

Nick Timothy, Member of Parliament for West Suffolk



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON, SW1A 0AA

Bill Hiron MBE
Chairman
Stephensons of Essex Ltd

23 September 2025

Dear Mr Hiron

I am writing to raise an issue that was recently brought to my attention by my constituents.

A number of parents in the village of Horringer say issues have arisen with Stephensons buses tasked with taking children to King Edward VI School in Bury St Edmunds. The buses are reportedly often either very full or over capacity. Because of this, children are being left at the bus stop when there is no more space on the bus.

The problem has been going on — the parents explain — since the start of September.

One parent gave the example of the morning of 22 September, during which the driver of the number 15 bus was reported to say, after arriving, that there was space for only one child, leaving around 20 children unable to take the bus to school.

Some of the children were then given lifts to school by parents but others were unable to get there at all, meaning they had to miss a day of school.

The parents say this is happening frequently. They add that children who do manage to get lifts are often then late for school. This clearly causes disruption to the school day, and is unfair on the school and other students.

This issue has apparently already been raised by parents with Stephensons. But they say they are not satisfied with the company's response.

I am sure you will agree that local children need to get to school, and I hope these problems can be resolved as quickly as possible. I would be grateful if you could let me know the details from your perspective, and what steps are being taken to address these problems.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Timothy".

Nick Timothy
Member of Parliament for West Suffolk

Constituency office: The Epicentre, Haverhill Research Park, Enterprise Wy, Haverhill CB9 7LR