

Mike Davey,  
Competition Commission,  
Victoria House,  
Southampton Row,  
LONDON  
WC1B 4AD.

13<sup>th</sup> September, 2004.

Your ref: Q1

Dear Mr. Davey,

I refer to the anticipated acquisition by Arriva plc of the Hertfordshire bus operations of Sovereign Bus and Coach Company Ltd, and our telephone conversation on Friday when I advised you that we do not operate bus services in Hertfordshire.

Accordingly, I have not completed the questionnaire, but would like the following concern noted. What has happened in the past to our Company is that larger bus companies have contracted to do local school contracts, and have undercut our prices by using vehicles which should be doing local bus services. Consequently, this has been to the detriment of local coach operators and also to the public when they are unable to rely on the buses to get to work on time.

I trust the above is useful to you.