



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

Jonathan Bray
Director
Jonathan Bray Advisory Services

09 October 2024

Dear Mr Bray

Local Services Franchises (Traffic Commissioner Notices and Panels) (Scotland) Regulations 2024

I'm writing regarding the [Local Services Franchises \(Traffic Commissioner Notices and Panels\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2024](#), which the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee considered on 8 October.

The purpose of this instrument is to make further provision with respect to the panels to be convened by the Traffic Commissioner and, in particular, to make provision with respect to the appointment, removal and replacement of panel members, the remuneration of members, and the process to be followed by a panel in making decisions. The instrument also makes provision with respect to the notices issued by the Traffic Commissioner in relation to a proposed franchising framework, or a proposed variation or revocation of a framework.

Before determining whether to make any recommendation to the Scottish Parliament in relation to the instrument, the Committee agreed to write to you to gather further information.

Drawing on your expertise as advisor to the Welsh Government on its bus franchising legislation, the Committee would welcome your response to the following questions:

1. What, if any, concerns do you have about giving final approval of any proposed Scottish bus franchising scheme to a panel appointed by the Scottish Traffic Commissioner?
2. Can you briefly describe the proposed system of bus franchising that you are developing on behalf of the Welsh Government? What are the key stages of the proposed approval process?
3. Are there any significant lessons from the experience of bus franchising across the UK and Europe that could inform the development of bus franchising in Scotland?

Contact: Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email netzero@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

In order for the Committee to consider this instrument again before the deadline for annulment has passed, we would appreciate a response by 22 October. Apologies for this short deadline.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward Mountain". The signature is written in a cursive style with a trailing flourish at the end.

**Edward Mountain MSP
Convener**