

[REDACTED] [OUT OF SCOPE]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 12 October 2022 13:00

To: Transport Scotland Ministerial Submissions List <[REDACTED]>

Cc: [REDACTED] Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]

Subject: Fife Decarbonisation - Festive Access - Ministerial paper - High Importance

Importance: High

Private Office

Please see attached a note for Transport Minister's attention regarding the planned Festive Access on Fife Decarbonisation Project.

Attached is the document, and ERDM link is:

<https://erdm.scotland.gov.uk:8443/documents/A40838442/details>

The Minister needs to be aware of this as there is a meeting this afternoon (Thursday 12/10/22) with SRH / SRT where Fife Decarbonisation project will be discussed.

[REDACTED]

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF



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Minister for Transport

1. FIFE ELECTRIFICATION – FESTIVE DISRUPTIVE ACCESS ANNOUNCEMENT

1.1 Purpose

To advise the Minister that [REDACTED] is planning to close the railway between South Gyle and Dalmeny for eight days between Christmas and New Year 2022. This is for essential route clearance in advance of the electrification of the Fife lines. This closure will cause significant disruption across Fife and Central Scotland rail corridor. [REDACTED] proposes to announce this and the arrangements for affected passengers on 24th October.

1.2 Priority

1.3

1.4 HIGH

1.5 Context and Issues

1. **[REDACTED]** proposes to make an announcement and associated press release on 24th October (draft press release in Appendix A).
2. Over a period of 8 days from 22.00hrs Saturday 24th December 2022 to 05.30hrs on Monday 2nd January 2023 there will be a closure of the rail line between South Gyle and Dalmeny (map in Appendix B). As trains do not operate on 25/26th December or 1st January, the impact is only from 27th December to 31st December.
3. The closure is necessary to undertake essential route clearance work to clear the route for electrification and maintain programme for completion of the route decarbonisation by 2025.
4. Works focuses on providing space for the electrification wires to be installed safely above the track. The work will include lowering the level of track under some bridges, bridge demolitions, track renewals, signalling, power upgrades and vegetation management. These activities; two double track lowers in particular, have been identified as too technically demanding and time consuming to be successfully undertaken on a live railway environment. The activities have therefore been scheduled for the festive period after Christmas when passenger numbers are usually at a very low level.
5. Closure of this section of railway will require some trains to be diverted, while others may be replaced by buses for sections of their journeys. The line closure will impact on services provided by ScotRail **[REDACTED]**, as well as some freight services.
6. Closure proposals were originally reviewed based on extended disruptive working over a 5 week period in January 2023; on closer consideration this proposal was rejected by Scotland's Railway industry in preference for blockade over the festive period, on account of the much higher levels of disruption which would have occurred with the January proposal.
7. All other works on the project have been planned to avoid utilising festive periods or bank holidays. No further blockades are planned although there may be some further periods of more limited disruptive working.
8. The line closure will impact on rail services across Fife and central Scotland; with extended passenger journey times and bus replacement services for some passengers. While we await ScotRail confirmation of the timetable impacts for the 24 December to 2 January closure there are likely to be reduced services between Edinburgh to Dundee, Fife to Edinburgh and Edinburgh to Perth. Services from Edinburgh to Aberdeen will be diverted via Stirling, **[REDACTED]** services. In addition, there may be an impact on services between Glasgow and Dundee. As a result of Transport Scotland intervention the extent of the closure area has been minimised, facilitating

train movements in the Dalmeny area, including some train services between Fife and Edinburgh, via Winchburgh chord.

9. A robust challenge was made by Transport Scotland and changes were undertaken. We are content that Scotland's Railway is delivering an optimum solution for disruption that best meets customer needs.
10. Work has been planned for this time to reduce impact on Customer Services. Off peak passenger rail journeys between Fife and Edinburgh in 2019 were 65% less in Christmas week than average. Customer behaviours for leisure travel haven't changed materially as a result of the pandemic. Off peak / leisure travel between Fife and Edinburgh during the 2022 festivals was just less than 10% less than the same period in 2019.

1.6 Mitigations and Communications Plan

11. ScotRail are due to publish their proposed timetable on 28th October 2022; with progress delayed due to ongoing industrial action. Transport Scotland, **[REDACTED]** ScotRail**[REDACTED]** and **[REDACTED]** are working closely to co-ordinate communications to the travelling public.
12. The Communications Plan is in development and this will be shared with you at the earliest opportunity in advance of 28th October timetable publication. The plan will include an extensive publicity including leaflets, traditional media and social media campaigns.
13. There is a risk that some passengers may begin to notice that these journeys are not yet available to book on the system. Consideration was given to announcing the works now, with the amended timetable later however it was felt this would be a presentational risk in offering the opposition around four weeks to criticise the lack of information.
14. The following holding lines have been prepared in case the works become public knowledge before any announcement:
 - We appreciate that any works of this nature bring benefits on completion but are disruptive to passengers while they take place.
 - We fully expect **[REDACTED]** and ScotRail to work together to mitigate the impacts and keep passengers fully informed so they can make reliable journey plans.

1.7 Conclusions and next Steps

15. An early announcement is recommended to notify passengers of planned disruption to Rail services; **[REDACTED]** plan to make the announcement on 24th October 2022, with further announcements to be made once timetable information is available.

16. Detailed communications plan is in development and will be shared with you for your approval at the earliest opportunity.

1.8

1.9 Recommendations

17. The Minister notes the contents of this briefing regarding the blockade of the Fife lines from 22.00hrs Saturday 24th December 2022 to 05.30hrs on Monday 2nd January 2023.

