



Eich cyf/Your ref PE1223  
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/03187/14

David Stewart MSP  
Chair of the Petitions Committee

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27 August 2014

Dear Mr Stewart,

Thank you for your letter of 6 August regarding the considerations of the Scottish Parliament's Public Petitions Committee in relation to school bus safety, and signage and lighting on school transport.

The requirements for school bus signage for learners is set out in the Road Vehicles Lighting (Amendment) Regulations 1994, which is UK legislation. Signage is compulsory whereas lighting is optional.

These issues are not included within the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 nor the Safety on Learner transport (Wales) Measure 2011. It is the responsibility of local authorities to ensure that any buses they contract meet the requirements of legislation.

Spot checks on any vehicle, including buses and taxis used for learner transport, can be undertaken by the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA). Many local authorities work in collaboration with the DVSA to ensure that where issues are suspected or found on vehicles they contract (as a result of LA spot checks or issues reported to them by third parties) this information is passed to the DVSA to carry out further investigations into the operator, vehicle or fleet.