



May 5<sup>th</sup> 2020

Minister of State John Halligan TD Department of Education & Skills Marlborough Street Dublin 1 D01 RC96

RE: School Transport System

Dear Minister,

Further to my recent email, I formally write to make representation to you on behalf of two particular groupings within the Schools Transport System, and I will appreciate your kind consideration. These are small in number but are suffering greatly as they have been overlooked in the overall issues around the closures of the schools.

The first cohort, whereas, outside of the actual Schools Transport System as managed by Bus Eireann on your behalf, are an important and integral part of the delivery chain of children to our schools. These operators, mainly small to medium in size are contracted directly to the schools or the parents of the children. These operators have received no payment at all since the Government closed all schools and I sincerely request that you would provide 50% of their contract price with either the schools or the parents directly for these services. I can provide you with these contracted rates should you require them to assess the level of these supports, which, I believe will be minimal in the overall context of the supports presently enjoyed by the main contractors to the School Transport System.

The second cohort are contracted to Dublin Bus and these operators have received no support as received under the Bus Eireann contracts since the 29<sup>th</sup> March. I am sure that this is merely an oversight and that this will be righted?

I wish to say thank you for your support to this point Minister and I look forward to your further kind consideration for these overlooked sections of the Schools Transport System.

Yours Sincerely

John Dunne Director FOTO / ibus plc.



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