area grow to include both TPS and Burton Borough, that way parents can chose the school they and their child prefers, safe in the knowledge that they will be assured a place at their preferred school.

This solution would certainly make most sense to me, especially baring in mind that the housing situation is so fluid at the moment, these decisions are being proposed based on houses and pupils that don't exist yet, there are currently enough places for Muxton Children at Burton Borough and with the unused sixth form places that could be utilised in general population, there are enough places for the future also. So why not leave this option open to us until there really is no other alternative?

This option would also give the much needed time that TPS needs to raise its standards and become a school that parents would want to chose for their children.

Im sure you all will have noticed the children who attended your council meeting last week with their hand made placards, I think you'll all agree that they sat quietly and behaved impeccably, these children listened to every word you all said and took it all in, this consultation has been their first experience of politics and democracy, they will feel the impact of your decision possibly for the rest of their lives. We think that we have offered a fair and reasonable compromise in the shared catchment idea, so please show these children that you, our council are compassionate, fair and that you do listen to what residents want. These children are after all the voters and perhaps politicians of the future and right now their future is in your hands, please handle with care!

Please find attached some detailed comments on Telford and Wrekin Councils proposed changes to school attendance areas which will have a **SIGNIFICANT IMPACT** on our family and other Muxton residents.

We trust that the council will carefully take into consideration all the points raised in this letter when making their final decision.

(attachment from original e mail printed separately)

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to take this opportunity as my local cabinet members to hear how strongly I feel about the proposed changes to the Muxton catchment area.

As a parent of two small children I should have the right/freedom to select the secondary school which suits my children's needs. I feel the proposals reduce my choice's as a parent and as a resident of Telford & Wrekin this worries me.

I appreciate the proposals are also based on a "cost cutting" exercise for the council to stop paying to transport children to Burton Borough from Muxton which I get, totally! As an individual who chose to have children, it is my duty to get "my children" to school, using whatever way is necessary and pay for it myself.

However this would not mean I would be happy for my children to walk the route that I walked to TPS from Muxton, by themselves or with me a few weeks ago! If you believe this meets your "Safer Routes to School project", this worries me. On a weekly basis we are receiving emails about as yet, failed abductions of children walking home from Telford & Wrekin schools, I know this is out of our control and you would agree a worrying time for both schools and parents at the moment. But please do not take this one freedom of protecting my children away from me by not giving me the choice of which secondary school my children attend.

I am well aware of neighbouring schools and their suitability for my children and I am well informed to know which secondary is right for them and which is not. Having this freedom to protect the most precious things I own removed from me purely based on which postcode I live in, is extremely upsetting and a terrifying prospect for a looming decision that I am soon to take.

I believe there should be a shared catchment which would see Muxton's catchment area to include **BOTH** Burton Borough and Telford Priory. This would give parents the choice to send their children to whichever school is right for their child's needs.

So I urge you again to please consider putting Muxton in a shared catchment which would include BOTH Burton Borough and Telford Priory. Thank you

Dear all,

I am a resident of Muxton and I am very concerned about the current proposed changes to the school catchment areas in Telford.

My main concern is that if the proposed changes are implemented the children of Muxton will have to attend a school which is not comparable to the current catchment area school.

Education is a priority for my family. I regularly read in the media about people in other areas of the UK being able to access good quality education which is fit for the global economy and enables them to enhance their life chances. I do not feel that my son would be able to access such an education at the proposed catchment area school.

Telford and Wrekin is expanding rapidly and there does not appear to have been sufficient expansion of the town's infrastructure to cope with these changes. It does seem unjust that people will be able to move into the area and access a better level of education than those who have lived in Telford for many years.

My son is a pupil at Lilleshall Primary School. If the proposed catchment area changes go ahead his class is likely to be split up. When his class leave primary school friendships and bonds will be lost.

The current catchment area school offers certain opportunities in areas such as music. Some of these opportunities are not available at the proposed catchment area school.

I have contacted you as I care deeply about my son's future education. My wife and I try really hard to educate him and he is making good progress at school. All that I am asking is that he is able to access good quality secondary education. I am not sure that the proposed catchment area school can offer such an education.

I am concerned as the majority of Telford and Wrekin borough councillors chose to ignore the residents of Muxton at the recent council meeting in Oakengates and I feel that you have already decided to change the catchment area. Please understand that those families who were present only want the best for their children.

The consultation process is having a significant effect on our community and my wife and I are currently considering our future in Telford and Wrekin.

Please could you let me know your thoughts on this matter and what we can do to secure a good education for our son.

Hello I am one of the parent of the children that are currently at the Muxton primary school. I am writing to you to express my concern over the prospects of the current transport arrangements and catchment areas for Burton borough in Newport. As you are well aware the route to the school is difficult to travel especially for any child with a disability, my eldest daughter that does manage to currently use the coach service is classed as mentally disabled. She would find it extremely distressing having to walk to set routes that you have proposed. Also I Have a younger daughter who is about to go to Burton borough that will of spent one year adjusting to the school while this decision is being made and would then either be left with the ultimatum of leaving a school she has adjusted to causing disruption to her education or for me to some how find an alternative for of transport which is highly unlikely. My eldest daughter has had enough trauma over the last year and has sever mental health issues and I do fear that the council would be partially to blame for contributing to her anxiety and distress with these unacceptable changes to her currently safe route to school using the coaches which promote some sense of independence for her. My other concerns are the over safety of the walking route to TPS especially during the wi yet months in the dark. As well as the lower academic attainment achieved at TPS in comparison to BB you are asking parents to send their children where they know they won't achieve their full potential purely based on the school they go to, so we end up failing our children by not supporting them to gain their full potential through adequate education of our choosing. There should be Support for a shared catchment area between TPS and BBS gvibg parents the choice and providing the opportunity for parents and their children to decide on the best school for their individual circumstances.

I hope that you can see the detrimental effects that your decision has on every child within both schools catchment areas taking into account less advantaged and disabled children which you appear to be neglecting in your current proposal.