



Letter to Ofgem

RIIO-3 Draft Determinations - Scottish Power Transmission (SPT)

SPTQ1: *Do you agree with Ofgem's proposal to retain the Net Zero Fund UIOLI for SPT, and with the proposed parameters for it?* (page 13 of RIIO-3 Draft Determinations - Scottish Power Transmission (SPT).)

21 August 2025

To whom it may concern,

This letter is in response to **SPTQ1** in the **RIIO-T3 Draft Determinations – SPT**.

I represent West Dunbartonshire Community Transport (WDCT), we provide transport to eligible residents of WD for health appointments and social events for their well-being by supporting independent living and reducing social isolation. As a social enterprise we are also cognisant of issues with air quality and climate change. We were able to obtain a new EV with wheelchair access features via SPEN in the last round of the RIIO-T2 Net Zero Fund.

WDCT is a volunteer run enterprise, not a huge charity with many resources to call upon. We do not have full-time (or any) staff nor do we have great reserves of money to run our services. All our volunteers are community minded and volunteer as it is a grass roots community service serving many elderly or disabled people by helping them to get out and about safely and comfortably. While we have good support from the local authority they cannot provide any money to help us. Large funders like The National Lottery Fund will not fund services that they believe ought to be provided by other institutions e.g. NHS or local authorities. There are fewer sources of community project funding all being chased by too many deserving causes.

The SPEN team worked well with all applicants, holding workshops online and in-person where their expertise helped groups like mine through the application process and provided great resources to follow up on the projects they funded. I believe that without that expert advice and encouragement I would probably have given up! They had a clear mission to help bring people with them with a Fair Transition to Net Zero.

Without the SPEN TNZ fund we would not have been able to add an EV and probably not even a LEZ compliant vehicle to our service. While the grant received was small in comparison to the total fund it was an extremely significant amount to us and I like to believe resulted in a quicker greater payback – bang-for-buck – as a result. Since we received the EV in December



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2024, it has been in constant use – more than we originally predicted and is only limited in use now by the availability of volunteer drivers.

If we were a larger organisation, I would be applying for any grants now with a view to getting an EV Minibus but we are not in a position to comply with all the necessary pre-conditions but would like to think that the kind of funding proposed by SPEN, could keep rolling to allow groups such as ours to keep working towards Net Zero at our own pace.

We are happy for you to use our feedback in any responsible way you see fit.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Sinnott

Treasurer

West Dunbartonshire Community Transport