



Michael Matheson MSP

Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity
The Scottish Government
St. Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
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9th April 2021

Dear Cabinet Secretary

We would like to congratulate the Transport Minister on the second round of funding from the Scottish Ultra Low Emission Bus Scheme (SULEB), and the unique role it plays in transforming bus services across Scotland.

As a charity that campaigns for inclusive and sustainable transport, we particularly welcome the ambitions of the scheme to support Scotland's decarbonisation agenda.

It was surprising, therefore, to discover that successful applications to SULEB are for the procurement of standard single or double decker vehicles only. These vehicles are largely unsuitable for hard-to-reach areas, especially those in rural communities with low passenger numbers and narrow roads.

In the interests of enhancing rural public transport, we would urge the Scottish Government to extend SULEB funding to vehicles of all sizes, by changing the parameters or setting aside part of the fund specifically for this purpose, ensuring that every community has access to sustainable and environmentally friendly transport options.

We greatly look forward to your response on this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Greig MacKay
Director - Scotland