18. Confirms the Minister is content that [REDACTED] issue press release as planned on 24th October.

[REDACTED]

Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers Copy List	For Action	For Information Portfolio interest	For Information Constituency interest	For Information General awareness
Minister for Transport	Yes			Yes
Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport				

Officials Copy List
Bill Reeve [REDACTED]

Appendix A – Draft Press Release

[REDACTED] to clear the way for Fife electrification this Christmas

[REDACTED] has announced that the railway between Edinburgh and Fife will be closed for eight days over Christmas and New Year.

Engineers will work around the clock during this time to carry out extensive work between South Gyle and Dalmeny to clear the way for electrification of lines to Fife.

Over a period of 8 days from 22.00 Saturday 24th December until the 05.30 on Monday 2nd January, work will be continuous to carry out a range of work including track lowers, bridge demolition, track renewal and vegetation management.

This work cannot be undertaken while the railway is open and given the length of time required to complete specific elements, in particular the track lowers, the activity has been scheduled for the festive period in order to minimise the disruption to the travelling public.

The closure of this section of the railway line means some trains will be diverted and others will be replaced by buses for sections of their journey. The line closure will impact on services provide by ScotRail, [REDACTED] as well as on the [REDACTED].

Passengers who need to travel between Edinburgh, Fife and North East Scotland over the festive period are being urged to plan their journey in advance and check how their journey may be affected by visiting www.nationalrail.co.uk or by checking individual operators' websites.

[REDACTED] for the Fife electrification, said: "The work we are undertaking over the festive period is vital to the delivery of electrification of lines into Fife and to meeting the Scottish Government's ambition to decarbonise Scotland's Railway.

"While closing the railway at any time is never ideal, the festive period is a time when fewer people are travelling on the railway and so the timing of this work reduces overall inconvenience for the travelling public.

"We understand that this is not great news for those making plans to travel during the holiday season to visit family or friends or for leisure purposes, but the work planned cannot be delivered without closing the railway.

"We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause to people planning to use this route and we would urge them to plan ahead and check their journey in advance."

ends

Appendix B – Map of Route

Section 1 – Festive Blockade South Gyle to Dalmeny



From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 24 October 2022 17:15

To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED] press release: Fife blockade announcement

Hi [REDACTED]

As previously email, [REDACTED] has responded which I have copied in red italics below. In this instance I'm supportive of their position but if the Minister wishes I will ask [REDACTED] to look at an alternative proposal but that will take a few weeks, have a significant cost attached it, unlikely to be agreed with the other train operators and import risk to our current decarbonisation programme.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

“Hi [REDACTED]

As you know, [REDACTED] does not impose the possession strategy for projects like this, we agree it in collaboration with our colleagues at ScotRail Trains and other affected operators, including freight where it operates. We also agree the strategy for the biggest projects, including this one, with Transport Scotland.

With [REDACTED] help I have tried to set out the rationale for this blockade strategy as below split into passenger and infrastructure reasons:

Passenger

- Undertaking this work over the festive period means utilising 3 days where no services will be running on the affected line (Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day) It does still allow for Boxing Day service to be run on the E&G line, should this be planned by ScotRail Trains.*
- Blockades, planned with sufficient notice, are less disruptive than alternative possession strategies such as repeated weekend closures or extended rules of the route, shutting down services early for months. Train operators can also resource and deliver a more effective alternate transport plan for blockades compared to shorter closures.*
- Pre-pandemic, average daily passenger numbers in Fife were 10-20% less in Christmas week compared to the norm and whilst this may be less significant with current numbers it will still impact less than implementing out with the festive period.*

Infrastructure

- Using the 8 day blockade at Christmas / New Year 22/23 work de-conflicts the already planned disruptive access in 2023 north of the Forth Bridge. Fife passengers in 2023 will still have the options for trains to Edinburgh via the alternative side of the Fife Circle as a result of the completed Haymarket to Dalmeny blockade work.*

- *Additional cost efficiencies are being delivered through significant co-ordination of track lowers for the electrification project with track renewals and structural alterations in the same area. If the works were to be delivered individually the overall unit cost would increase.*
- *The proposed track lowers require full depth excavation (>600mm). Working on both lines at same time reduces the need for significant temporary works to retain the ballast on the adjacent line if they were to be completed in alternate weekend disruptive possessions. The works as proposed can only be completed in a blockade.*
- *Local Authority liaison has coordinated the re-deck of structures at South Gyle and Broomhouse to minimise disruption to the surrounding road network. Pushing back the proposed works at South Gyle will impact on possessions already booked in Autumn 2023 for 3 structures being demolished and rebuilt over a 4 week window in Autumn.*
- *The Aberdeen to Central Belt projects will introduce significant additional disruptive access requests from 2024 onwards.*

There has been an extensive process to get to this point which looks at minimising the disruption to passengers as the primary consideration. Making a change to the blockade approach at this stage would inevitably result in more, rather than less, disruption to passengers and significant cost escalation – rail logistics and key resource deployment are planned several months in advance. There would also be the need to agree a new strategy with all affected operators, all of whom have expressed their preference for the current proposal.

With all that being said, if the minister would like us to set out an alternative option then I shall talk to the project team about how we might do that. It is likely to take a few weeks to review as we will need to consider all logistical arrangements, staff availability and operator plans”.

