



# Graeme Dey

Member of the Scottish Parliament  
for Angus South

Rail2014

Transport Scotland  
Buchanan House  
58 Port Dundas Road  
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The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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Ref: GD/FHRAIL2014

Dear Sir / Madam,

## RAIL 2014 – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

I wish, as MSP for Angus South, to highlight the inadequate rail provision afforded residents of the town of Monifieth. Monifieth is a thriving town located around five miles up the east coast from Dundee.

Many residents work in Dundee. Others commute to Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow for employment. Unfortunately it is impossible for them to make those journeys by rail. There are just two trains per weekday that stop in Monifieth, none at weekends.

The only southbound train - from Carnoustie – stops in Monifieth at 06.09 arriving in Dundee 15 minutes later. That service would allow commuters catching connecting services to arrive in Glasgow 08.01 and Edinburgh 08.25.

However, there is only one northbound service from Dundee, stopping off in the town at 19.06 en route to Arbroath. To take advantage of that service, departing Dundee at 18.34, a Monifieth resident would have to leave Edinburgh at 17.37 or Glasgow at 17.11. Neither time necessarily fits with employment.

At a time when we are seeking to encourage people out of cars and onto public transport I feel this is not an adequate level of rail provision. The pursuit of faster journey times is laudable but meeting the needs of would-be rail users from towns such as Monifieth is also important. And the need to address this situation – which I know TACTRAN has sought to - is pressing.

I understand that there may be an issue over available rolling stock and that the earliest this problem could be tackled is May 2013, but tackle it we must.

Fair and equal access to rail travel should be a priority for Transport Scotland.

I recognise that additional calls have been agreed for Broughty Ferry. And this is welcome. But this should be only a step in the right direction rather than the end game.

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My worry is that if we do not address the Monifieth situation quickly then we will see additional trains from the central belt filling any gaps available for timetabling trains to and from Waverley and Glasgow Queen Street and Angus will be left out in the cold.

I hope you will give the views I have expressed due consideration, and I am happy for my submission to be publicly available.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Dey MSP