



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

September 2019.

Dear Constituent,

A Response to the Disability Training for Bus Drivers Campaign

Thank you for contacting me about disability training for bus drivers in Scotland.

It is important for all people to have equal access to transport. Access to bus services can be a lifeline for some, particularly those living in rural communities in Scotland.

The Accessible Transport Framework promises to 'scope requirements' for disability training for transport providers and operators. I hope that the Scottish Government use this Framework to ensure greater consideration is given to accessibility issues so that Scotland can lead the way in this crucial area.

On top of this, the Scottish Government must increase support for community schemes by extending the free bus pass scheme to community transport. I believe both community and charity run buses are essential to rural Scotland. It appears the funding currently provided by the Scottish Government for community transport is patchy and inconsistent at best, with a comprehensive national strategy absent. This needs to change.

Ultimately, I believe every individual who uses public transport in Scotland should have the same choice, freedom and dignity to travel and I am proud that my Conservative MSP colleagues are committed to making this happen.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alister Jack".

The Rt. Hon. Alister Jack MP
Dumfries and Galloway constituency.