

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for  
Economy and Gaelic  
Leas Phrìomh Mhinistear agus Rùnaire a' Chaibineit  
airson Eaconamaidh agus Gàidhlig  
Kate Forbes MSP  
Ceit Fhoirbeis BPA



Scottish Government  
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Daniel Johnson MSP  
Convener  
Economy and Fair Work Committee

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23 March 2026

Dear Daniel

I am writing to update you on the situation regarding our continuing support for Alexander Dennis and its workforce in Scotland, before the dissolution of the Scottish Parliament.

The Scottish Government and our partners remain steadfast in our commitment to working with Alexander Dennis and NFI to retain Scottish bus manufacturing capacity. This includes grant funding for a furlough package of up to £4.1m which is available as a bridge to a sustainable future for the company in Scotland.

I last spoke with Alexander Dennis on 17 March and reiterated the Scottish Government's full commitment to continue to do everything we possibly can to protect these skilled jobs and bus manufacturing here in Scotland. Following the meeting my officials provided a letter of variation, which the company accepted, that allows Alexander Dennis further time to evidence a claim up to 31 March. We will remain closely engaged with the company on this aspect of support and we stand ready to discuss all possible options beyond that.

My officials and Scottish Enterprise remain in regular contact with the business and with workforce representatives. We stand ready to provide support where appropriate to Alexander Dennis and continue to discuss options across a range of areas to protect these skilled jobs and bus manufacturing here in Scotland. I can assure the Committee that these focused efforts will continue beyond the final sessions in which Parliament sits this week.

**KATE FORBES**

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