

Petitions Committee

PET(3)-11-08 (p1): 09 July 2008

P-03-114 Safe Roads for Schools

Petition Wording

The pupils of Whitchurch High School believe that the Assembly should make roads safer outside schools.

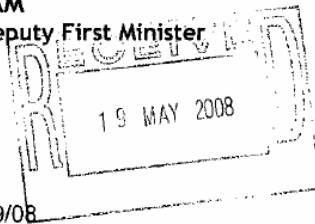
Background

This petition was submitted by Jonathan Morgan AM on behalf of the pupils of Whitchurch High School. The lead petitioner is Mrs Andrea Sandiford, a teacher at the school.

The Committee considered this petition for the first time on 10 April 2008. At this meeting the Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Economy and Transport.

The Minister has replied, and a copy of the reply is attached below.

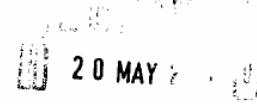
Ieuan Wyn Jones AC/AM
Dirprwy Brif Weinidog /Deputy First Minister



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref DFM/00899/08

Val Lloyd AM
National Assembly For Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA



ABD

15 May 2008

Dear Val

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 2008 following a petition that was given consideration by the Petitions Committee on 10 April concerning road safety around schools.

I consider the improvement of road safety to be a priority and have taken action to promote and implement a number of road safety measures. Our Road Safety Strategy for Wales was launched in January 2003 with the aim of bringing together key measures and policies to address the causes of road collisions and reduce casualties. One element of the Strategy focuses on safety for children.

Since 2000 the Welsh Assembly Government has provided funding to local authorities via the Local Road Safety Grant which they can use to make safety improvements on the local road network and develop and implement road safety education initiatives for children. Since 2000 over £54million has been provided. In addition since 2000 we have been funding a Child Pedestrian Training Co-ordinator in every local authority in Wales. These co-ordinators are responsible for running child pedestrian training schemes which teach children road safety awareness by means of practical training at the roadside.

Our Safe Routes to School initiative was launched in 1999 with the aim of not only tackling the congestion caused by the school run, but also to remind children and parents that there are alternatives to using the car. Over £27million has been provided for schemes in Wales. This year a new Safe Routes in Communities Programme replaced the Safe Routes to School initiative and £10million has been provided for the implementation of 91 schemes around Wales. The main focus of this new programme continues to be on schools but also aims to improve accessibility and encourage walking and cycling more generally within communities.

Ieuan Wyn Jones
Gweinidog dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth
Minister for the Economy and Transport

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