

**Wiltshire Council**

**Cabinet**

**13 September 2011**

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**Public Participation  
Item No. 6 - Denominational Home to School Transport**

**Statement from Sarah Westhoff**

I am writing again about the cuts to Denominational transport that Wiltshire Council are intending to make in September 2012 because I am really worried about the huge effect it will have on my family.

We are aware and we are also very grateful for the transport subsidy we have received to date but we are obviously very concerned that if this was to stop it would make a huge financial difference to our family. My husband's total earnings for this year was £17833.82 so as you can imagine with our second child starting at St Augustine's this September we are going to find paying the extra extremely hard.

I do understand that some would say it was our choice to send our children to St Augustine's and not our local school, Lavington. As a practising Catholic family we feel very strongly that our children receive a Catholic education and unfortunately Trowbridge is the nearest Catholic secondary school in this area.

If these cuts are made we will have to seriously consider changing schools, which would have a detrimental effect on our children's education and would surely be a great concern to an already oversubscribed Lavington school.

Please can I ask you to take our families circumstances into account before you make your final decision?

This isn't just about next year or the year after, it's about the rest of their lives.

Please stand by what Wiltshire Council say `Where everybody matters`.

Thank you for your time

Sarah Westhoff