[REDACTED]

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF



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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Transport

Sent: 24 October 2022 15:57

To: [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED]press release: Fife blockade announcement

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for the update – just echoing [REDACTED] comments, the Minister has been clear in her request for alternative options to be put forward so it would be helpful to have details on why this is the case.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
Email: MinisterFT@gov.scot

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 24 October 2022 15:34

To: [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED]press release: Fife blockade announcement

Thanks [REDACTED] will need to explain that then to the Minister I think

[REDACTED]

Scottish Government

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

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 24 October 2022 15:26

To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED] press release: Fife blockade announcement

Afternoon [REDACTED],

I've only received a response from ScotRail and still waiting on [REDACTED]. It doesn't look good as and it's likely there will be no change of proposal from ScotRail or [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Transport
Sent: 24 October 2022 15:19
To: [REDACTED]; Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED]press release: Fife blockade announcement

Hi [REDACTED] (adding Rail Passenger Services colleagues)

Ms Gilruth is meeting with ScotRail tomorrow and has sought confirmation that an alternative approach is being considered and that the Minister will not be presented with the same proposal?

Many thanks
[REDACTED]

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Email: MinisterFT@gov.scot

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 October 2022 11:00
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FTo clear: [REDACTED]press release: Fife blockade announcement

Morning [REDACTED]

In response to the Minister's request, I have now requested [REDACTED] to review the proposed engineering access arrangements with a view to planning these over three weekends. Advice from ScotRail Trains and [REDACTED] indicate the proposed plan is an optimal solution in respect of disruption for rail users as weekends are quite busy and there are fewer commuters around at the proposed blockade.

We will update the minister when [REDACTED] has reverted to us.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: : [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 October 2022 10:14

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: FTo clear [REDACTED] press release: Fife blockade announcement

From: [REDACTED] > On Behalf Of Minister for Transport

Sent: 20 October 2022 17:46

To: [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED] press release: Fife blockade announcement

Hi [REDACTED]

Ms Gilruth does not feel a further meeting with SRH would be of benefit given this work is being undertaken by [REDACTED]

The Minister would be grateful for options for how this work could be reduced in timescale, for example, 3 days shorter with that work spread across Sundays in January.

Additionally, on the below highlighted grateful if you can confirm what is meant by the 'rail industry'? It is the Minister who will have to defend this and she does not feel that the current proposition is the optimal solution. Please can officials therefore ask [REDACTED] for alternative options to truncate and/or spread this work out.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

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Email: MinisterFT@gov.scot

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 20 October 2022 11:29

To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED]press release: Fife blockade announcement

[REDACTED]

The Edinburgh Glasgow via Falkirk High route was closed on 2 occasions as part of the Edinburgh Glasgow Improvement Programme (EGIP) electrification :

- 44 day closure of Winchburgh Tunnel 13 June -27 July 2015
- 140 Day closure of Queen Street Tunnel and High Level Station 20 March – 8 August 2016

In both cases a significant disruption management plan was deployed. Some limited intermediate route journeys on the line were possible however no end to end services on the Edinburgh Glasgow via Falkirk High Route with passengers diverted to alternate train routes/ stations . Highland, Aberdeen, Dundee and Stirling line services to Glasgow faced significant disruption with diversion to Queen Street low level and Glasgow Central as well as some services terminating early at Springburn.

I understand there was an earlier proposal for the works to be carried out over an extended period starting in January, however this was rejected by the Rail Industry on the basis that the scope of works meant delivery by limited possession based strategy would be extremely challenging and significantly more disruptive for passengers.

It's worth reiterating that as services would not normally operate in this area on the 25/26 December and 1 January and have the benefit of the shutdown on the 24th, services will only actually face additional disruption from 27th December to 31st December even though the possession spans 8 days.

[REDACTED] who leads on the Fife Decarbonisation project for TS Rail Projects is on leave this week; if it would be helpful [REDACTED] could meet with Minister next week to provide more detailed advice although I'd suggest any meeting should include ScotRail Holdings colleagues who lead on the timetable and operations side and I understand briefed Minister last week on the proposal.

Regards

[REDACTED]

transport.gov.scot

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF

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From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Transport
Sent: 20 October 2022 09:23
To: [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED]Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED]press release: Fife blockade announcement

Thanks [REDACTED]
Colleagues – grateful for advice on the below and the point round 3 additional days as soon as possible please.

Many thanks
[REDACTED]
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Email: MinisterFT@gov.scot

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From[REDACTED]
Sent: 19 October 2022 20:42
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED]Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED]press release: Fife blockade announcement

Hi [REDACTED]

I'll certainly instruct [REDACTED] that we wish to pause the communications for further discussion on this matter.

In terms of the closure itself and discussion around alternative approach to the works I would need to revert to officials who can advise further on these engineering works, the rationale for the approach taken and also the extent to which any changes to the programme could be made

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

Sent with BlackBerry Work (www.blackberry.com)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>

Sent: 19 Oct 2022 20:21

To: "[REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>

Cc: "[REDACTED]" Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED] press release: Fife blockade announcement

Hi [REDACTED]

The Minister would like this to be **paused** until we have feedback from Cab Sec on his views. In the meantime is there any possibility these works could be spread out e.g. over a few Sundays? Ms Gilruth discussed this very briefly with ScotRail last week, but it is going to really affect Fife communities over Christmas – and anyone travelling between Edinburgh and Aberdeen - and the Minister is still not clear that there couldn't be an alternative approach adopted by [REDACTED]. Did the mean Edin / Gla line ever close for 8 days when it was being electrified?

The Minister is not content to front up comms on this either, given this is the approach [REDACTED] want to take. Ms Gilruth understands why they are doing it but it is not going to land well, particularly given the impacts of the current timetable on Fife which we have previously discussed. The Minister does not think rushing to get this out is the right approach and am asking for a 24 hour pause to allow Ms Gilruth to get Cab Sec and [REDACTED] views.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

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EH1 3DG

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 19 October 2022 19:10

To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED] Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED] press release: Fife blockade announcement

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you and apologies for the confusion.

