

Written submission from Lothian Buses, following the evidence session on 2 September

I'm writing to provide a factual clarification following the Transport Committee on 2 September.

During the evidence session, at approximately 10:45:46, Colin Howden from Transform Scotland said:

“Government has a lot more control now. Government now covers over 50% of revenues of bus operators.”

In the case of Lothian Buses, that figure does not reflect our position. In 2025, funding received through concessionary travel reimbursement and the Network Support Grant represented approximately 36% of Lothian Buses' revenue.

I believe this distinction may be relevant to the Committee's consideration of future bus funding policy, including any discussion of a potential £2 bus fare cap in Edinburgh.

I have attached a slide setting out the position and illustrating the composition of Lothian Buses' revenue. I would be grateful if this clarification could be shared with Committee members for information.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if any further information would be helpful.

Kind regards

Sarah

Sarah Boyd
Chief Executive
23 September 2026

REVENUE

WHERE THE MONEY
COMES FROM...



- 61.4% On-bus & off-bus sales
- 35.7% NSG and reimbursement of concessionary fares
- 1.6% Miscellaneous
- 1.3% Local authority supported bus services