

Transport Scotland has commissioned MVA Consultancy to undertake research into the costs and challenges of changing the specifications for school transport, as part of the wider goal of improving students' safety and security onboard services. We feel that it is important to capture both the information held by Local Authorities and Bus Operators on home to school transport provision, and also to give you the opportunity to express any views on this issue that your organisation may hold.

MVA is contracted by Transport Scotland to undertake contact with all Local Authorities and other key stakeholders including bus operating companies. For most respondents this contact will only be in the form of requesting data through this survey, though we may also contact you to with a view to setting up in depth interviews if you are able to participate in this.

The aim of this research is to produce a national model for costing any legislative changes to specifications for school transport, and so it is crucial that it is completed, in order to produce the best evidence for any changes in this area.

Survey Respondent Details

Q1 – Are you completing this questionnaire on behalf of a Local Authority or Bus Operator?

Local Authority	O ₁
Bus Operator	O ₂
Other, please specify	O ₃

Q2 – Which Local Authority are you representing or do you operate school transport contracts within? (please tick all that apply)

Aberdeen City	<input type="checkbox"/>	Highland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aberdeenshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Inverclyde	<input type="checkbox"/>
Angus	<input type="checkbox"/>	Midlothian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Argyll & Bute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moray	<input type="checkbox"/>
City of Edinburgh	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Ayrshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
City of Glasgow	<input type="checkbox"/>	North Lanarkshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clackmannanshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Orkney Islands	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Perth & Kinross	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dumfries & Galloway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Renfrewshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dundee City	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shetland Islands	<input type="checkbox"/>
East Ayrshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	South Ayrshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
East Dunbartonshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	South Lanarkshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
East Lothian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stirling	<input type="checkbox"/>
East Renfrewshire	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Borders	<input type="checkbox"/>
Falkirk	<input type="checkbox"/>	West Dunbartonshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fife	<input type="checkbox"/>	West Lothian	<input type="checkbox"/>

Schools Profile and Pupil Travel Needs

LOCAL AUTHORITIES ONLY (using routing from Q1 above)

Q3 – Please indicate the total number of each type of school located within your Local Authority, and those where Statutory School transport is required and provided.

	Total number of schools	Number of schools requiring statutory transport
Primary		
Secondary		
Additional Support Needs		
Combined Campus		

Q4 – Please indicate your procedure for identifying pupils eligible for statutory school travel. (please select)

inform parents of eligibility	O ₁
parents have to make request and be assessed	O ₂
other, please specify	O ₃

Q5 – Please provide details of your criteria for identifying pupils eligible for statutory school travel, for example pupil age or distance to school (please select)

statutory requirements (two miles for children under 8 years, and three miles for children aged 8 and over from a child's designated school)	O ₁
primary/secondary split (two miles for primary school children, and three miles for secondary school children from a child's designated school)	O ₂
other, please specify	O ₃

Q6 – Do you allow for additional privilege pupils to be carried on any statutory school travel bus services you provide and, if so, do you or the bus operator levy a fare for this (please select)

Yes, with fare levied	O ₁
Yes, no fare levied	O ₂
No	O ₃
Other (eg combination of above), please specify	O ₄

Q7 – Please indicate the total number of pupils eligible for statutory school travel in 2012-13 by each type of school (enter values)

Primary	
Secondary	
Additional Support Needs	
Combined Campus	

Q8 – Please indicate total numbers of pupils who actually use school travel provided by the local authority (enter value)

School Type	Statutory Requirement Pupils	Privilege Pupils (free)	Privilege Pupils (paid)
Primary			
Secondary			
Additional Support Needs			
Combined Campus			

School Transport Provision

Q9 – On an average day, can you provide the approximate numbers of vehicles used to transport pupils with (statutory travel eligibility) by contract type? (enter values) For the purposes of this study buses (including coaches) are defined as carrying more than 8 passengers.

Dedicated Contracted Buses (only school pupils allowed to travel)	
General Service Buses (open to general passengers) Contracted for School Travel	
Taxi/Private (8 or less passengers)	
Dedicated Vehicles for Additional Support Needs	
General Service Buses where travel passes are provided to pupils	
Other, please specify	

Q10 – Can you provide information on the proportion of pupils (eligible for school transport) transported by contract type? Please complete the following table documenting the approximate proportion of each type of transport provision used for each category of school in your area.

