

Transport Scotland submission of 24 October 2023

PE1856/U: Support the taxi trade

Transport Scotland officials have confirmed that a meeting on 11 September 2023 took place with Unite the Union (Willie Thomson), Energy Saving Trust (EST) and Transport Scotland representatives. This meeting was initiated and facilitated by Glasgow City Council.

Concerns were raised by the Unions about the supply chain for retrofitting, citing members who had been on waiting list with their chosen supplier for a long time.

The Union representatives asked Glasgow City Council for a guarantee that LEZ exemptions for taxis would be extended beyond the current 12-month LEZ extension, which applies until 1 June 2024. Glasgow City Council advised that they have been open with the taxi trade in Glasgow about the potential for issues with the supply chain for over a year, and that warning was given.

Advice was given to the Union by EST and Transport Scotland in relation to applications for taxi grants, that over 300 taxis had already been retrofitted through the LEZ Retrofit fund, and taxi operators were encouraged to apply.

No engagement has taken place with the petitioner, Pat Rafferty, since the previous consideration of this petition on 21 December 2022.