

Bus Éireann - Irish Bus School Transport Scheme

Statement of Account

Year Ended 31 December 2003

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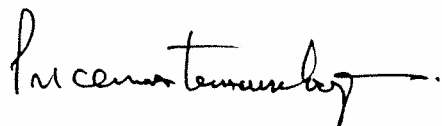
AUDITORS' REPORT: To the Board of Bus Éireann - Irish Bus on the Operation of the School Transport Scheme

We have examined the annexed statement of account, which, together with the appendices to the statement, summarises the amount chargeable to the Department of Education for the year ended 31 December 2003 for the conveyance of primary and post-primary school children.

The net amount chargeable to the Department of Education amounts to €99,068,776 (2002: €87,379,000) and includes €10,593,124 (2002: €10,001,000) in respect of indirect and other direct costs calculated on the basis of 13% of direct costs. Direct costs for this purpose exclude amounts charged in respect of depreciation and interest on Bus Éireann - Irish Bus vehicles. In arriving at the amount chargeable for scheduled services, the factor for absenteeism has been taken into account at 4.5% in accordance with the Department of Education's letter dated 2 March 1970.

We have carried out such examinations and tests of the accounting and other records relating to the operation of the School Transport Scheme as we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit. The statement of account has been drawn up in accordance with the general arrangements and principles of accounting as set out in the Summary of Accounting Arrangements relating to the Transport Scheme for Primary and Post-Primary School Children dated 1 January 1975.

In our opinion the statement of account is a fair and reasonable statement of the amount chargeable to the Department of Education in respect of the School Transport Scheme.



PricewaterhouseCoopers
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
Dublin

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT
Year Ended 31 December 2003

	2003 €'000	2002 €'000
I Receipts		
(1) Payments on account by the Department of Education	92,520	88,739
(2) Receipts from fare-paying passengers	<u>6,461</u>	<u>6,321</u>
	98,981	95,060
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II Special Services (Expenditure)		
(1) Driver costs	8,147	7,862
(2) Running costs	13,785	14,732
(3) Road tax	50	55
(4) Insurance and claims	1,730	1,756
(5) Payments to contractors	52,920	47,287
(6) Inspectors' wages	1,945	2,055
(7) Inspectors' cars	174	157
(8) Salaries	2,690	2,986
(9) Prefect award scheme	<u>45</u>	<u>44</u>
	81,486	76,934
(10) Add 13% (for indirect and other direct costs)	10,593	10,001
(11) Depreciation (Bus Éireann vehicles)	2,984	2,999
(12) Interest (Bus Éireann vehicles)	<u>238</u>	<u>358</u>
Total special services	95,301	90,292
III Scheduled Services		
Charge for children carried	<u>3,767</u>	<u>3,408</u>
Total	99,068	93,700
IV Receipts from Fare-Paying Passengers	<u>(6,461)</u>	<u>(6,321)</u>
V Total net amount chargeable to the Department of Education	92,607	87,379
Payments on account by the Department of Education	<u>(92,520)</u>	<u>(88,739)</u>
Amount due by/(to) the Department of Education for year	87	(1,360)
Balance carried forward from previous year	<u>(861)</u>	<u>499</u>
Balance due by/(to) the Department of Education	<u>(774)</u>	<u>(861)</u>
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W Lilley - Managing Director


M Nolan - Manager Finance and Accounting

TRANSPORT OF PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN
Year Ended 31 December 2003

	Number of children at 31.12.03	Cumulative child weeks	Total Amount €	Cost per child week €
Mode of transport				
Special services				
Large bus	25,679	948,739	20,383,775	21.49
Medium bus	8,274	281,474	6,606,000	23.47
Mini-bus	17,566	652,426	27,293,197	41.83
	51,519	1,882,639	54,282,972	28.83
Scheduled services	1,625	64,425	392,509	6.09
Total amount due			54,675,481	
Less: Receipts from fare-paying passengers			(516,879)	
Net cost of operations			54,158,605	
Less: Payments by Department of Education			(55,720,483)	
Amount due to the Department of Education			(1,561,878)	

TRANSPORT OF POST-PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN
Year Ended 31 December 2003

	Number of children at 31.12.03	Cumulative child weeks	Total Amount €	Cost per Child Week €
Mode of transport				
Special services				
Large bus	56,180	1,971,300	31,789,104	16.13
Medium bus	6,677	206,449	4,563,764	22.11
Mini-bus	5,795	209,460	4,666,226	22.28
	<u>68,652</u>	<u>2,387,209</u>	<u>41,019,094</u>	<u>17.18</u>
Scheduled services	<u>8,224</u>	<u>286,556</u>	<u>3,374,201</u>	<u>22.11</u>
Total amount due			44,393,295	
Less: Receipts from fare-paying passengers			(5,944,068)	
Net cost of operations			38,449,227	
Less: Payments by Department of Education			(36,800,032)	
Amount due by the Department of Education			<u>1,649,195</u>	