

Lee Waters MS

Deputy Minister for Climate Change

16 December 2022

## **Learner Travel Review**

Dear Lee,

You will be aware the issue of learner travel access is a matter of significant interest to us. We made a recommendation in our recent [pupil absence](#) report on the importance of decisions on learner travel being made with a “learner first” approach, and that the Welsh Government should ensure local authorities have sufficient funding in order to do this. We also called for the current review to be radical in finding innovative solutions. We look forward to the Welsh Government’s response on this specific recommendation in due course. In the meantime, we would like an update on the review.

Earlier this year, we [wrote to you](#) regarding the review of the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008. In [response](#), you referred to the findings of the interim review dated March 2021 but published in March 2022 and said that a consultation on the next stage of work would be held “later this year”. Your [written statement of 31 March 2022](#) said this work would encompass “consideration of a complete revision of the Learner Travel Measure”.

I understand that officials have been working with stakeholders, including local authorities, to decide on the scope of this work and proposed terms of reference. Could you please provide the Committee with an update on this work and anticipated timescales?

We would appreciate a response by Wednesday 18 January.

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Bryant

Jayne Bryant MS

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