I can confirm that 'blockade' will not be used externally for passenger comms as this is railway terminology. The full closure period is for eight days, three of which are bank holidays and the rest are additional. This is detailed in the attached briefing which was previously submitted by officials.

I've updated the first two paragraphs of the release and the notes to try to reflect the Minister's comments and to make this clearer for passengers.

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** Minister for Transport
Sent: 19 October 2022 18:45
To: [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FTo clear: [REDACTED] press release: Fife blockade announcement

Hi [REDACTED]

The Minister has suggested this not be referred to as the 'Fife blockade'.

Can officials please confirm the **three additional days** this line closure covers as it is not clear from press release. Eight days of closure – which would be the usual closure dates and which dates are additional? This seems to be longer than the Ms Gilruth believed as it was only 5 days originally and didn't come into the NY period?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

The Scottish Government, St Andrews House (2N.08), Regent Road, Edinburgh,
EH1 3DG
[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 October 2022 17:17
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Subject: FTo clear: [REDACTED] press release: Fife blockade announcement

Evening [REDACTED]

Attached for comment is a [REDACTED] press release regards the Fife Christmas blockade - below are our draft lines on this. [REDACTED] plan to issue this week (Thurs) - this was discussed with the Minister at a recent ScotRail meeting.

“These latest works are a great example of our investment in Scotland’s Railway and our commitment to a rolling programme of electrification which continues to make good progress. This builds on similar works that have already taken place to electrify the Glasgow to Barrhead and East Kilbride lines, as well as the construction that began earlier this year between Haymarket and Dalmeny.

“By working closely together, both [REDACTED] and ScotRail have planned these works to be delivered at the least disruptive time while delivering maximum benefits from a rail closure of this nature. While we appreciate this will bring some short term disruption, the long term benefits will far outweigh this.”

Suggested handling

- We don’t normally include a Ministerial quote in a release of this nature given its operational/disruption angle but I expect we will likely be approached with bids given the Minister’s constituency will be impacted therefore recommend issuing the lines, attributed to the Minister, proactively.
- It is likely we will receive some bids therefore it would be worth blocking off some time in the Minister’s diary on Thursday afternoon. Our recommendation would be to undertake these at a railway station in Fife on Thurs afternoon.
- It may also be helpful if the Minister is seen to be supportive of these works by issuing something from her constituency office (eg does Ms Gilruth have a regular column in a local paper of similar that could be used to promote the investment.)

Grateful if the Minister could consider the lines and suggested handling for approval please.

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 October 2022 15:12
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Fife blockade announcement
Importance: High

[REDACTED]

To see attached, planning to send this to the Minister asap and to arrange a time for her to be available for interviews if we get any bids

Will need to send lines to take along with the release, can you send anything to me along with any comments on the release please? Hoping to send it to [REDACTED] Minister by lunchtime tomorrow.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 October 2022 15:09
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fife blockade announcement
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Hope you are well.

Please see latest draft of the Fife blockade announcement. I have tweaked as discussed to caveat the service impact being on only 4 of the 8 day closure.

Based on information from [REDACTED], I have also scaled back the level of detail I the background to focus on key headline information. This is [REDACTED] preference for now and it will be followed up with other comms and online information which will relay travel info by station.

If you send back your thoughts, I will et it signed -off from our end and share with others ahead of Thursday PM.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Fife engineering improvement works

1. Local travel plans – rail, replacement bus, or local bus routes

By comparing rail travel during this summer’s Edinburgh International Festivals with 2019, we know Fife leisure travel to Edinburgh is currently around 15 per cent less than 2019 levels. During Christmas week in 2019, Monday, 30 December was the busiest day of travel between Fife and Edinburgh with around 10,500 single journeys. We have used this as a baseline for our alternate transport planning as the next busiest day was 31 December with 7,500 single journeys. The estimated peak daily single trips from each station in Fife are shown in the table below.

Station Name	Peak daily single journeys	Recommended transport mode
ABERDOUR	350	Rail
CARDENDEN	144	Rail
COWDENBEATH	350	Either rail or bus
CUPAR	454	Rail
DALGETY BAY	660	Either rail or bus
DUNFERMLINE CITY & QM	1,919	[REDACTED]bus
GLNRTHES THORNT	247	Rail
INVERKEITHING	2,409	[REDACTED] bus
KINGHORN	247	Rail
KIRKCALDY	1,817	[REDACTED] bus
LADYBANK	247	Rail
MARKINCH	660	Rail
NORTH QUEENSFY	350	Rail
ROSYTH	660	Either rail or bus
DALMENY	550	Rail replace bus
EDINBURGH GATEWAY	100	Tram
SOUTH GYLE	350	[REDACTED] bus

Two rail services will operate each hour through Fife during the period of the engineering works:

- An hourly service will operate from Dundee via Kirkcaldy to Edinburgh reversing at Linlithgow; and
- An hourly service will operate from Perth via Dunfermline to Dalmeny where a rail replacement bus will transport customers directly to the city centre.

Of the 10,500 daily journeys from Fife, we’d expect 5,500-6,000 on the direct service via Kirkcaldy to Edinburgh and 4,500-5,000 on the service via Dunfermline to Dalmeny. Trains are planned to be formed of six carriages and have around 380 seats. We expect most customers to travel into Edinburgh between 10.00 and 14.00 and return between 15.00 and 19.00. During this period, rail services will provide just over 6,000 seats.

A half hourly rail replacement bus service will operate between Dalmeny and Edinburgh Gateway and Haymarket to provide connectivity to employment at Edinburgh Business Park and Airport.

