Lothian Buses – Public Transport Operator of the Year

Lothian Buses has scooped the Public Transport Operator of the Year award at this year's Scottish Transport Awards.

The awards which were held this week at the Radisson Blu in Glasgow, are designed to recognise innovation, excellence and progress across all areas of transport and are regarded as the highest industry accolades in Scotland.

Lothian Buses driver Neil Reid was also commended as Frontline Employee of the Year for going above and beyond the call the duty to help customers and members of the public.

Lothian Buses was also shortlisted for three other awards including **Excellence in Travel Information and Marketing, Excellence in Technology and Innovation and Best Bus Service.**

Ian Craig, Chief Executive of Transport for Edinburgh, said:

"Winning this award is a huge honour as it shows the hard work and dedication of our employees over the past twelve months has been recognised by our industry peers.

"As Lothian Buses moves forward as part of the Transport for Edinburgh, we will continue to work hard to enhance the service we provide even further, while setting new standards for bus travel in Scotland."

Transport Convener Lesley Hinds said:-

"This is a big win for Lothian Buses, a well deserved one after a fantastic year for the company and everyone should be

proud of what they've achieved.

"With Lothian Buses consistently doing so well and a very positive start for Edinburgh Trams, I'm confident that we're in a strong position to thrive into the future under Transport for Edinburgh."

In 2013, the Company won the Scottish Transport Award for Contribution to Sustainable Transport.

Lothian Buses recently reported its most successful year in 2013 with an increase in net profit by of 7.8%, patronage exceeded 115m journeys, with four million more than in 2012 and the highest recorded for over 25 years. A survey by Passenger Focus recorded an overall passenger satisfaction rate of 96%, the highest of any operator surveyed across the UK.