

No cost saving exercise should be more important than our children's safety and welfare!

North Lanarkshire - School Transport Consultation

**This WILL impact everyone in CUMBERNAULD
INCREASED cars in/around school/local area
INCREASED risk to child safety!**

We urge you and everyone you know to respond to this consultation.

It was stated at the Public Consultation meeting "The only way we will hear your voice/views is via the consultation process"

Please spare a few minutes read through following questions and you will then be directed to the section, which highlights why **ALL OUR PUPILS** and **local residents** will be affected by this proposal if it is implemented.

The proposal will mean **278** pupils will lose their free transport to school. At the end of this page you will find information on how you can quickly object to the proposal **PLEASE GIVE YOUR SUPPORT TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL OUR PUPILS!**

To help us ensure that GHS Parent Forum and Local Residents ensure North Lanarkshire Council know that we are **against this proposal** - here is a guide on how to find the link to submit your objections.

1. My child currently uses School Transport - go to **section 1**
2. My child currently uses Public Transport - go to **section 2**
3. My child is taken to school by car using the school car park - go to **section 3**
4. My child is taken to school by car and is dropped off in the surrounding area - go to **section 4**
5. My child walks to school - go to **section 5**
6. I am a resident - go to **section 6**

1. **School Transport** - you should have received a consultation document in the post. Here are some points we think you should raise:-

- Personal safety is not a criteria considered when deciding if a walking route is safe
- Due to the design of Cumbernauld many walking routes are isolated
- When NLC assess walking routes they will not take into account - speed and volume of traffic or the impact on air quality and it will be completed by NLC employees and not an independent organization
- This process is not means tested - some parents can not afford the option of public transport or to do so would impact their weekly shopping bill
- Some parents may need to give up work to be able to escort children to school
- A few years ago a girl was raped on the walking route linking both sides of the motorway
- To walk to school many pupils will have to pass other Schools which may lead to confrontation
- 3miles -carrying heavy school bags - is not conducive to learning
- if accompanied by an adult - there and back - 12 miles covered (=4hrs) - Are you fit or have time for work?
- bad weather = wet clothing worn - compromising learning - no changing or cloakroom facilities.
- Parents of children attending both primary and secondary schools - can't walk in two different directions?
- Poor or no gritting of walk ways will compromise safety further.
- Cumbernauld is also unique in that it is the only town divided by a motorway and there is no provision for a non-denominational school on the highest populated side of the town
- No guarantees for an increased public transport provision
- Breakfast Clubs are to be stop next year - no early drop available
- There is already a lack of lollipop patrols and pedestrian crossings
- How is this Getting It Right for Every Child?!
- Carbon Footprint - increased carbon emission - buses which can take up to 70 pupils v's possible 278 cars
- Tired children from a long walk will not reach their full potential - this will widen the Attainment Gap!

2. Public Transport - as you are already aware the public transport service to the school is extremely poor, in particular with the differing end of school day timetable. Here are some points we think you should raise:-

- if the proposal goes ahead - more children will be looking to use public transport on a very busy and limited service already. And there are no guarantees of increased service.
- NLC are only in discussions with SPT and there are no guarantees for an increased public transport provision
- The Central Way A8011 bus stop is already a cause for concern with the large number of pupils waiting for a bus at the end of the school day
- Many children already can't get on buses or have to wait long periods for buses

3. School Carpark - our school car park is already over capacity at the end of the day. Here are some points we think you should raise:-

- From August this year we already had severe issues in our car park with parents/carers queuing on the A73 to access the car park and Police in attendance - This will only get worse and become even more dangerous
- The loss of 278 free transport place will have a huge impact on our car park and the safety of our pupils
- A child has already been knocked down in our car park this year
- Carbon Footprint - increased carbon emission - buses which can take up to 70 pupils v's possible 278 cars

4 . Car drop off in surrounding area - our school car park is already over capacity and many parents choose to use the local areas for a safer area to stop and drop off. Here are some points we think you should raise:-

- The surrounding streets are already busy with pick up and drop offs
- Residents have already contacted the school regularly to complain about parents using their streets for drop off as many park and then walk the last part of the journey (an initiative supported and promoted by NLC - Park and Stride)
- Residents often blocked in their homes

- More cars will cause traffic congestion and with people short of time to get to work "tempers do become raised!"
- Carbon Footprint - increased carbon emission - buses which can take up to 70 pupils v's possible 278 cars

5. Walking to school - you may think - this does not concern me - my child can walk however - Here are some points we think you should raise:-

- Carbon Footprint - increased carbon emission - buses which can take up to 70 pupils v's possible 278 cars. Your child will be impacted by increased pollution.
- Your once quiet walking route will become extremely busy and more traffic will mean roads and junctions are busier and more dangerous to cross
- The surrounding streets are already busy with pick up and drop offs
- Residents have already contacted the school regularly to complain about parents using their streets for drop off as many park and then walk the last part of the journey (an initiative supported and promoted by NLC - Park and Stride)
- More cars will cause traffic congestion and with people short of time to get to work "tempers do become raised!"

6. Our local residents - have already shown great tolerance at the start and end of the school day! Here are some points we think you should raise:-

- Your once quiet street will become extremely busy as 278 pupils need to find a safe drop off point close to the school
- The school car park has already proved to be inadequate for the number of pupils attending the school - hence their choice to use local streets - Park and Stride
- Loss of places at all the local primary and secondary schools will cause gridlock!
- Carbon Footprint - increased carbon emission - buses which can take up to 70 pupils v's possible 278 cars

HOW TO OBJECT!

Firstly, click on the following link:

<http://northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schooltransport>

then scroll down and click on

[Secondary transport consultation](#)

then scroll down and click on

Contact Us

[Send a message to Secondary transport consultation](#)

Please then input your personal details

The comments/questions section is currently limited to 400 words - at the Public Consultation on Tuesday 28th November we asked for this to be increased. (if this is not done ... please feel free to send more than once to have your comments heard)

Feel free to copy paste our suggested objections, however we would also be grateful if you could input your own personal circumstances/views concerning these proposals.

We urge to also lodge your objection with your local councilor - who should be voting against this proposal on your behalf.

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=15652>

Many, many thanks for hopefully getting to the end of this lengthy information bulletin. Please, please take 5 minutes of your time to air your views and we thank you in advance for supporting our campaign to say NO!

If require assistance in completing your objection - please contact

ghsparentcouncil@hotmail.com

Our next meeting is on Monday 29th January and we always happy to see new faces at our meetings. ☺

Kind regards
Greenfaulds High School Parent Council