

Concessionary Travel and Integrated Ticketing Unit
Bus, Accessibility & Active Travel (BAAT)

Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF
Direct Line: 0141 272 7170
concessionarytravel@transport.gov.scot



Date:
29 January 2019

Dear Operator

cc Local Authorities, RTPs.

Important information about the National Concessionary Travel (NCT) Scheme for Older and Disabled People and Bus Service Operators Grant

Concessionary travel – 2019/20

Reimbursement arrangements for the next year under the National Concessionary Travel (NCT) Scheme for Older and Disabled People have now been agreed with the Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT).

The reimbursement rate for 2019/20 will be 56.5% of the adult single fare.

This rate was again determined using the economic model developed in partnership between CPT Scotland and Scottish Government (Transport Scotland) in 2013, with the aim of ensuring that operators are left on average no better or worse off as a result of the Scheme.

Scottish Ministers have also decided that the statutory cap on payments will be £213.65 million for 2019/20, based on expectations for fares and journey numbers which were set in discussion with CPT.

Information about the 2019/20 claim periods and interim payment dates is appended to this letter for your information.

Concessionary Travel – 2018/19

Our latest forecast for 2018/19 is around £206m, indicating that the £202.1m 2018/19 cap level may be exceeded. This means there is a possibility that we need to make slightly reduced payments in period 13. The current forecast at around 2% over cap level equates to around 6.5 days worth of period 13 claims.

The forecast will of course continue to fluctuate (up and down) until all 2018/19 operator claims are received. You will be updated as the forecast develops.



Bus Service Operators Grant

The Core rate of BSOG is maintained at 14.4 pence/km. The incentive rate for sustainable biodiesel is also remaining at its present value.

From 1 April 2019, the BSOG Low Carbon Vehicle (LCV) incentive is being revised to the bands and rates as set out in the table below. This has been discussed and developed together with CPT, and replaces the current single 10.1 pence/km rate for all new buses.

BAND		RATE	ELIGIBILITY THRESHOLD	
			LEB CERTIFICATION	ULEB CERTIFICATION
A	LEB	5 pence/km	15%-35% saving vs Euro V	15%-29% saving vs Euro VI
B	ULEB	10 pence /km	36%-49% saving vs Euro V	30%+ saving vs Euro VI
	ZEC	15 pence/km	36%-49% saving vs Euro V & 2.5km zero emission range* with geo fence capability	30%+ saving vs Euro VI & 2.5km zero emission range* with geo fence capability
C	EZEB	30 pence/km	50%+ GHG saving vs Euro V	30%+ saving vs Euro VI & 50km ZE range

*2.5km ZE range from the "inner urban" phase of the UK Bus Cycle

LEB – Low Emission Bus
ULEB – Ultra Low Emission Bus
ZEC – Zero Emission Capable
EZEB – Effectively Zero Emission Bus

The entitlement period for the new BSOG LCV incentive will be five years from the date of first claim.

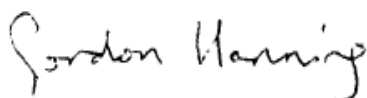
A transitional arrangement from the current scheme will apply and is time limited to five years. The rate will be the current 10.1p/km BSOG LCV rate. As at 1 April 2019, buses that already have five or more years of claims will no longer be eligible. Buses yet to reach that five year maximum will continue to be eligible until the five year limit is reached.

Updated BSOG guidance and claim forms will be made available in due course, and we will be contacting you again shortly on the implementation of the new BSOG arrangements. 2019/20 BSOG claim periods and estimate and certified payment dates can be found within the first annex to this letter.

I realise that you may have some questions around this. The Concessionary Travel and BSOG team at Transport Scotland are happy to help and, if you want to discuss any of the above in more detail, please contact the team at concessionarytravel@transport.gov.scot.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely



GORDON HANNING

Concessionary Travel and Integrated Ticketing Unit

The National Concessionary Travel Scheme (NCTS) and Bus Service Operators Grant

2019-20 period start/end dates and planned payment dates

NCTS Interim & BSOG Estimate Payment Dates will be on the first Monday of each period, [except where indicated](#)

BSOG Certified Payment Dates are due on the last working day of each calendar month

Period Number	Start Date	End Date	NCTS Interim & BSOG Estimate Payment Date	BSOG Certified Payment Date
1	01 April 2019	28 April 2019	01 April 2019	30 April 2019
2	29 April 2019	26 May 2019	29 April 2019	-
3	27 May 2019	23 June 2019	28 May 2019 (Tuesday)	31 May 2019
4	24 June 2019	21 July 2019	24 June 2019	28 June 2019
5	22 July 2019	18 August 2019	22 July 2019	31 July 2019
6	19 August 2019	15 September 2019	19 August 2019	30 August 2019
7	16 September 2019	13 October 2019	16 September 2019	30 September 2019
8	14 October 2019	10 November 2019	14 October 2019	31 October 2019
9	11 November 2019	08 December 2019	11 November 2019	28 November 2019
10	09 December 2019	05 January 2020	09 December 2019	31 December 2019
11	06 January 2020	02 February 2020	08/01/2020 (Wednesday)	31 January 2020
12	03 February 2020	01 March 2020	03 February 2020	28 February 2020
13	02 March 2020	31 March 2020	02 March 2020	31 March 2020