



Department for Transport

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Dear Mr Colquhoun,

Thank you for your letter of 17 June to the Secretary of State, about the provision of accessible information onboard local services. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this issue.

We recognise the important role audible and visible information plays in enabling passengers, particularly those who are visually impaired, to travel with the confidence that they are on their intended service and that they will know when to alight when their destination is reached.

Whilst precise timescales will depend upon Parliamentary time, I can confirm that we aim to lay Accessible Information Regulations by the end of 2022. We want passengers to begin benefitting from accessible information as soon as possible, and hope that our clear intention to legislate will encourage bus operators to invest in audible and visible information now rather than waiting for the Regulations to take effect.

The Accessible Information Grant funding is specifically targeted at smaller operators to ensure that they can begin providing their passengers with audible and visible information as soon as possible. We estimate that it will be sufficient to support the majority of such operators. However, it is not intended to support larger operators with compliance as the industry has had five years' notice of our intention to regulate and should be prepared to comply.

We are committed to ensuring disabled people have the information they need to travel with confidence, and I am grateful for your support for this important agenda.

*Yours,
Charlotte*

BARONESS VERE OF NORBITON