

Appendix 16

Access Principles

CRITERIA FOR DEFINING CORE RPT SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS

- School RPT services in rural areas will be defined as *core services*, in principle, if they provide full-time students with access to primary, secondary and senior secondary education (including vocational education courses). However, many student services contain *non-core sectors* which the Commission may withdraw or amend at some time in the future, in accordance with Government policy.

- GRPT services in non-metropolitan areas will be defined as *core services* if the services meet **all** of the following criteria:
 1. The GRPT service provides rural settlements with either direct access (or a connection to another regular passenger transport service that gives access) to *high priority services and amenities* in amenity centres outside and unavailable in the user's own locality.

 2. The GRPT service serves settlements with an aggregate population of at least 500 along the alignment of its route. Settlements along the route, but excluding the inner terminus town or amenity centre, are counted into the aggregate population served by the service.

 3. The service commences from an outer terminus that has a population of at least 250.

 4. The service route is not circuitous and meets the minimum standards established for the design of service routes. (Defined in *Standards re Route Design for Core GRPT services*.)

- Note: The above criteria are not intended to cover the provision of direct access facilitated between Metropolitan centres.