A half hourly express rail replacement bus service will operate between Dalmeny and the city centre to convey those travelling on the Perth – Dunfermline – Dalmeny service as well as customers who live in North Queensferry. Buses will be fully accessible. Sufficient buses will be provided at peak times to accommodate a full train load of around 400 customers.

[REDACTED] East Scotland passenger numbers during Christmas week are 30 per cent lower than average and they have the ability to add more buses to their routes at this time of year. The [REDACTED] express bus service will provide more frequent services and a faster journey time than the amended rail services from all parts of Fife.

We have agreed with [REDACTED] that ScotRail will encourage passengers from stations close to their express bus routes to use these services for this period. This keeps journeys on public transport rather than private car and avoids adding more rail replacement buses into an already congested Edinburgh city centre. [REDACTED] have confirmed they can accommodate all of the passengers from each of the stations where bus is identified as the preferred transport mode. The recommended transport mode for each station is shown in the table above.

[REDACTED] have sufficient capacity to transport all customers who would normally travel by rail from South Gyle as do Edinburgh tram for Edinburgh Gateway customers. [REDACTED] cannot accommodate ScotRail customers from Dalmeny. ScotRail will operate a half hourly rail replacement bus service between Dalmeny and Edinburgh to provide a useful service for those making local journeys as well as increasing the journey opportunities to connect into rail services to Fife.

Standby buses will be provided at Inverkeithing until mid-afternoon to respond to any overcrowding on rail services. These will then move to Dalmeny to support the evening rail services.

Customers will be provided with the following general messages to explain their best travel options:

- If you are travelling to Edinburgh, live in West or South Fife and normally drive to the rail station, we strongly advise driving to Ferrytoll or Halbeath Park and Rides. There is a fast and frequent bus express bus service from these facilities and plenty of staff to help you buy tickets and board the right bus.
- During this period when there are fewer rail services and journey times are extended, express bus links to Edinburgh may offer a better alternative than rail from some stations in Fife. Please check our website where we've listed all of the public transport options from stations impacted by the Engineering works to see what works best for you.
- If you need assistance when travelling, for example you have a mobility impairment, then please use the rail service if its more convenient than travelling to the bus park and rides. Our stations and trains will be staffed as normal to provide assistance.

- If you are travelling to Edinburgh Business Park for work, please change at Dalmeny for rail replacement bus to Edinburgh Gateway where you can interchange onto the tram.
- Replacement buses cannot access South Gyle station. If you are travelling from South Gyle to Haymarket or Edinburgh Waverley, you should use [REDACTED]
- If you are travelling from Dalmeny to Edinburgh, please buy your ticket at the station as usual and use our express rail replacement bus.
- If you have a season ticket, we can refund it without penalty if the extended journeys don't meet your needs in this period.
- If you are travelling to or from Edinburgh from Aberdeen and intermediate stations to Dundee and Perth, please use the [REDACTED] service which will be diverted via Stirling. This will be quicker and have more seats than using the limited service through Fife.
- If you are travelling from north Fife (Leuchars, Cupar, Springfield, Ladybank, and Markinch) to Edinburgh, at some points of the day it may be more convenient to travel to Perth or Dundee and connect with the diverted intercity service operating via Stirling. Please use our journey planners to confirm the best routing at the time of day you wish to travel.

Station travel plans

Following the approach used on Argyle Line closure, the website will show where nearest bus stop is, summarise frequency and hand over to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] websites for timetable and fares details.

Click the link to see the detailed plans provided for the Argyle Line closure, which will be available from the end of November for Fife: [Anderston Tunnel Closure | ScotRail](#)

2. Fife fare offer – 'Fife fiver'

- Flat Fare promotion for customers in Fife following engineering work between Edinburgh-Dalmeny.
- To raise awareness amongst Fife customers that services have now resumed following the closure.
- It will be a temporary £5 flat fare available at all times of the day.
- Peak and Off Peak, all Fife stations affected by the blockade.
- Travel to/from all stations within Fife, Fife to Dundee, or Fife to Edinburgh.
- The offer will not be available between Dundee and Edinburgh.
- It will be valid on ScotRail services only, seven days a week in standard class only.
- It will be available to purchase between 6 and 13 January inclusive, for travel between 6 and 20 January inclusive.
- Stations included are: Aberdour, Burntisland, Cardenden, Cowdenbeath, Cupar, Dalgety Bay, Dalmeny, Dunfermline Queen Margaret, Dunfermline Town, Edinburgh Gateway, Glenrothes with Thornton, Inverkeithing, Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy, Ladybank, Leuchars, Lochgelly, Markinch, North Queensferry, Rosyth, South Gyle, and Springfield.
- The ticket will be available via barcode (online and ScotRail app), at station, on-train, and telesales.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 07 November 2022 08:55

To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Ministerial Request for more information regarding the Fife Blockade

Morning [REDACTED],

At the recent meeting with [REDACTED] and ScotRail the Minister asked them to provide more information/data in support of the Fife Blockade. I believe more detail around the bus replacement plan was asked for. SRH has provided me with the information and is contained within the attached report. I have reviewed this and confirm the data appears accurate with the base reference (used to inform customer choice) is taken from the busiest period for Fife rail travellers pre-covid, which was during Christmas week 2019. Transport Scotland is content with findings and proposed arrangements detailed therein.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 07 November 2022 11:07

To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED]Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]Chief Executive Transport Scotland
<ceo@transport.gov.scot>

Subject: FW: Ministerial Request for more information regarding the Fife Blockade

Morning [REDACTED]

