

From the office of the Minister for Infrastructure
JOHN O'DOWD MLA

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Dear Eilish

TRANSLINK NIGHT-TIME PROVISION OF SERVICES

Thank you for your letter to Minister O'Dowd dated the 4th June 2024 calling for consideration to be given to the funding of the provision of nighttime public transport services in Belfast.

The Minister fully understands the need to support the nighttime economy and recognises the benefit that late night public transport services can add to our economy and citizens however, the provision and operation of services is an operational matter for Translink within the budget available to them.

Whilst passenger numbers continue to grow there is still a significant cost to running the public transport network in its current form and the Department has been underfunded by over a decade of cuts by the British government. However, you can be assured that the Department will continue to work with Belfast City Council, Translink and Executive colleagues to promote active and sustainable travel where possible.

Yours sincerely



EMMA STOCKMAN
Private Secretary to the Minister