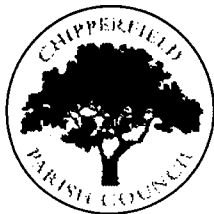


## Chipperfield Parish Council



### Clerk to the Council:

John Pringle  
30 Longbridge Close  
New Mill  
Tring  
Herts., HP23 5HG

**Tel/Fax:** 01442 822704

**From the Chairman:** Liz Holliday, Gorse Cottage, The Common,  
Chipperfield, Herts., WD4 9BL

**Tel:** 01923 267483 **e-mail:** liz.holliday@btinternet.com

25 August 2004

Mike Davey  
Competition Commission  
New Court  
48 Carey Street  
London  
WC2A 2JT

Your ref: TPL/01

Dear Mr Davey

### **Anticipated acquisition by Arriva plc of the Hertfordshire bus operations of Sovereign Bus and Coach Company**

Thank you for your letter dated 13 August sent to our Parish Clerk, Mr. John Pringle, inviting comments on the proposed acquisition of Sovereign by Arriva.

As our next Parish Council meeting is not until 13 September and your deadline for responses is 2 September, I have consulted the Chairman of our Highways, Road Safety and Public Transport Committee, Councillor John Carter, for his comments and opinion.

On behalf of Chipperfield Parish Council we should like you to note the following opinions:

1. The control of more routes within the county <sup>by one company</sup> may encourage the removal of services on those which are financially uneconomic but have a social value. This could cause hardship to residents of villages who do not have their own transport or access to other forms of public transport;
2. With the competitive element removed it will be possible for one company to raise fares without adequate consultation with customers or due consideration of the social value of routes.

Should you wish to contact me in the future, please use my e-mail address given above.

Yours sincerely

*Liz Holliday*

Chairman  
Chipperfield Parish Council