

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

Dear Ms Jolly,

Scottish Citylink Inquiry: notice of proposal to accept undertakings

I refer to your current consultation on undertakings.

I previously made representation to the Competition Commission on 10 January 2007, and you published my letter on your website with the following link:

http://www.competition-commission.org.uk/inquiries/ref2006/citylink/pdf/third_party_submission_scotl.pdf

Whilst I note that the divested journeys may now be those operating under the Citylink brand or those operating under the Megabus brand or some other divestment agreed with the Competition Commission, my earlier comments and concerns remain, and I would like to reinforce them with this submission.

Your response to my letter of 10 January 2007 was not satisfactory, and I remain firmly of the belief that your decision is contrary to the interests of coach passengers in Scotland, including those in my constituency, and is at odds with Scottish Executive policy of increasing travel by sustainable modes and achieving modal shift to public transport services.

I urge the Competition Commission to revisit the decision taken, and to adopt undertakings covering fares, service levels, service frequencies and vehicle quality, thereby preserving the vast improvement in service provided by the Joint Venture and allaying any concerns you may have. I believe that the Joint Venture was prepared to give such undertakings, so it would seem both logical and sensible to accept them, rather than pursue a divestment remedy which is damaging to the interests of passengers and, potentially, the Scottish economy.

As with my earlier letter, I am happy for this to be published on your website.

Yours sincerely

Christine May MSP