

Asia Bus Response near 100 buses



The UK bus and coach industry has so far pledged 97 vehicles to the Asia Bus Response relief initiative to help rebuild the worst-hit areas of Sri Lanka and Indonesia following the Tsunami. New contributors include Yorkshire Traction; Nottingham City Council; Cronin's Coaches of Cork; Shire Travel; GM Coaches, Bridgend, and David's Handy Rider of Oldham.

Announcing that Go-Ahead Group would be donating 10 buses, from the Oxford Bus Company and Wilts & Dorset Bus Company, Group Chief Executive, Chris Moyes, said; 'I'm delighted to see the momentum that's now building up behind the Asia Bus Response project.'

Waseem Yaqub, UK Manager, Islamic Relief, commented, "The Asia Bus Response has been a hugely generous and brilliantly innovative initiative by the UK Bus and Coach sector. Islamic Relief is proud to be associated with this project and is very grateful to the

organisations concerned for their generosity and support. Asia Bus Response is a fine example of the British public's solidarity with the victims of the Tsunami catastrophe.

"Islamic Relief is now starting the reconstruction phase in the affected areas. The buses donated through Asia Bus Response will be central to our mid to long term plans, to get the victims back on their feet by helping them to rebuild their homes and their livelihoods. On behalf of the governments and peoples of Indonesia and Sri Lanka, Islamic Relief offers heartfelt thanks."

Minibuses to double-decks are still required. To pledge robust, high-floor, low-tech mid-life buses that are fit for a few years' hard work, to pledge spares and equipment or to leave messages of support, email info@asiabusresponse.co.uk or call Mitch de Faria, telephone 01664 561711; for local authority co-ordination, email Andrew Varley at Lancashire County Council, Andrew.varley@env.lancscc.gov.uk Tel 01772 263336. The website www.asiabusresponse.co.uk has full details.