

**PE1626/L**

Transport Scotland submission of 29 May 2018

Thank you for your email of 30 April 2018, on behalf of the Public Petitions Committee, in which you invite the Scottish Government to respond to the questions raised in the petitioners' submission, on the issues of 'wholesale regulation' and 'partnership'.

**Forthcoming Transport Bill**

The Scottish Government will introduce the Transport (Scotland) Bill, mentioned in our previous responses to this committee, to Parliament shortly. The Bill will cover a range of transport subjects including bus services.

The bus provisions within the Bill have been shaped by our consultation on bus policy options which closed on 5 December 2017. A total of 315 responses were received from members of the public, local authorities, transport operators, Regional Transport Partnerships, public bodies and other organisations, including the petitioner. Details of the consultation, including the analysis of consultation responses, can be found on the Scottish Governments consultation website.

In relation to the questions raised by the petitioner in their submission of 16 April, the Scottish Government's detailed legislative proposals in this area and its rationale for the various measures this encompasses will be fully detailed in the Bill and its accompanying documents and will no doubt be closely scrutinised by the relevant Parliamentary committees, notably the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee.

We would be happy to provide further information, including on the matters raised by the petitioner, as part of that process.

I hope the Public Petitions Committee finds this helpful.