

**Request:**

In June 2023, the Department for Education published updated statutory guidance on 'Travel to school for children of compulsory school age'. I am submitting the following Freedom of Information request to find out how the local authority is implementing the guidance. Please can you provide information on the following:

- 1) *'Local authorities should ensure that drivers and passenger assistants working on dedicated school transport have undertaken appropriate training and that this is kept up to date. It is for the local authority to decide what training is required, how it will be delivered and how often it should be refreshed.'* Are you using an external provider to provide training or is it being provided internally? If internal, which team is delivering this training? If external, are you using an accredited training provider?
- 2) How regularly is the training reviewed and refreshed?
- 3) Which job role within the local authority is responsible for deciding which training will be used?
- 4) How are meet and greet sessions between transport providers and passengers monitored?
- 5) How much budget is allocated to safeguarding training for school transport providers?

**Response:**

Training is delivered internally by the Local Kitchen, Transport & Road Safety Team.

If any external training is required, an accredited training provided would be used.

The regularity of training reviews and refresh is dependant on the type of training. For example, the MiDAS Passenger Assistance Training Scheme is nationally recognised course and refresher training is delivered every 4 years in line with best practice. Other training, such as rescue medication training will be reviewed annually.

The LTRS Operational Management team and the Integrated Transport Unit monitor national policies and guidelines to ensure the appropriate training is delivered to the right people.

Meet and greets are not routinely planned however will be facilitated if required to support passenger's SEND.

External transport providers manage their own training budgets.