

**From:** [Name redacted]@gov.scot

**Sent:** 01 July 2022 13:16

**To:**[Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] [@gov.scot](mailto:[Name redacted]@gov.scot)>; [Name redacted] @gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** [Name redacted] @gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: URGENT: UKG Meeting

Hi [Name redacted],

Thanks for this – have cleared with SpAds.

Many thanks,  
[Name redacted]

[Name redacted] | Deputy Private Secretary to the Minister for Transport – Jenny Gilruth  
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG  
Email: [Name redacted]

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

**From:** [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot

**Sent:** 30 June 2022 15:40

**To:** [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] [@gov.scot](mailto:[Name redacted]@gov.scot)>; [Name redacted] @gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** [Name redacted] @gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: URGENT: UKG Meeting

Hi [Name redacted],

It needs cut down a little, grateful for consideration of this version:



Thanks,  
[Name redacted]

**From:** [Name redacted]@gov.scot

**Sent:** 30 June 2022 15:15

**To:** [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** [Name redacted] @gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [Name redacted] @transport.gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: URGENT: UKG Meeting

Hi [Name redacted],

Thanks for amending. Ms Gilruth is not content with the below.

The Minister would be grateful if colleagues could amalgamate the first one with the second, deleting the sentence starting 'scotland stands to suffer'? I appreciate there may be a word limit here.

Many thanks,  
[Name redacted]

[Name redacted] Deputy Private Secretary to the Minister for Transport – Jenny Gilruth  
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG  
Email: [Name redacted]

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.











**Ms Gilruth said:**

“This crisis for our railway is not of our making, yet businesses and communities across Scotland are being deeply affected by the strikes.

“That’s why it’s extremely frustrating that a further meeting with the UK Government Rail Minister has been cancelled again. Scotland’s interests are being harmed, Scottish employees are affected, and the UK Government doesn’t have the decency to bother to meet with us. They provide no information about what is happening, we don’t know what mandate has been giving to Network Rail, nor have we any opportunity to input meaningfully to that.

“I wanted to meet with Wendy Morton to stress the impact of the strikes and press her on exactly what the UK Government is doing to resolve the dispute.

“It’s abundantly clear to everyone that Scotland is not being well served by Network Rail’s plans given ScotRail have been forced to run some of the most limited services in the country – despite not participating in the UK-wide strike action. These circumstances show exactly the need for independence which would allow full devolution of rail services.

“Despite repeated calls to get this situation resolved, UK Ministers are moving with Sloth-like urgency on this and are completely asleep at the wheel.

“It now seems abundantly clear that they are deliberately picking a fight with the rail unions – the travelling public and local economies are merely collateral damage this week. They need to take their heads out of the sand and come to a reasonable and affordable compromise with the RMT and Network Rail.

“Last week we saw new legislation unveiled – without any consultation with the Scottish Government – to bring in agency staff and undermine the unions and highly trained rail staff. Enough is enough, as the unions have said this week, our door is open if UK Ministers require a lesson in how to negotiate fair deals for workers who have kept transport running during the pandemic.

“I must pay tribute to the travelling public and thank them for checking ahead, seeking alternatives, and working flexibly, where possible. However, that does not help people who need to travel to and from work. There can be no more excuses as we enter the crucial peak holiday season, with most schools finishing up in Scotland shortly. We are trapped in a ludicrous situation where we have no say, no power, no input and no respect from UK Government transport Ministers, and yet Scotland stands to suffer more than the rest of the UK if more strikes are called.”

**Background**

The difference between our approach to partnership working with Trade Unions and UK Government approach of belligerent provocation could not be more stark. Here, we have ensured ScotRail has been able to engage constructively with unions to make sensible and



credible pay offers that balance cost of living pressures for workers with our own budgetary pressures.

Our approach includes a positive proposal and incentive where rail staff can share in the success of the railway they deliver as passenger numbers grow. In contrast, UK Government is threatening rail staff with compulsory redundancies and new anti-union legislation. In Scotland the drivers' union is recommending acceptance of ScotRail's partnership pay proposal, while constructive talks with RMT means the same offer will be considered by their National Executive soon.

**From:** [Name redacted]  
**Sent:** 29 June 2022 16:27  
**To:** [Name redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: UKG Meeting

Hi [Name redacted],

The Minister has been back to back between PQs / teams calls since the release came up but we have a 15 min gap before the media bid at 5pm – will ask the Minister to take a look then.

