

## **Federation of Transport Operators (FOTO)**

### **Dail Questions:**

**Q. To ask the Minister:** In the recent Value for Money Review of the School Transport System conducted by the Department of Education what figures/data were made available to (a) the Federation of Transport Operators and (b) any other individual/organisation making a submission in order that such submissions could be based on robust financial data.

**Q. To ask the Minister:** Has the review considered proposals made by the Federation (FOTO) to have the contract in its entirety tendered with possible savings of €300m over 5 years and is this being considered by the Department of Education. Will this contract, worth over €185m annually, be tendered out, which is the only way we can get a real value for money system.

**Q. To ask the Minister:** Given the need to contain/cut costs in the School Transport System at this time and the absolute priority to protect the safety of the children within the system, has he given consideration to the proposal by the Federation of Transport Operators to introduce 5 year contracts to operators, which would allow them to continually upgrade their School Transport fleet- an option that is not available to them under the current 1 year contract.

**Q. To ask the Minister:** If Bus Eireann are also required to cut their costs by 10% in line with the requirement on sub contractors and if he is satisfied that his proposals do not contravene EU competition law?