

Colin Smyth MSP
Convener Economy and Fair Work Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP
Via email: economyandfairwork.committee@parliament.scot

1 July 2025

Dear Convenor,

Committee Evidence Session: Alexander Dennis Follow-up Material

On behalf of Alexander Dennis, I would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to engage with them in their gathering of evidence during the current consultation process affecting our Falkirk and Larbert manufacturing sites. I would additionally like to share a decision regarding the consultation extension request, we have extended the 45-day minimum consultation by two weeks, the earliest date the consultation could close is now 15 August.

During the session we committed to following up in writing with specific pieces of evidence in response to questions raised by members. We hope this body of evidence provides reassurances of our commitment to finding a lasting solution for our operations in Scotland, as well as supporting the Committee's investigation.

Our top priority remains our workforce and ensuring our people are supported throughout the current consultation process and beyond. Alongside this, we are working to find a solution which secures a pipeline of activity for delivery in Scotland, including carefully considering the various options raised during the Committee's evidence sessions and beyond.

That said, even if a solution is found to our short-term challenge, long term reform is required if the UK's domestic bus manufacturing industry is to remain competitive. As we set out, despite political ambitions to support local content, authorities are prevented from basing decisions on any wider benefits due to the subsidy control legal framework. Urgent reform is required to support the future of UK manufacturing and create a more level playing field for domestic manufacturers.

I would like to reiterate that continued discussions with the Scottish and UK Governments are taking place in which we are scrutinising all options, as together we pursue a solution that protects jobs and sustains our proud legacy in Scotland into the long term.

It is clear there is a shared ambition to ensure the Scottish and UK bus manufacturing industry can thrive. I would like to reiterate that we are committed to engaging with all stakeholders constructively throughout this consultation process and recognise the vital role the Committee and its members play in ensuring a lasting solution which works for the workforce and Scotland more broadly.

If you need any further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Davies
President and Managing Director
Alexander Dennis