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Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/01254/14

William Powell AM  
Chair Petitions Committee

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01 June 2014

Dear William

I thought it would be useful to update the Committee on the Welsh Government's consideration of trading in laybys on the trunk road network, in the context of the Committee's interest in ice cream vans trading from laybys near schools.

I mentioned in my last update the emerging recommendations of the Wales Freight Task & Finish Group. The group has now reported and I have accepted all of the recommendations that fall to my portfolio, as advised in my Written Statement of 9 May. A copy of the report can be found at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/transport/freight/wales-freight-group/?lang=en>

As expected, there is a recommendation to gather more information about the need for and availability of suitable rest stops for freight road traffic in Wales.

I have asked officials to work with the freight associations to improve the evidence base, including the use of lay-bys on the trunk road network for rest stops.

We are also mapping detailed, up to date information of current trading activity on trunk road lay-bys, including any trading activity near schools.

Taking into account the work with the freight associations and the mapping exercise, I expect to make a decision on whether any further action is required to control trading from lay-bys on the trunk road network this Autumn.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. M.', is located in the upper left quadrant of the page. The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.