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P-03-273/316 and P-03-316
6th May 2011
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Naomi Stocks
Clerk, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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Dear Naomi

Petitions Committee

Thank you for your letter dated 5th April raising issues from two petitions, which I deal with in turn below.

P-03-273 Transportation of wind turbines in Mid Wales

The issues that Welshpool Town Council have raised are recognised by local planning authorities (LPAs). WLGA understands that discussions are to take place with WAG Planning officials on these matters in the near future. There are some existing ways that LPAs can seek to mitigate the impact of developments on road infrastructure – for example, they can refuse applications on access grounds; they can condition the submission of construction management plans where approvals deal with delivery routes; anything larger than standard vehicles can be controlled under abnormal load legislation. The discussions with WAG officials will look at whether there are ways that a firmer basis can be established for controlling activity on the highway network.

P-03-316 School crossing patrols

There are guidelines for the introduction and use of School Crossing Patrols produced by Road Safety GB (copy attached). These guidelines, which are widely used by local authorities, have been compiled on the basis of existing legislation, best practice, health and safety and case law. Decisions regarding capital works to improve safety and on the levels of school crossing patrols would be taken in light of these guidelines.

School crossing patrols are a non-statutory function. Authorities have to make assessments of road safety, based on the guidance and on studies and analysis they undertake. They will then apportion the limited resources they have where these are assessed to be in greatest need. Even where provided, however, parents remain

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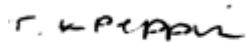
responsible for ensuring their children's safety.

Circumstances will change over time as a result of development and local authorities have to be able to add new sites where felt necessary and de-register others that can no longer be justified.

It should also be noted that there can be difficulties recruiting for school crossing patrols and, even if a site meets the criteria and funding is available, it may not always be possible to operate patrols.

I trust that this provides you with the information you need to submit for consideration by the future responsible Committee.

Yours sincerely



Tim Peppin
Director of Regeneration and Sustainable Development