

Rail 2014,  
Transport Scotland,  
Buchanan House,  
58 Port Dundas Road,  
Glasgow, G4 0HF

RGS Hunter

12th February 2012

Dear Sirs,

It is only this weekend that I have become aware of your consultative document, Rail 2014, thanks to an insert in a magazine delivered to my door yesterday. As I am not computer-literate I am unable to download your document, nor reply by computer; I am very concerned about the implications highlighted in the above insert.

Leuchars is my nearest station and , at present, I am able to travel from that station to family and friends in England without having to change en route at a major station such as Edinburgh; having been involved at helping some friends who have had to make such changes people of my age (87 by end of March) find it difficult to find the way to reach the connection points for lack of clear information how to proceed. Further I emphasise the problems for elderly people to have to struggle with luggage on such occasions, problems enhanced if a few minutes late in arrival at the change point by the trains can result in missing the key connections.

Cross-border arrangements as at present can only benefit the passengers (e.g it is possible to travel from Aberdeen to Cornwall without intermediate changing); any change to the present arrangements at Edinburgh I am sure would result in additional expenditure by the taxpayer in setting up an Edinburgh "Hub".

Apart from my personal travel arrangements do not forget the commercial advantages which accrue by passengers being able to cross-border up to Aberdeen thinking about the current developments in that area in the oil and tourism industries; has Visit Scotland and other local tourism groups not raised such objections??

In writing I confirm that initially am writing personally and do not represent any other groups of objectors, who must be legion.

Yours faithfully,

  
R.G.S. Hunter