At the recent meeting with [REDACTED] and ScotRail the Minister asked them to provide more information/data in support the Fife Blockade. I believe more detail around the bus replacement plan was asked for and to explore truncating the blockade. SRH has provided me with the information and is contained within the attached report. I have reviewed this and confirm the data appears accurate with the base reference (used to inform customer choice) is taken from the busiest period for Fife rail travellers pre-covid, which was during Christmas week 2019. In addition to this, [REDACTED]has reviewed the length of blockade but unfortunately due to the location of worksite and for safety reasons there is no realistic opportunity to reduce, however it should be noted that train services for Fife customers (and beyond) will still be available as per under;

- An hourly train service will operate from Dundee via Kirkcaldy to Edinburgh reversing at Linlithgow; and
- An hourly service will operate from Perth via Dunfermline to Dalmeny where a rail replacement bus will transport customers directly to the city centre

Transport Scotland is content with findings of review the proposed arrangements detailed therein.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 07 November 2022 17:40

To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>

Cc: Chief Executive Transport Scotland <ceo@transport.gov.scot[REDACTED]Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]

Subject: Ministerial Request for more information regarding the Fife Blockade

Good evening [REDACTED],

Please find below the update for the Minister as promised;

1. Alternative Service Provision During Fife Blockade

At the recent meeting with [REDACTED] and ScotRail the Minister asked them to provide more information/data in support of the Fife Blockade. I believe more detail around the bus replacement plan was asked for and to explore truncating the blockade. SRH has provided me with the information and is contained within the attached report. I have reviewed this and confirm the data appears accurate with the base reference (used to inform customer choice) is taken from the busiest Christmas period for Fife rail travellers pre-covid, which was during Christmas week 2019. In addition to this, [REDACTED] has reviewed the length of blockade but unfortunately due to the location of worksite and for safety reasons there is no realistic opportunity to reduce, however it should be noted that train services for Fife customers (and beyond) will still be available as per under;

- An hourly train service will operate from Dundee via Kirkcaldy to Edinburgh reversing at Linlithgow; and
- An hourly service will operate from Perth via Dunfermline to Dalmeny where a rail replacement bus will transport customers directly to the city centre

2. Relative Disruption to Passengers and Cost Of Alternative Delivery Phasing

As part of their review ScotRail and [REDACTED] considered an alternative approach to delivering the works. The review concluded that there would be greater costs with more customers disrupted/inconvenienced with a revised access plan. They found that **a revised access plan would require four full weekend closures along with around 5/6 weeks of temporary speed restrictions causing disruption to services.** With regards to costs, [REDACTED] has stated that there would be **at least £1m of extra cost associated with the weekend approach.** ScotRail has advised that **around 9,000 more customers per day would be impacted** when compared with the current proposal. In broad terms two February weekends impacts more Fife customers than doing the works over Christmas week.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF



Transport Scotland, the national transport agency
Còmhdaail Alba, buidheann nàiseanta na còmhdaail

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[REDACTED]

From: Reeve W (Bill) <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>
Sent: 11 November 2022 15:52
To: [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Chief Executive Transport Scotland <ceo@transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Urgent : Proposed Letter Following SRH Meeting

Thanks [REDACTED],

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

Adding the Fife service will be a huge ask at this late stage, but will be a significant step forward. This will stretch the planning team to the limit, and asking for more is likely to, at best, produce unreliable and undeliverable plans. So, on balance, I suggest the revision below.

Regards,

Bill

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 November 2022 15:37
To: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]>; Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Chief Executive Transport Scotland <ceo@transport.gov.scot> [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Urgent : Proposed Letter Following SRH Meeting

Bill, adding [REDACTED], see some suggestions below.

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

Dear [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Following your meeting with Ms Gilruth on Tuesday 8 November, the Minister has instructed me to write to you concerning your proposals for a closure of the railway to Fife over the Christmas period and the importance of railway services over that period, [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]:

1. [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED Regulation 10(4)(e)]
2. [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

3. [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED Regulation 10(4)(e)]

4. [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED]

Scottish Government
St Andrew's House, 2 Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
Scottish Ministers, [REDACTED] and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

From: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 November 2022 15:00
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]
Cc: Chief Executive Transport Scotland <ceo@transport.gov.scot> [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Urgent : Proposed Letter Following SRH Meeting

Minister,

As you have requested, please see below a draft letter which I would send, as instructed by you, to [REDACTED]. I have copied to [REDACTED] consideration. Both SRH and [REDACTED] are aware they should expect such a letter.

Dear [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Following your meeting with Ms Gilruth on Tuesday 8 November, the Minister has instructed me to write to you concerning your proposals for a closure of the railway to Fife over the

Christmas period and the importance of railway services over that period, **[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]**:

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED Regulation 10(4)(e)]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED Regulation 10(4)(e)]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

Bill Reeve

Director of Rail
Transport Scotland

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Transport
Sent: 14 November 2022 13:55
To: [REDACTED] Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]; Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Chief Executive Transport Scotland <ceo@transport.gov.scot>; Quinn M (Michelle) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Urgent: SRH Letter

Thanks all – the Minister is content with the proposed approach.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 November 2022 13:51
To: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Chief Executive Transport Scotland <ceo@transport.gov.scot>; Quinn M (Michelle) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Urgent: SRH Letter

If this works, then it might be worthwhile to look at for other areas too when such longer period shut downs are being considered

[REDACTED]

Scottish Government
St Andrew's House, 2 Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
Scottish Ministers, [REDACTED] and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

From: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 November 2022 13:38
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Chief Executive Transport Scotland <ceo@transport.gov.scot>; Quinn M (Michelle) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Urgent: SRH Letter

Minister,

A round table facilitated by you for ScotRail and [REDACTED] colleagues to meet with elected representatives is a good idea. It might be wise to be clear why this is appropriate for Fife in particular, because other areas might expect similar events. The immediate rationale for a Fife meeting might simply be concerns about current performance levels and the practical impacts of the timetable, and also an opportunity to consider the disruption that does arise from investment programmes such as Levenmouth and the Fife electrification already announced. If you are content with such a rationale, we will work with your office to make appropriate arrangements.

