

12. PETITION - WESTER INCH SCHOOL BUS TO BATHGATE ACADEMY

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services asking the panel to consider a petition submitted by residents of Wester Inch requesting the introduction of a school bus between Wester Inch and Bathgate Academy and to provide a recommendation to Council Executive.

It was recommended that the panel :-

1. Notes the submission of the petition;
2. Notes that the public transport budget was fully committed within the current financial year;
3. Notes that the existing school transport provision within the Wester Inch was in line with the Transport to and from Schools Mainstream Policy ;
4. Notes and considers the following recommendation which was intended to be submitted to the Council Executive for approval :-
 - “It was recommended that Council Executive instructs officers to respond to the petition stating that the request of the petition could not be met”.

In considering the terms of the report Councillor Robert De Bold stated that it was the opinion of the West Lothian SNP Group that the council had not taken public opinion into consideration on the matter.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report;
2. To note that the report would be presented to a future meeting of the Council Executive with an officer recommendation that the requirements of the petition could not be met as the budget for public transport was fully committed; and
3. To note the comments of Councillor Robert De Bold.