(An example line has been added with 70% of pupils transported by dedicated contracted buses, 5% by general service buses which are open to all passengers, 15% provided with travel passes for general service buses etc, 6% transported using taxi/private hire, 3% on Dedicated Vehicles for Additional Support Needs, with a further 1% using alternative means)

	Proportion of pupils transported (should add to 100)						<i>Don't Know</i>
	<i>Dedicated Buses for School Pupils Only</i>	<i>Dedicated Buses (also open to general passengers)</i>	<i>Travel Passes Provided (for General Service Buses etc)</i>	<i>Taxi / Private Hire</i>	<i>Dedicated Vehicles for Additional Support Needs</i>	<i>Other</i>	
Example	70	5	15	6	3	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary							<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary							<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional Support Needs							<input type="checkbox"/>
Combined Campus							<input type="checkbox"/>

The following series of questions specifically relates to the provision of statutory school **bus** services and excluded other forms of statutory school transport such as taxi/private hire.

Q11 – Do you have any specific stipulations or constraints within your school bus contracts (please tick all that apply by type of school)

Stipulation	Primary	Secondary	Additional Support Needs	Combined Campus
Specify designated vehicles with specific characteristics, eg single deck vehicle with seatbelts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vehicles drawn from general fleet but with some stipulations, eg seatbelts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vehicles drawn from general fleet but with no stipulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No stipulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	_____	_____	_____	_____

Q12 – Do you stipulate specific vehicle types which must be used on specific school bus contracts?
 (please tick all that apply by type of school)

Stipulated Vehicle Type	Primary	Secondary	Additional Support Needs	Combined Campus
Single Deck Coach	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Double Deck Coach	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single Deck Bus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Double Deck Bus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mini-bus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No Stipulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	_____	_____	_____	_____

Q13 – Do you have any quality stipulations or constraints for the vehicles which operate your school bus services? (please select yes or no and, if yes, provide details)

Stipulation	Yes on all contracts	Yes on some contracts	None on any contracts	If Yes, please describe
Min number of seats	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Max number of seats	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Specific Vehicle type	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Maximum age of vehicle	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Engine Type (Euro Classes, Low Carbon etc)	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	

Q14 – Do you have stipulations or constraints for providing certain safety measures, accessibility standards or equipment on vehicles which operate on school bus services? (please select yes, no or if you stipulate a combination of measures across your school contracts and, if so, please provide details)

Stipulation	Yes on all contracts	Yes on some contracts	None on any contracts	If yes, please describe
Lap type seat belts	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
3 point seat belts	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Low-floor	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Wifi	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
CCTV	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Additional Hazard Lights for School Use	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Other (please specify)	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	

Q15 – Do you specify that dedicated drivers are used for school transport? (please select)

School Type	Yes on all contracts	Yes on some contracts	None on any contracts	If yes, please describe
Primary	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Secondary	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Additional Support Needs	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	
Combined Campus	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	

Q16 – Do you have any specific stipulations or constraints relating to school bus drivers? (please select)

Stipulation	Yes	No	For Some Contracts
Disclosure Scotland checks	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃
Minimum level of experience	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃
Minimum age	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃
Maximum age	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃
Clean driving license	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃
Specific Qualifications	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃
Specific Training Received	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃
Other please specify	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃

Q17 – For each type of school, are monitors or escorts provided for any part of the journey (please select)

	Yes, provided throughout the entire journey	Yes, but only provided at school to facilitate safe loading and unloading of the vehicle	Combination, different schools and / or different routes have different requirements	No monitors or escorts provided
Primary	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄
Secondary	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄
Additional Support Needs	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄
Combined Campus	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄

Q18 – Who is responsible for the provision of bus monitors or escorts? (please select)

Bus operator	O ₁
Local Authority	O ₂
Individual schools/local arrangements	O ₃
Other, please specify	O ₄

Q19 – Is staff training provided for designated drivers and bus monitors and escorts (please select)

	Yes	No	Not Applicable
Designated Drivers	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃
Monitors and Escorts	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃

School Transport Contracts

Q20 – Can you provide details of your school bus contract details as follows. Please note that Transport Scotland and MVA Consultancy undertake that commercially sensitive information will not be published, and all data collected will be fully anonymised, so that you or your organisation can not be identified. (open text)

Average length of contract		
Contract expiry dates (please state latest)		
Do you bundle your school bus contracts with any other Local Authority or Regional Transport Partnership transport contracts, eg (community transport provision, subsidised services etc)		
Average contract value (£) per pupil per day in 2012/2013 (by contract type if possible)	All contracts	
	Dedicated Contracted Buses (only school pupils allowed to travel)	
	General Service Buses (open to general passengers)	
	Travel passes provided (for general service buses etc)	
	Taxi/Private Hire	
	Dedicated Vehicles for Additional Support Needs	
	Other	

School Bus Provision

Questions for operators (or potentially LAs/SPT if own or operate buses or hold sufficient information)

This section requests further details on the vehicles used for contracted dedicated school bus transport excluding additional support needs services: [Note – this should not include general bus services that are not specifically contracted for school transport]

Q21 – Do you hold information on the types of vehicles used on school buses and can you provide this to MVA/Transport Scotland?	Yes	No
	O ₁	O ₂

