

COMMUNITY FORUM

Question	Response Received	Officer details
<p>Mr B Efde, Great Wakering</p> <p>Further to the statement by County Cllr Roy Pearson that ‘We can’t tell people living on flood plains what’s been done to them as they would become upset’ and former Emergency Planning officer’s statement that ‘the Council is under no obligation to pre-ward all prospective buyers or owners that their insurance policy could be jeopardised by the existing flood risk. These are not Council obligations.’ Does the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 allow this behaviour and, if so, why?</p>	<p>In relation to Mr Prior's previous statement, the Civil Contingencies act 2004 places no obligation on the Council to pre-warn all prospective buyers or owners that their insurance policy could be jeopardised by the existing flood risk.</p> <p>However Rochford District Council does advise that the environment agency is responsible for flood risk in England and Wales and provides links to information through its website at:- http://www.rochford.gov.uk/planning/advice/flood_risk.aspx</p> <p>We would also encourage all households to sign up to the Environment Agencies floodline warnings direct service.</p>	<p>Peter McKenzie Rochford District Council 01702 318132</p>
<p>Mrs A Holmes, Canewdon</p> <p>Please could you explain to me why there is no late bus to Canewdon from Sweyne Park School. Both of my children attend the school and it was chosen as a catchment school. The bus takes them to school and brings them home each day, however there is no late bus so they cannot attend any after school clubs unless a parent can pick them up. This is obviously very</p>	<p>The County Council has a legal duty to provide transport for children who meet certain criteria. It does this in a number of ways, including purchasing tickets for use on existing bus services or setting up dedicated transport where this is not available. The County Council is only obliged to provide transport to and from school at the normal school times, not for any out of hours’ activities. In the case of children from Hullbridge tickets are purchased for use on the regular bus service. The</p>	<p>Nick Blackall Essex County Council 01245 437249</p>

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<p>difficult, particularly as many parents work full time. It has also come to my attention that there is a late bus to Hullbridge from the school to allow their children to attend the after school clubs.</p> <p>This appears to be a discrimination against Canewdon, This bus then goes back to its depot in Rochford and passes both Canewdon Road and Brays Lane both are turning into Canewdon. Could this bus not detour to Canewdon before it goes back to its depot or at least drop Canewdon children at the end of these roads so they can either walk from there (very dangerous) or be picked up? At least it would be nearer than having to go all the way to Rayleigh. Of course the ideal solution would be for funding to be put in place to arrange for a bus to be supplied as a late bus for the children of Canewdon, or failing that the Hullbridge bus being made available for the children.</p>	<p>complication here is that the main service, route 20, is operated by First but the additional journeys that run at school times are on the 20X, which is operated by Stephenson's. Tickets are valid on both routes and children from Hullbridge have the benefit of making use of later journeys on service 20.</p> <p>There is no regular bus service between Canewdon and Sweyne Park school, so dedicated transport is provided, but this will not operate to cater for after school activities.</p> <p>As stated, there is no obligation on the County Council to provide transport for out of hours' activities; this will need to be considered by the school. The County Council has been in contact with Stephenson's, who, it is understood, are in discussion with the school with regard to the provision of a later bus for Canewdon.</p>	
<p>Susan Ticehurst, Canewdon</p> <p>My daughter and son attend Sweyne Park School. There is provision for children in Hullbridge of a late bus running from the school to Hullbridge to accommodate children who attend after school clubs. Canewdon children are discriminated against as a similar service is</p>	<p>Answer provided above.</p>	

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<p>not provided for them. After dropping the Hullbridge children the bus travels back to its Rochford depot passing the end of the Canewdon road and Brays Lane. Why can't the Canewdon children use this bus which would need to detour via Canewdon or drop them by Ashingdon schools? They are not allowed to even use the Hullbridge late bus unless they pay. Picking up from Ashingdon Schools or Hullbridge would have a far less environmental impact than the current situation whereby parents have to drive all the way to the school to collect.</p>		

Please note: written responses have been provided to questions received up to seven days prior to the meeting.