

Jim Eadie MSP

**Constituency Address**

13-15 Morningside Drive
Edinburgh EH10 5LZ
0131 466 5950

Parliament Address

M4.07, The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh EH99 1SP
0131 348 6283

Mr Dave du Feu
(By e-mail: davedufeu@googlemail.com)

15 February 2016

Dear Mr du Feu

Re: 2016/17 Draft Budget – Active Travel

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the Scottish Government's 2016/17 Draft Budget, particularly in relation to the Cycling Walking and Safer Streets (CWSS) budget.

I appreciate your concerns in relation to the Budget and its impact on active travel in Scotland, and I am aware of Spokes Cycling Campaign's proposal to address this by suggesting that 1% of the Scottish Government's £820 million trunk roads budget be transferred to active travel.

While I welcome the Scottish Government's decision to maintain funding for active travel at a record high of £39 million in the 2016/17 Draft Budget, as Co-Convenor of the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Cycling, my fellow co-convenors and I have written to the Deputy First Minister, John Swinney MSP, calling on the Scottish Government to adopt Spokes's proposal.

In our letter, my fellow co-convenors and I have highlighted that a 1% transfer from the trunk roads budget would over, enabling the momentum which has built up in cycling provision, expertise and ambition to be maintained and strengthened in the coming year. We believe that this 1% shift would further signal the Scottish Government's commitment to active travel and would be a positive step towards the vision of 10% of all journeys in Scotland being taken by bike by 2020.

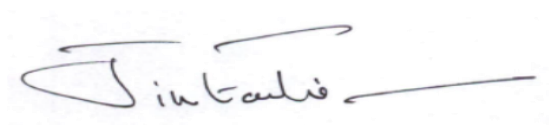
Furthermore, the Scottish Parliament's Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee, of which I am Convenor, has also recommended that the Scottish Government should consider any appropriate in-year savings from across the transport budget be passed to the active and sustainable travel budget for the 2016-17 financial year, and that the Scottish Government make further significant changes to the active and sustainable travel budget in future years.

I do hope for a positive response from the Deputy First Minister regarding this matter, and I hope to see a rise in active travel spending in the Scottish Government's final 2016/17 Budget.

Email: jim.eadie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Weekly surgeries: Monday and Friday between 10am and 12pm, constituency office
(except public holidays)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Jim Eadie', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jim Eadie MSP
Edinburgh Southern constituency
(Scottish National Party)