If No then skip to Q28

Q22 – Please specify the nature of ownership of the buses you are providing information on? (please tick all that apply)

Buses directly owned/leased and operated by your organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Buses directly owned/leased by your organisation but operated by a third party	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Buses provided by a local authority or regional transport partnership and operated by you	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
Other, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

Q23 – On a typical day, is a specific pool of vehicles used for school bus contracts or are vehicles drawn from your general fleet? (please tick all that apply)

Specified designated vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Vehicles drawn from general fleet with some specific requirements	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Vehicles drawn from general fleet with no specific requirements	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃

Q24 – Aside from home to school and return services, do you use school bus contract vehicles for alternative services? (please select frequency of use)

Alternative Use of Bus Vehicle	Most Days	At Least Once a Week	At Least Once a Month	Less Often	Never
Other school transport services, eg travel to remote facilities, school trips and outings	<input type="radio"/> ₁	<input type="radio"/> ₂	<input type="radio"/> ₃	<input type="radio"/> ₄	<input type="radio"/> ₅
Registered commercial local services (no subsidy)	<input type="radio"/> ₁	<input type="radio"/> ₂	<input type="radio"/> ₃	<input type="radio"/> ₄	<input type="radio"/> ₅
Registered tendered local services (subsidised), eg DRT	<input type="radio"/> ₁	<input type="radio"/> ₂	<input type="radio"/> ₃	<input type="radio"/> ₄	<input type="radio"/> ₅
Commercial private hire	<input type="radio"/> ₁	<input type="radio"/> ₂	<input type="radio"/> ₃	<input type="radio"/> ₄	<input type="radio"/> ₅
Other (please specify below)	<input type="radio"/> ₁	<input type="radio"/> ₂	<input type="radio"/> ₃	<input type="radio"/> ₄	<input type="radio"/> ₅

Q25a - Do you use school bus signs on your school bus vehicles?

Yes, always	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Never	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
Don't Know	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

If answer is 1 or 2, continue. If answer 3 or 4, please go to question 26

Q25b - Do you remove school bus signs when not transporting schoolchildren?

Yes, always	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Never	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
Don't Know	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

Q25c - What do you determine as the school bus journey when signs are used? (tick all that apply)

To and from school	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
On school trips	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
Don't Know	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

The following questions relate to the particular type and specification of vehicles used for contracted dedicated school bus transport. This is split by the following categories of vehicle

- single deck vehicles;
- double decker vehicles; and
- mini-buses (including mini-coaches).

As noted above, this should not cover additional support needs services or general bus services that are not specifically contracted for school transport.

Q26 -Do you use single deck vehicles for contracted school bus services?								
				Yes	No			
				O ₁	O ₂			
Q26A - If so, how many vehicles are used for school bus contracts over a typical month				_____				
Q26B - Typical number of seats on single deck vehicles contracted for school bus services								
<20	20-39	40 - 59	60+	Wide Variety of Number of seats	Don't Know			
O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅	O ₆			
Q26C - Typical age of single deck vehicles contracted for school bus services								
Up to 5 years	Between 5 and 8 years	Between 8 and 12 years	More than 12 years	Wide Variety of Vehicle ages	Don't Know			
O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅	O ₆			
Q26D - Typical Engine Type of single deck vehicles contracted for school bus services								
Pre Euro	Euro 0	Euro 1 or Euro I	Euro 2 or Euro II	Euro 3 or Euro III	Euro 4 or Euro IV	Euro 5 or Euro V	Wide Variety of Engine Types	Don't Know
O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅	O ₆	O ₇	O ₈	O ₉
Q26E - Type of Seatbelts on typical single deck vehicles contracted for school bus services								
	Approximate percentage of buses (should add to 100%)							
	0%-25%	25% - 50%	50% - 75%	75%- 100%				
3 Point seat belts	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄				
Lap type seat belts	O ₅	O ₆	O ₇	O ₈				
No seat belts	O ₉	O ₁₀	O ₁₁	O ₁₂				
Don't know	O ₁₃							
Q26F - Vehicle Accessibility and other Equipment on typical single deck vehicles contracted for school bus services								
	Approximate percentage of buses							
	none	0% - 35%	35% - 70%	more than 70%	Don't Know			
Yellow School Bus Specification	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅			
Low-floor	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅			
Wifi	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅			
CCTV	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅			
Additional Hazard Lights for School Use	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅			

