

Q1 Assessment and calculation of routes

Answered: 5 Skipped: 4

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Not comprehensive enough, it's not just roads that are hazardous. We have one of the busiest railway crossings in our town (Church Stretton) because alot of school children use it to get to access school	1/16/2023 7:59 PM
2	It is wrong to not consider lack of street lights, children could be expected to walk up to 3 miles on roads with no streetlights, this adds substantially to the risk of them being hit or tripping on the route due to not being able to see clearly.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
3	"Suitable walking surface" needs clearer definition and should reflect how the seasons may affect this. Otherwise agree and a sensible policy.	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
4	I would be interested to know if this mapping system goes off the postcode or not as being in a rural setting ours takes you 0.2 miles around the hill.	1/5/2023 2:17 PM
5	Much more investment into safe cycle and walking across Shropshire please	1/4/2023 3:56 PM

Q2 Timing of Assessments

Answered: 3 Skipped: 6

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	You need to take into account the fact a child may reach a dangerous point in the route later in the day when commuters are leaving work so it truly represents what the child will encounter.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
2	Again the reasonableness of the assessment needs to take account of the season. eg Winter months may make the journey easier because of oncoming vehicle lights but harder because of a lack of rural roads street lighting.	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
3	Will the assessor also take into account the speed in which a child walks and factor that into when they themselves walk those routes?	1/5/2023 2:17 PM

Q3 Accompaniment

Answered: 3 Skipped: 6

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	It's not fair to assume that a dangerous route can be mitigated by a parent's accompaniment. There are many single parent families where the parent has to work, and are unable to accompany the child.	1/16/2023 7:59 PM
2	If an adult accompanies a child on a 3 mile walk then they would need to walk 3 miles home again, making 12 miles a day - that is totally unreasonable! Also forcing an adult to accompany a child may mean taking a vulnerable toddler in a pushchair as well which could be difficult on routes with hard to access refuges.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
3	The third paragraph of this policy seems to be harsh put alongside policies to get people into work. Is there a sensible compromise?	1/5/2023 3:02 PM

Q4 Risks

Answered: 7 Skipped: 2

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Not comprehensive enough. What about other forms of hazard. Railway, canal .. etc	1/16/2023 7:59 PM
2	Lack of lighting is a serious risk, some points of a walking route may regularly flood in times of high rainfall and be impassable for pedestrians, this should also be taken into account. The total length of the route should be taken into account as risks will increase with distance.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
3	Once a child has left home, does the Authority or the school have a duty of care? Certainly, schools have no means to execute this.	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
4	Weather conditions should play a factor especially when roads are ungritted. In Winter our roads could be icy all season. Children as well as adults physically wouldn't be able to get down or up the roads. Not even factoring in the potential risk if a car came along and can't stop. With no verges where do you go in that scenario? I'm sure the council wouldn't allow a child to be off school for the majority of winter?! Also difficult terrain should also be considered. At what point is too much. Almost 2 miles walking up the highest hill in the county just to get home in some of the worst or even best weather. Be it being battered by wind and rain or scorching temperatures. It's just too much for primary school children and most adults. It could double a journey. So 45 minutes - 1hour suddenly becomes 1.5 hours! I would be interested to see how fast they think a child can walk and see if that is taken into consideration.	1/5/2023 2:17 PM
5	I have been told that my children cannot be picked up directly from our house due to a risk assessment carried out by the council to say it is unsafe for a driver to drive up the lanes. We are entitled to transport as live more than 2 miles from the school and are in the catchment area. But a neighbour has been told they cannot get transport to a high school as the route is deemed safe to walk. How can a route be safe for a child to walk and not for a minibus to drive on.	1/5/2023 8:51 AM
6	Lower Heath CE Primary School is situated on the B5065, which us a 60 mile an hour road - very long and straight - so vehicles get up quite some speed along it. There are no pathways along this road. There is a 30 mile an hour speed limit outside of the school. However, this is often broken. We used to have a 30 mile an hour 'light up' sign but this was knocked down before Christmas and has not been replaced. Traffic at the beginning and end of the day is difficult to manage and I am concerned there may be a serious accident at some point Something really needs to be done.	1/3/2023 4:59 PM
7	Volume of traffic along Longden Road alongside very dangerous ambulance traffic is a tragedy waiting to happen with two large secondary schools in close proximity.	1/3/2023 4:46 PM

Q5 Street Lighting

Answered: 3 Skipped: 6

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	As already stated, length of street lighting is a serious risk as it also increases the risk of pedestrians stumbling and falling into the road.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
2	This element seems reasonable.	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
3	Limited	1/3/2023 4:59 PM

