



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Anne Jolly
Inquiry Secretary (Scottish Citylink)
Competition Commission
Victoria House
Southampton Row
London
WC1B 4AD

Our ref: SD4012 CL

14 February 2007

Dear Ms Jolly

Scottish Citylink Inquiry: notice of proposal to accept undertakings

I am aware of your current consultation on undertakings.

I am MP for West Fife, and whilst transport is a matter devolved to the Scottish Parliament, I take a keen interest in matters that affect my constituents.

As a result, I have frequently been in contact with the senior management of my local bus company, Stagecoach in Fife, and I must advise that I have found the company, and Stagecoach in general, to be receptive to suggestions and feedback, and to be very customer focussed. It is my belief that the Stagecoach involvement in the Joint Venture has been welcomed by politicians and local authorities alike, and the cross party opposition to your decision apparent on your website is very marked!

The Joint Venture provides links for my constituents to points further north, including Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen and Inverness, along with links to intermediate points. These services are provided on a regular hourly headway, which is simple for customers to understand, and my feedback is that this simplicity, allied to the consistently high quality service operated, has proved extremely popular. I have received no negative representations since the timetable was introduced in late 2005.

To require the Joint Venture to dispose of part of its operations on the Saltire Cross will destroy the customer benefits and increased patronage delivered by the company. This is at odds with public policies of both central and local Government.

I note in your Final Report that a series of behavioural undertakings were offered by the Joint Venture. It is my belief that the protection these undertakings would have provided to passengers far exceeds the merits of any disposal you require. In essence, I can only

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Whilst Willie Rennie MP will treat as confidential any personal information which you pass on, he will normally allow staff and authorised volunteers to see it if this is needed to help and advise you. The MP may pass all or some of the information to agencies such as the DSS, Inland Revenue or the local Council if this is necessary to help with your case. Willie Rennie MP may wish to write to you from time to time to keep you informed on issues which you may find of interest. Please let him know if you do not wish to be contacted for this purpose



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conclude that the Competition Commission has taken "the easy way out", rather than have a situation where some form of ongoing monitoring of the Joint Venture would be required.

In conclusion, I restate my view that your decision is incorrect and not in the best interests of Scotland, and I urge you to revisit and correct this decision before any lasting damage is done.

Finally, I note that you publish representations on your website, and I would ask that you put this letter on the website accordingly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Willie Rennie', written in a cursive style.

Willie Rennie

Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for Dunfermline and West Fife

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