Q27 -Do you use double decker vehicles for contracted school bus services?								
				Yes	No			
				O ₁	O ₂			
Q27A - If so, how many				_____				
Q27B - Typical number of seats on double decker vehicles contracted for school bus services								
<20	20-39	40 - 59	60+	Wide Variety of Number of seats	Don't Know			
O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅	O ₆			
Q27C - Typical age of double decker vehicles contracted for school bus services								
Up to 5 years	Between 5 and 8 years	Between 8 and 12 years	More than 12 years	Wide Variety of Vehicle ages	Don't Know			
O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅	O ₆			
Q27D - Typical Engine Type of double decker vehicles contracted for school bus services								
Pre Euro	Euro 0	Euro 1 or Euro I	Euro 2 or Euro II	Euro 3 or Euro III	Euro 4 or Euro IV	Euro 5 or Euro V	Wide Variety of Engine Types	Don't Know
O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅	O ₆	O ₇	O ₈	O ₉
Q27E - Type of Seatbelts on typical double decker vehicles contracted for school bus services								
		Approximate percentage of buses (should add to 100%)						
		0%-25%	25% - 50%	50% - 75%	75%- 100%			
3 Point seat belts		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄			
Lap type seat belts		O ₅	O ₆	O ₇	O ₈			
No seat belts		O ₉	O ₁₀	O ₁₁	O ₁₂			
Don't know		O ₁₃						
Q27F - Vehicle Accessibility and other Equipment on typical double decker vehicles contracted for school bus services								
		Approximate percentage of buses						
		none	0% - 35%	35% - 70%	more than 70%	Don't Know		
Yellow School Bus Specification		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		
Low-floor		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		
Wifi		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		
CCTV		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		
Additional Hazard Lights for School Use		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		

<i>Q28 - Do you use mini-buses or coaches for contracted school bus services?</i>								
				Yes	No			
				O ₁	O ₂			
<i>Q28A - If so, how many</i>				_____				
<i>Q28B - Typical number of seats on mini-buses contracted for school bus services</i>								
<20	20-39	40 - 59	60+	Wide Variety of Number of seats	Don't Know			
O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅	O ₆			
<i>Q28C - Typical age of mini-buses contracted for school bus services</i>								
Up to 5 years	Between 5 and 8 years	Between 8 and 12 years	More than 12 years	Wide Variety of Vehicle ages	Don't Know			
O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅	O ₆			
<i>Q28D - Typical Engine Type of mini-buses contracted for school bus services</i>								
Pre Euro	Euro 0	Euro 1 or Euro I	Euro 2 or Euro II	Euro 3 or Euro III	Euro 4 or Euro IV	Euro 5 or Euro V	Wide Variety of Engine Types	Don't Know
O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅	O ₆	O ₇	O ₈	O ₉
<i>Q28E - Type of Seatbelts on typical mini-buses contracted for school bus services</i>								
		Approximate percentage of buses (should add to 100%)						
3 Point seat belts								
Lap type seat belts								
No seat belts								
<i>Q28F - Vehicle Accessibility and other Equipment on typical mini-buses contracted for school bus services</i>								
		Approximate percentage of buses						
		none	0% - 35%	35% - 70%	more than 70%	Don't Know		
Yellow School Bus Specification		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		
Low-floor		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		
Wifi		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		
CCTV		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		
Additional Hazard Lights for School Use		O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅		

Potential Changes to School Bus Provision and Specification

Q29 – If the law was changed to require all distance entitled children to be transported to / from school in vehicles fitted with seatbelts:

Q29A How much extra do you estimate this would cost per financial year for all your contracted school bus services? (£)	
Q29B What is the likely availability of suitable vehicles in your area?	
Q29C Is there anything that would prohibit the addition of seatbelts to your bus fleet? E.g. vehicles too old, operational requirements etc.	

Q30 – If you have any other comments to make about proposals to enhance school transport with seatbelts and other features, please add them below. We are particularly interested in your opinions on the following areas:

- Issues with current home to school transport provision
- Future challenges of continuing and enhancing home to school transport provision
- Concerns around your ability to continue to provide home to school transport provision
- Difficulties with maintenance and wear and tear of vehicles and particular features
- Any other useful information

Follow On Information

Q31 – Please can you supply some contact details? These details will be kept in strictest confidence and will only be used for the purposes of this study.

Your name	
Your organisation	
Your email address	
Your telephone number	
Is there any other person or persons in your organisation who may be able to assist us with school transport information? If so, please provide their name, position, and a contact telephone number.	

Q32 – Would you be able to take part in further research for Transport Scotland. This would involve a short interview conducted either in person or telephone. The purpose would be to help us gain a better understanding of your school bus arrangements and your views on the subject.	Yes	No
	O ₁	O ₂
If yes, any comments or information	_____	

Q33 – Would you be able to provide further details of your school bus fleet if we were to supply a pro forma for completion. This would include additional details on the make-up of vehicles used for dedicated school transport.	Yes	No
	O ₁	O ₂
If yes, any comments or information	_____	

Q34 – Please can you supply contact details for statutory school bus providers in your Local Authority? These details will be kept in strictest confidence and will only be used for the purposes of this study.

Organisation	Contact name	Address	Telephone Number	Email Address