I will now issue the text below to SRH and [REDACTED] as requested.

Bill Reeve

From: [REDACTED]On Behalf Of Minister for Transport
Sent: 14 November 2022 11:51
To: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Cc: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; Chief Executive Transport Scotland <ceo@transport.gov.scot>; Quinn M (Michelle) [REDACTED]
Subject: Urgent: SRH Letter
Importance: High

Bill,

Please see below amended version cleared by Ms Gilruth and [REDACTED]– in addition to reviewing the content, the Minister would be grateful for your views as she has added in a line in relation to Ms Todd’s concerns and is keen to write separately to Fife MSPs / MPs and Cllrs to facilitate a roundtable with ScotRail / [REDACTED] and Fife representatives. **[REDACTED Regulation 10(4)(e)]**

Grateful for your views on this approach.

Copying in Michelle / CEO office for awareness.

Dear [REDACTED]and [REDACTED]

Re: Proposed Closures in Fife over the 2022 Festive Period

Following your meeting with Ms Gilruth on Tuesday 8 November, I thought it would be useful to follow up on a number of issues. Specifically :

1. [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
2. [REDACTED Regulation 10(4)(e)]
3. [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
4. [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED Regulation 10(4)(e)]
5. [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 November 2022 11:35
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Reeve W (Bill) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Fife works postponement

Hi [REDACTED]

We are preparing for the case that the postponement might make its way into the public domain, not that they are at the moment.

In preparing for the proposed works [REDACTED] would have had to check staff availability, enter into discussions with supply chain, and liaise with other rail operators regards the dates. This means many parts of the rail industry and staff would already know about the initial proposal.

Once [REDACTED] confirm the date the works will take place, they will have to inform other operators and the supply chain about the postponement. This creates a risk that the postponement will become public knowledge.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Transport
Sent: 18 November 2022 11:26
To: [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fife works postponement

Hi [REDACTED]

Ms Gilruth is content with the lines but be grateful to understand why these works might be in the public domain given the requirement of Ministerial sign-off?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
Email: MinisterFT@gov.scot

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.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 November 2022 09:48
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Reeve W (Bill) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Fife works postponement

Morning PO

As I'm on leave next week I have prepped some lines for use in case of approach re the Fife works postponement - [REDACTED] is content. Grateful if they can be passed to Ms Gilruth for clearance.

I've not mentioned the Boxing Day services until we get 100% confirmation this will happen. We can make that an announcement, as part of wider festive timetables comms, once confirmed.


- Our key aim in bringing ScotRail into public sector control is to put the passenger first and this includes putting their needs foremost while planning and delivery of engineering works.
- Travel patterns have changed post-pandemic and it is with this in mind that the rail industry needs to rethink its traditional approach to carrying out engineering works during holiday periods such as Easter and Christmas.
- We have also challenged [REDACTED] to provide robust forward plans that sets out considerations, including detailed costings, for disruptive engineering works given the changes in travel patterns.
- While these works were initially suggested for the Festive period, Fife rail users have already made their dissatisfaction with the ScotRail service clear therefore we will ensure the significant investment in the planned electrification works brings little or no disruption during the seasonal holidays.
- We can reassure the supply chain that we will continue to engage with them to ensure they have a reliable stream of work even as we seek to change our approach to the way engineering works are planned.

On ORR overseeing works

- This is another example of where we fund the railway in Scotland but the legislation rests with the UK Government. Only the full transfer of rail powers would resolve this.

ENDS

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

 @transcotland

 [transcotland](https://www.facebook.com/transcotland)

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 November 2022 17:13

To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>

Cc: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Fife works postponement - [REDACTED], for info

Hi [REDACTED] – approach below, I tasked him on ‘cancellation’ he meant ‘postponement’.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 November 2022 12:55

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Haymarket-Dalmeny festive rail work

Hi

I've just been told plans to shut the railway between Haymarket and Dalmeny between Christmas and New Year for pre-electrification work, planned for c18 months, have been cancelled by the transport minister in the last two weeks?

Could you provide full details, including why, [REDACTED]

thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Transport

Sent: 25 November 2022 17:08

To: [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>

Cc: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Fife works postponement - [REDACTED], for info

Hi [REDACTED]

Ms Gilruth has noted for her interests and would be grateful for sight of the details of this enquiry please.

Thanks,
[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, [REDACTED] and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 November 2022 17:02
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fife works postponement - [REDACTED], for info

PO,

For info, [REDACTED] have asked about these works.

Our cleared lines have been issued, copying [REDACTED] response below for info.

[REDACTED] is planning on covering this in tomorrow's paper, thanks.

[REDACTED]

A [REDACTED] spokesperson said: “We work closely with our industry partners to plan our engineering programme and decided not to deliver works which had initially been scheduled for the Dalmeny corridor between Christmas and New Year.”

ENDS

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 November 2022 11:35
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Reeve W (Bill)[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fife works postponement

Hi [REDACTED]

We are preparing for the case that the postponement might make its way into the public domain, not that they are at the moment.

In preparing for the proposed works [REDACTED] would have had to check staff availability, enter into discussions with supply chain, and liaise with other rail operators regards the dates. This means many parts of the rail industry and staff would already know about the initial proposal.

