

Dear Linda,

I am writing to put my private point of view across concerning the use of Mobile Phones while driving locomotives. We can not legislate for all safety issues, and it would be almost impossible to stop. Every railway is different and common sense needs to be used more concerning safety. What if the driver is using the mobile phone hands free. One can legally drive a car using a mobile phone hands free.

Would be no different from using a two way radio both could be distracting to the driver. More smart mobile phones are been used to control and drive locomotives as well are these to be banned.

By adding this amendment to the AALS code of practice will just give insurance companies another get out cause when a claim is made and will do nothing to further enhance our hobby.

On another note any provision by AALS to require members to hold a Working with Children card ( WWC ) will just force costs up for no benefit at all for members. The card will not stop paedophiles nor make it safer for our patrons when coming to our miniature railways. I have contacted the authorities responsible in Western Australia for the issue of these cards and they do not want to know us, we do not fit in with the definition for needing a WWC.

The AALS should not get involved concerning mobile phones or WWC and should leave it to individual members and clubs. In my view there is no need for us to hold these cards or to ban mobile phones.

Regards,

Derek Stock  
Katanning Western Australia  
member of the Katanning Miniature Railway Inc