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Convener
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9 March 2022

Dear Convener,

Consideration of the draft National Bus Travel Concession Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Order 2022

I undertook to respond in writing to the point raised by Liam Kerr in yesterday's discussion on the draft National Bus Travel Concession Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Scotland) Order 2022.

Our understanding is that the news report mentioned related to a proposition made by the SNP group on Aberdeen City Council as part of their budget proposals.

While we do not answer for local councillors, and Mr Kerr may wish to follow up himself to get certainty on what the proposals involved, it would appear that what was being suggested was that the national provision of free bus travel for under 22s might result in savings of the order of £180,000 on the Council's expenditure on transport for school pupils.

Clearly, if councils are able to realise savings as a result of the Scottish Government providing free bus travel for under 22s in their area to spend on other priorities, then that is another benefit of the scheme which I am sure members would support.

I am copying this letter to Liam Kerr.

Yours sincerely



JENNY GILRUTH

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