



Nicola Penman
Public Affairs Officer
Scottish Water
Buchanan Gate Business Park
Glasgow
G33 6FB

18th February 2018

Dear Nicola,

We are writing to you regarding the closure of Aikenhead Road from 8th January 2018 until May 2018 for flood alleviation works by Scottish Water.

As you will be aware, the closure has caused significant, albeit necessary, disruption to our constituents, not least those who use public transport. Following reported concerns from our constituents, we approached SPT to ask why no apparent provision had been made to mitigate the fact that the only direct bus from the Bankhead area to Glasgow City Centre had been lost. SPT officials tell us that as far back as June 2016, they, and First Glasgow were made aware of the impending works and had discussions regarding the closure, potential diversion routes, and the overall impact of the works to the network. First Glasgow subsequently provided maps containing potential diversion routes for their affected commercial services for SPT to review and analyse.

SPT advise that they met with Scottish Water in the months following this to discuss and review the works and to raise awareness of the requirement to mitigate against the significant disruption to the network which would require additional funds.

Following these discussions, SPT informed us that Scottish Water agreed in principal to provide £100,000 to support two new connecting services that SPT and First Glasgow proposed to introduce for the duration of the works.

We are extremely disappointed to learn from SPT that Scottish Water subsequently decided not to provide this funding after all and left the bus operator to try and resolve the issue without the means to do so.

A number of direct links have now been lost meaning that passengers can no longer get a direct bus from Bankhead to Glasgow City Centre and are instead required to travel to Rutherglen Main Street using the half-hourly 90 service in order to interchange with other services. As you can imagine, this is extremely difficult for many of our constituents,

particularly those who are elderly, disabled or requiring pushchair access, and our younger constituents who use local buses to travel to and from school.

We would be most grateful if you could advise us both of the reason Scottish Water decided to pull out of funding the proposed connecting services and outline what steps will now be taken to resolve this issue for those affected.

Kind regards,



Clare Haughey MSP
Rutherglen Constituency



Councillor Janine Calikes
Rutherglen Central & North