Many thanks,

[Name redacted] | Private Secretary to Jenny Gilruth MSP Minister For Transport | Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG | Tel: [Redacted] | **Mob:** [Redacted]

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

**From:** [Name redacted]  
**Sent:** 29 June 2022 15:54  
**To:** [Name redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: UKG Meeting

Just to stress we already have x3 news releases issuing tomorrow, so it would be good to issue this today, or at least under embargo for AM if it's later on, thanks.

**From:** [Name redacted]  
**Sent:** 29 June 2022 14:38  
**To:** [Name redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: UKG Meeting

A couple of suggested wee tweaks

News Release – draft version

June 29, 2022

## UK Ministers must step up and fix broken rail system Scotland's economy suffering disproportionate impact from strikes

UK Ministers have been told to urgently step in and fix their broken rail system.

As Scotland prepares for a busy summer of music concerts, arts festivals, sporting events and an influx of tourists and visitors, Ministers here are urging the UK Government to step in and resolve the pay dispute with Network rail employees.

A meeting between the Transport Minister Jenny Gilruth and the UK **Government** Rail Minister Wendy Morton MP was cancelled last week at short notice and rearranged for today. The planned meeting was again cancelled today.

Transport Minister Jenny Gilruth has twice written to UK **Government** Transport Secretary Grant Shapps calling for a swift resolution to the UK-wide Network Rail dispute. Last week saw services severely disrupted, with more strikes expected over the summer.

### Ms Gilruth said:

“This crisis for our railway is not of our making, yet businesses and communities across Scotland are being deeply affected by the strikes.

“That’s why it’s extremely frustrating that a further meeting with the UK **Government** Rail Minister has been cancelled again. **Scotland’s interests are being harmed, Scottish employees are affected, and the UK Government doesn’t have the decency to bother to meet with us. They provide no information about what is happening, we don’t know what mandate has been giving to Network Rail, nor have we any opportunity to input meaningfully to that.**

“I wanted **ed** to meet ~~in person~~ with Wendy Morton to stress the impact of the strikes and press her on exactly what the UK Government is doing to resolve the dispute.

“It’s abundantly clear to everyone that Scotland is not being well served by Network Rail’s plans given ScotRail have been forced to run some of the most limited services in the country – despite not participating in the UK-wide strike action. These circumstances show exactly the need for **independence which would allow** full devolution of rail services.

“Despite repeated calls to get this situation resolved, UK Ministers are moving with Sloth-like urgency on this and are completely asleep at the wheel.

“**It now seems abundantly clear that they are** ~~If we didn’t know any better we would say they were~~ deliberately picking a fight with the **rail** unions – the travelling public **and local**

**economies** are merely collateral damage this week. They need to take their heads out of the sand and come to a reasonable and affordable compromise with the RMT and Network Rail.

“Last week we saw new legislation unveiled – without any consultation with the Scottish Government – to bring in agency staff and undermine the unions and highly trained rail staff. Enough is enough, as the unions have said this week, our door is open if UK Ministers require a lesson in how to negotiate fair deals for workers who have kept transport running during the pandemic.

“I must pay tribute to the travelling public and thank them for checking ahead, seeking alternatives, and working flexibly, where possible. However, **that does not help people who need to travel to and from work. There** can be no more excuses as we enter the crucial peak ~~tourism~~ **holiday** season, **with schools finishing up here in Scotland shortly**. We are trapped in a ludicrous situation where we **have no say, no power, no input and no respect from UK Government transport Ministers** ~~are not having any meaningful engagement with the UK Government,~~ and yet Scotland stands to suffer more than the rest of the UK if more strikes are called.”

### **Background**

The difference between our approach to partnership working with Trade Unions and UK Government approach of belligerent provocation could not be more stark. Here, we have ensured ScotRail has been able to engage constructively with unions to make sensible and credible pay offers that balance cost of living pressures for workers with our own budgetary pressures.

Our approach includes a positive proposal and incentive where rail staff can share in the success of the railway they deliver as passenger numbers grow. In contrast, UK Government is threatening rail staff with compulsory redundancies and new anti-union legislation. In Scotland the drivers’ union is recommending acceptance of ScotRail’s partnership pay proposal, while constructive talks with RMT means the same offer will be considered by their National Executive soon.

[Name redacted]

Special Advisor to the First Minister

Local Government and Transport

(interim Business, Trade, Tourism and Enterprise)

[Redacted]

Scottish Government

St Andrew’s House, 2 Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot).