

PE1098/X and PE1223/V

## **Response from ACPOS**

Alison,

I write as Roads Policing Staff Officer to Chief Constable Giannasi who recently appeared before the Committee to discuss school bus safety. He has asked me to provide you with details of Operation Coachman.

Operation Coachman has been run since 1998 and began as a follow on from Op Tourist which began in 1994 (concentrating on passenger transport taking people on holiday or tours). It was felt that the vehicles taking young people to their places of education were a very vital commodity and it soon became clear that these vehicles tended to be the poor end of the scale.

The operation takes place over a fortnight period and forces are asked to cover at least one day within that. As the results have always been around a third of the vehicles being found with defects, it has been continued with the support of VOSA and HMR&C for dipping purposes (checking for red diesel) as well as DWP for benefit "cheats". We have over the years worked with Belt up school kids (BUSK) based in Gwent and also did a programme with BBC and Fiona Bruce.

In the last four years between 19 and 25 forces throughout the UK have participated in each operation and 6400 coaches have been stopped and checked revealing 1850 offences which equates to nearly 29% offending rate on those vehicles.

I attach for your information a spreadsheet showing the basic results of these operations in recent years. If you require any further information, please get back to me.

Regards

Paul

Paul Taylor  
Inspector  
Roads Policing Staff Officer

	2007	2008	2009	2010	TOTAL
Forces	25	19	22	25	
Vehicles stopped	1350	1305	1434	2311	6400
Offences detected	326	423	388	717	1854
Immediate PG9 prohibitions	84	60	90	95	329
Delayed PG9 prohibitions	84	57	95	96	332
UK drivers' hours prohibitions	1	7	4	41	53
Foreign drivers' hours prohibitions				0	
Arrests					
Crime	1	1			2
Disq Driving					
Drink / Drug driving				1	1
Warrant				1	1
Drugs					
Immigration					
Other					
Diesel		1		57	58
DWP	5	21		1	27