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Graeme Dey MSP

24 January 2022

Graeme

Thank you for your letter.

You are of course right to prioritise your personal health and while you will be missed in government, you have my full support for the decision you have taken. You leave government with my thanks and best wishes, and with many achievements to your name.

As Minister for Parliament and Veterans, you successfully navigated a period of minority government winning the trust and confidence of all parties in parliament as you did so. As Transport Minister, you made a significant contribution to the successful hosting of COP26. You have also extended concessionary travel to young people, introduced bold plans to reduce car miles to support our climate ambitions, and prepared the ground for the return of Scotland's railways to public ownership.

I know that you had a particularly strong commitment to your previous work with Scotland's veterans - securing additional funding for veteran services - and I have no doubt that you will continue to advocate for our veteran community in parliament.

Your counsel has been hugely valuable both to me and to other Ministers, and I know our colleagues in the parliamentary group will now benefit from your contribution as a backbencher. I look forward to seeing you in Parliament soon, where I know you will serve your constituents and the country - and, of course, our cause of an independent Scotland - with drive and commitment.

With best wishes
Nicola

NICOLA STURGEON