

24<sup>th</sup> October 2003

Ms Alison Lawrence  
Education Support Services Manager  
Environmental Services Department  
Wiltshire County Council  
County Hall  
TROWBRIDGE  
BA14 8BF

Dear Ms Lawrence

**Re: Consultation Exercise – Patney Pupils – PT/AL/3400/desa**

Thank you for your letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> September outlining the proposal from four families living in Patney to amend the County Council's transport arrangements.

After due consideration by the governors we find the proposal unacceptable for the following reasons:

- Devizes School is the closest school to the homes of these families and therefore should remain the designated school.
- The exception that a neighbouring parish (Chirton) also receive free transport to Lavington School is only allowed due the fact that Lavington School is actually closer to these homes than Devizes School. As you say in your letter, this is not the case in Patney.
- If the transport policy is to be applied equitably throughout the county then families living in Patney should not be re-designated to Lavington School.
- As I understand it, Lavington School is currently full in all year groups. Devizes School is currently full in Y10 but well short of its full capacity in all other year groups. Re-designation would therefore be contributing to a worsening of this accommodation problem.

Yours sincerely

**Malcolm Irons**  
**Headteacher**

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28 OCT 2003

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26 October 2003

Ms. Alison Lawrence  
Education Support Services Manager  
Wiltshire County Council  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8BF

Dear Ms. Lawrence,

Thank you for your communication dated 24 September concerning the Consultation Exercise on the transport entitlement for pupils living in Patney.

All members of the Parish Council have been consulted and agree, unanimously, that the request for a change of designated secondary school for transport entitlement only should be granted and that Lavington rather than Devizes should become the designated school.

The route taken by the bus to Lavington is slightly shorter than the main road to Devizes but, in any case, the bus passes Lavington on its way to Devizes so that it would make sense to grant free transport to Patney as well as Chirton children. In addition the bus already travels through Patney on its way to Chirton.

One other important point, which should not be overlooked, is that Chirton is the designated Primary School for Patney children and therefore, as Chirton School pupils they should receive the same entitlement as those living in Chirton.

On behalf of the Parish Council I request that this matter is resolved to the benefit of the children living in Patney.

Yours sincerely, ,



A. N. PARTRIDGE  
CHAIRMAN - PATNEY PARISH COUNCIL

c.c. The Rt. Hon. Michael Ancram, Q.C., M.P.



The Spring  
Market Lavington  
DEVIZES  
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6<sup>th</sup> October 2003

Ms. Alison Lawrence,  
Director of Environmental Services,  
County Hall,  
TROWBRIDGE,  
Wilts.  
BA14 8BF.

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Dear Alison Lawrence,

Thank you for your letter of consultation re transport from Patney. I fully support the change proposed, giving pupils living in Patney an entitlement to free transport to Lavington School.

You know from years of correspondence from me that I have long argued for the Patney pupils to have the same opportunity as the others attending Chirton School. That is, the opportunity to attend Devizes or Lavington and have transport provided.

I note on your map that Chirton is shown as having transport entitlement to Devizes and Patney to Lavington. I find this a little misleading as your letter explains that transport is provided to Lavington as well as Devizes from Chirton, and the proposal for Patney is the same. Would it not be better to show these Parishes designated (for transport entitlement) for both secondary schools.

Yours sincerely,

*Martin Watson*

Martin Watson  
Headteacher

October 27<sup>th</sup> 2003

Alison Lawrence  
Wiltshire County Council  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire BA14 8BF

RECEIVED  
28 OCT 2003

Dear Ms Lawrence,

Consultation Exercise

I refer to your letter of September 24<sup>th</sup> asking for comments on the proposal to change the designated secondary school for Patney pupils to Lavington from Devizes.

Chirton Parish Council have no objection to this proposal, which seems entirely sensible, provided that it will in no way affect the position of pupils from Chirton.

Yours sincerely,



John Clarkson  
Chairman, Chirton Parish Council