Q6 Road Accident Data

Answered: 5 Skipped: 4

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Agree	1/16/2023 7:59 PM
2	This should be considered, but even in areas with low rates these may increase if they are relied on too much to indicate the route as safe and more children are forced to walk.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
3	Road accident data is worrying as a criterion. Near accidents eg dangerous hidden corners also need evaluation.	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
4	All it takes is 1 car for a fatality or injury. I don't think Road Accident Data is relevant. Assessors should be able to see for themselves the risks and practicalities of a route.	1/5/2023 2:17 PM
5	There was apparently a serious accident a few years ago when a child crossed the road after getting off a school bus and was knocked down.	1/3/2023 4:59 PM

Q7 Crossing Points

Answered: 5 Skipped: 4

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	As above - not just road crossing points. Level crossings should be included.	1/16/2023 7:59 PM
2	If the only crossing point is on a dangerous bend then this should be taken into account.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
3	Narrow country lanes may need multiple crossing points to better enable visibility visibility for both traffic and pedestrians.	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
4	There are no crossing points	1/3/2023 4:59 PM
5	A zebra crossing at the top of Bank Farm Road would help improve safety for pupils crossing to both Priory and Meole Brace.	1/3/2023 4:46 PM

Q8 Footways and Verges

Answered: 6 Skipped: 3

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The maintenance of hedges can severely impede children's routes to school. In our village we've had to ask for more frequent hedge trimming to ensure children dont have to walk in the road.	1/16/2023 7:59 PM
2	My child walks from the car park at Sevendale around to the bus bay which is on a busy road with children walking the same route to and from Wilfred Owen school. I feel it would be sensible to utilize some of Sevendale play ground to make a safer footpath for parents who park at Sevendale who choose to walk around to the bus bay gates to take their children to and from the school gates. There is enough playground to make a small cut through without causing disruption to the school. Occasionally children with special needs can be unpredictable and could run into the road in the path of fast moving traffic this would rectify this issue.	1/6/2023 7:20 PM
3	These need to be combined with overall distance, it's dangerous to expect children to walk more than s mile in the road with no street lighting.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
4	This seems sensible but it would be good to have collaboration with Highways for the maintenance of such refuges.	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
5	There is a small footway on the side nearest the school but nothing on the other side of the road.	1/3/2023 4:59 PM
6	Cycle paths on Longden Road need to be on both sides. The pavement next to Priory School needs a cycle path adding to avoid cyclists and pedestrians having to move into the road and cross over too many times.	1/3/2023 4:46 PM

Q9 Width of Road

Answered: 3 Skipped: 6

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	As well as width of road, visibly should be considered. It's very dangerous for pedestrians to be in the road round a blind bend on a narrow section of road.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
2	It would be good for the traffic count mentioned to encompass different seasons and the nature and speed of traffic. eg Rat runs often have very fast traffic and some roads have heavy vehicles.	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
3	Two car width.	1/3/2023 4:59 PM

Q10 Traffic Count

Answered: 4 Skipped: 5

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	This needs to be measured at the points and times when children are likely to encounter it. A child forced to walk 3 miles home may meet rush hour traffic near the end of their route.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
2	The point above is that its not just the number of vehicles but also the nature and speed of the traffic.	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
3	A traffic count is abit ridiculous. Some of the most hazardous roads are quieter roads as people tend to driver quicker assuming they won't meet a vehicle around a bend. These quieter road I.e country lanes also tend to be 60mph with no verges. Also it also depends on when the assessment is carried out. There can be other factors at play influencing traffic to be quieter or busier.	1/5/2023 2:17 PM
4	Unknown	1/3/2023 4:59 PM

Q11 Please use this space to provide any further general comments on the policy document

Answered: 4 Skipped: 5

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	As commented above, I dont think that the accompaniment criteria is fair or reasonable, Especially to single parent families. There are also more unsafe crossings than just road ones. Railways and fords for example.	1/16/2023 7:59 PM
2	It would have been nice to know what the changes are from the previous policy.	1/6/2023 6:05 PM
3	"Professional judgement" as stated, is needed and should be of high quality. Therefore CPD for appropriate officers is needed eg to take account of any changes, however minor, made to policy as a result of this consultation. Thank you for letting Shropshire folk have a say!	1/5/2023 3:02 PM
4	I have also complained about the risk assessment and raised it higher back in 2021 but noone has the courtesy to reply.	1/5/2023 8:51 AM