

**Question from Nick Ireland to the Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills in relation to partnership work with Essex County Council**

Question

A recent email from the Interim Director of Children's Services to all members (swiftly followed by a press release) announced the positive news that Dorset County Council, "*with Cabinet approval*", are joining the **Partners in Practice** initiative. At which Cabinet meeting was this discussed and approved?

**Question from Nick Ireland to the Cabinet Member for Natural; and Built Environment in relation to school transport**

Question

With the current yearly deluge of bus passes being sent out by our hard working staff to children entitled to DCC provided school transport, it appears from evidence arising from complaints I have received from constituents and also from discussions I have had with officers, that there has been a significant increase in scholars required to walk further to their designated bus stops, with many distances of over a mile and often on unlit roads with no footpaths. Is this the result of a change in DCC transport policy or the outcome of the lack of control over the routing decisions of the **One School, One Operator** contractors?