

Minister for Transport and Veterans  
Keith Brown MSP

T: 0845 774 1741  
E: [scottish.ministers@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:scottish.ministers@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)



David Stewart MSP  
Convener of the Committee  
Room T3.40  
The Scottish Parliament  
EDINBURGH  
EH99 1SP



[petitions@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:petitions@scottish.parliament.uk)

31 October 2012

Dear David

### **CONSIDERATION OF PETITIONS PE1098 and PE1223**

Thank you for your letter of 3 October to Nicola Sturgeon MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities, welcoming the decision made to seek detailed financial information by engaging external consultants to produce a national level model to estimate the costs to the Scottish public sector of enacting devolved powers relating to school bus safety. I apologise for the delay in responding to this letter, which sought a response by 22 October, but it does not appear to have been passed to my officials and only became known following an enquiry on the response from a colleague in Cabinet, Parliament and Governance Division.

As you are aware, the results of this piece of work will inform Ministers about the costings and potential impacts on local authorities. It will also enable Ministers to make an informed judgement on whether to roll out any changes to safety measures on school transport on a national basis.

The quick-quote tender was sent on 19 October to a number of consultants and responses are due by 5 November. Following tender assessment, it is anticipated that the contract will run from mid or end November 2012 until April 2013.

I trust the Committee will now be reassured that every effort is being made for resolution on this matter.

Kind regards

**KEITH BROWN**

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ  
[www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk)

