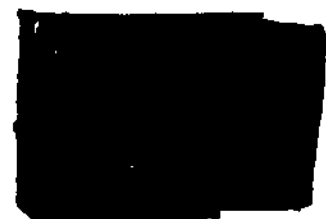


CON539/13



NICOL STEPHEN MSP

- 1 APR 2005

8 APR '05 9:38

ABERDEEN

Mr Nicol Stephen, MSP  
Transport Minister  
The Scottish Executive  
HOLYROOD  
EDINBURGH

NICOL STEPHENS

07 APR 2005

PRIVATE OFFICE

25th March 2005

Dear Sir

I congratulate you and the Executive on the decision to proceed with the extension of the M74 between the Kingston Bridge and the Fullerton Road Junction. The construction of this missing link is long overdue.

With regard to Tolls on the Erskine, Tay and Forth Bridges, why is it that Tolls on these bridges remain while the Tolls on the Sky Bridge have been abolished? I have no overall objection to reasonable Tolls as such, but I am at a loss to understand why it is that the Toll on the Forth Road Bridge was recently raised while no Tolls are paid to cross the Sky Bridge. Surely it would have been more equitable to reduce the Sky Toll in line with the other three Bridges, after all, people for hundreds of years have had to pay tolls to cross to and from Sky. It now seems that users of this Bridge are being subsidised by the Scottish Tax Payer.

