

Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning

Ministear airson Cumhachdachadh is Dealbhachadh
Riaghaltas Ionadail
Joe FitzPatrick MSP/BPA



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Appendix 2

T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Angus.Millar
Angus.Millar@glasgow.gov.uk

Our Reference: 202300371318
Your Reference: -

25 August 2023

Dear Angus,

Many thanks for your letter of 9 August. Your commitment to addressing the challenges facing Glasgow City Centre and your proactive approach to seeking solutions is very positive to see.

I am heartened by the progress Glasgow City Council has made across various workstreams and strategies to revitalise the city's core and I agree that the recent UCI Cycling World Championships has shown what positive partnership can achieve.

Thank you also for your insights about legislative tools in empowering local authorities. Your views are consistent with our commitment in the policy prospectus to create thriving places that are inclusive, sustainable, and resilient.

On compulsory purchase orders (CPOs), I would like to reaffirm our commitment to reforming and modernising compulsory purchase legislation in Scotland, to make the process clearer, fairer for all parties. The National Planning Framework 4 Delivery Programme confirms that, as a first step, we will appoint an expert advisory panel in 2023-24 to inform the development of options for reform.

Although the membership of that panel is yet to be determined, as one of the main users of CPO in Scotland, we recognise that GCC will have valuable insights and practical experience to contribute to the compulsory purchase reform work.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1
3DG
www.gov.scot



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Silver



This would also build on the already positive engagement between Scottish Government officials and GCC's Empty Homes and Planning teams. We will continue to consider the justification for, and practical operation of Compulsory Sales Orders, particularly in light of our commitment to reforming compulsory purchase legislation – and my officials are open to further dialogue on this point.

Turning to the business case for a Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) mechanism for the Buchanan Quarter, I have seen the plans for the development and agree that this an impressive and transformational project for the city. I am aware that discussions are ongoing between Council officers and my officials to ensure that this collaborative effort is well-informed and productive, and I will keep in touch with progress.

I am also interested in the points you make regarding new financial models to support public intervention in regeneration, including land value capture mechanisms. Our aim is to strike a balance between agility and thoroughness in dealing with catalysing development and I therefore am very open to discussing the art of the possible in this area. I have asked my officials to contact you directly to examine your ideas.

Finally, I agree that ongoing engagement and coordination are crucial in realising the full potential of Glasgow city centre. While various aspects may fall under the purview of different Ministers, I remain committed to maintaining a cohesive and overarching perspective to ensure our combined efforts are well-coordinated and would be happy to meet again for a further discussion.

Yours sincerely,



JOE FITZPATRICK

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1
3DG
www.gov.scot



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Silver

