

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Economy and Gaelic
Leas Phrìomh Mhinistear agus Rùnaire a' Chaibineit
airson Eaconamaidh agus Gàidhlig
Kate Forbes MSP
Ceit Fhoirbeis BPA



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Economy and Fair Work Committee

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Dear Daniel,

Thank you for your letter of 23 February requesting an update on the furlough scheme to support Alexander Dennis and any plans to extend it beyond March. You also asked about the process should a request to extend the scheme be made after Parliament is dissolved for the Scottish election.

As you know Scottish Ministers awarded a time limited and capped grant subsidy to Alexander Dennis in support of the company's furlough scheme to assist with the retention of Scottish based employees and manufacturing capacity. Alexander Dennis accepted the terms and conditions of the grant offer, including the evidencing of contracts before any payment from the Scottish Government can be made.

The evidencing of bus orders and the timing of requests for payment of the furlough support grant are matters for the business.

My officials and Scottish Enterprise remain in regular contact with the business and with workforce representatives. Should circumstances require the company to seek an adjustment to the terms of the grant and/or to extend its duration, we would look to explore that. If any such request takes place during the pre-election period it will be managed in line with the published *Guidance for the Scottish Government, its agencies and National Devolved Public Bodies* and all appropriate due diligence processes would be applied.¹

Yours sincerely,

KATE FORBES

¹ [Scottish Parliament Election: 7 May 2026, guidance for the Scottish Government, its agencies and National Devolved Public Bodies - gov.scot](#)

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