Once [REDACTED] confirm the date the works will take place, they will have to inform other operators and the supply chain about the postponement. This creates a risk that the postponement will become public knowledge.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Transport
Sent: 18 November 2022 11:26
To: [REDACTED] Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Reeve W (Bill) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Fife works postponement

Hi [REDACTED],

Ms Gilruth is content with the lines but be grateful to understand why these works might be in the public domain given the requirement of Ministerial sign-off?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
Email: MinisterFT@gov.scot

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

From[REDACTED]
Sent: 18 November 2022 09:48
To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>
Cc: Reeve W (Bill) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Fife works postponement

Morning PO

As I'm on leave next week I have prepped some lines for use in case of approach re the Fife works postponement - [REDACTED] is content. Grateful if they can be passed to Ms Gilruth for clearance.

I've not mentioned the Boxing Day services until we get 100% confirmation this will happen. We can make that an announcement, as part of wider festive timetables comms, once confirmed.

- Our key aim in bringing ScotRail into public sector control is to put the passenger first and this includes putting their needs foremost while planning and delivery of engineering works.
- Travel patterns have changed post-pandemic and it is with this in mind that the rail industry needs to rethink its traditional approach to carrying out engineering works during holiday periods such as Easter and Christmas.
- We have also challenged [REDACTED] to provide robust forward plans that sets out considerations, including detailed costings, for disruptive engineering works given the changes in travel patterns.
- While these works were initially suggested for the Festive period, Fife rail users have already made their dissatisfaction with the ScotRail service clear therefore we will ensure the significant investment in the planned electrification works brings little or no disruption during the seasonal holidays.
- We can reassure the supply chain that we will continue to engage with them to ensure they have a reliable stream of work even as we seek to change our approach to the way engineering works are planned.

On ORR overseeing works

- This is another example of where we fund the railway in Scotland but the legislation rests with the UK Government. Only the full transfer of rail powers would resolve this.

ENDS

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

<http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk>

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 [transcotland](https://www.facebook.com/transcotland)

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 08 December 2022 09:19

To: Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>

Cc: Transport Scotland Directors [REDACTED]

Subject: Submission to Minister - Upcoming December Timetable Change (and Xmas services)

Minister / PO,

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

Cheers,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]



Minister for Transport

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

19. From Sunday 11 December 2022, the following key **ScotRail** timetable changes are planned:

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

There are some planned changes [REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE] and late night services through Fife, throughout the timetable period to allow improvement and

electrification works to take place on these routes. **[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]**

A small number of Sunday to Thursday late evening services (after 22:45) in Fife are planned to be withdrawn, and replaced with buses, or diverted to accommodate Fife electrification and improvement works. These late services would continue to run as normal on Friday and Saturday nights and services would be fully reinstated across the week once the works are completed. [[Detail in Annex A](#)]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED]

Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers Copy List	For Action	For Information Portfolio interest	For Information Constituency interest	For Information General awareness
Minister for Transport	X	X		

Officials Copy List
Bill Reeve [REDACTED] DG Net Zero Chief Executive Transport Scotland Fiona Brown Hugh Gillies Stuart Greig Stewart Leggett Frances Pacitti Lawrence Shackman Bettina Sizeland Kerry Twyman [REDACTED]

ANNEX A

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

1.10 Edinburgh – Glenrothes/Perth/Dundee *Fife*

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]

In order to accommodate the retimed Aberdeen to London Euston [REDACTED] service (which now runs earlier Monday to Thursday evenings at 20:26 due to the evening electrification works in Fife), we have had to retime the 21:49 Dundee to Edinburgh service to depart at 21:29 on Monday to Thursday evenings (running earlier throughout). The train will remain as a 21:49 service on Friday evenings.

1.11 Edinburgh – Glenrothes/Perth/Dundee *Fife* (continued...)

In preparation for future electrification of this route, some services are withdrawn, amended or diverted Monday to Thursday and Sunday evenings in order to give [REDACTED] more access to the line to undertake these improvement works.

The following services are now withdrawn Monday to Thursday and Sunday evenings for the duration of the December 2022 timetable, but will continue to operate on Friday and Saturday evenings to support the late-night economy:

- The 23:13 Perth to Edinburgh service Monday to Thursday
- The 23:25 Glenrothes to Edinburgh service Monday to Thursday
- The 23:36 Edinburgh to Inverkeithing service on Sundays

The following services are amended Monday to Thursday:

- The 22:43 Glenrothes to Edinburgh service terminates at Inverkeithing
- The 23:18 Edinburgh to Perth service starts at Inverkeithing

The following services are diverted:

- The 22:31 Dundee to Edinburgh service runs non-stop between Inverkeithing and Haymarket and diverts via the Winchburgh chord line and Linlithgow Monday to Thursday
- The 22:58 Glenrothes to Edinburgh service runs non-stop between Inverkeithing and Haymarket and diverts via the Winchburgh chord line and Linlithgow on Sundays

As part of this work, the following rail replacement bus services will operate:

- 22:45 Edinburgh to Inverkeithing service Monday to Thursday (calling at North Queensferry only, and connecting into the 23:43 service to Perth at Inverkeithing)
- 23:36 Edinburgh to Inverkeithing service on Sundays (calling at all stations)

The above buses will operate on a trial basis for 8 weeks in order to assess passenger demand for rail replacement services on this route. A review of bus patronage will occur in January to determine if the above buses will continue to operate beyond the 4th of February 2023. Please note that these buses will not appear in public timetables but will appear on National Rail Enquiries/Journey Planning apps.

No other rail replacement services apart from the ones listed above will operate and instances where there is no rail replacement, passengers should use alternative services or make other arrangements for their journey.

Late evening services will be reinstated on this route once improvement works have been completed.

**[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]
[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]**

ANNEX B

[REDACTED OUT OF SCOPE]