

Respondent Information Form and Questions

Please Note this form **must** be returned with your response to ensure that we handle your response appropriately

1. Name/Organisation

Organisation Name

Gareth James/Glasgow Museums Resource Centre

Title Mr ☒ Ms ☐ Mrs ☐ Miss ☐ Dr ☐ **Please tick as appropriate**

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Forename

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2. Postal Address

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3. Permissions - I am responding as...

Individual



/

Group/Organisation



Please tick as appropriate

- (a) Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site)?

Please tick as appropriate ☒ Yes ☐ No

- (b) Where confidentiality is not requested, we will make your responses available to the public on the following basis
Please tick ONE of the following boxes

Yes, make my response, name and address all available ☒

or

Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address ☐

or

Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address ☐

- (c) The name and address of your organisation **will be** made available to the public (in the Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site).

Are you content for your **response** to be made available?

Please tick as appropriate Yes ☐

(d) We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Please tick as appropriate ☒ Yes ☐ No

Consultation Questions

The answer boxes will expand as you type.

Scottish stations

1. How should we determine what rail stations are required and where, including whether a station should be closed?

Q24 comments:

Glasgow Life's stated vision is "To inspire Glasgow's citizens and visitors to lead richer and more active lives through culture and sport." As an organisation we believe that proposals to close stations would have a detrimental effect on citizens of Glasgow and beyond accessing our services.

A potent example of this would be following through on the proposal to close Nitshill station, the local station for the world renowned Glasgow Museums Resource Centre (GMRC). GMRC is the main storage facility for Glasgow Museums collections. Opened in 2003 and extended in 2009 it is home to over 1.2 million objects including fine and decorative arts, arms & armour, natural history, transport & technology, archaeology, Scottish history, social history and world cultures. Much of the collection is recognised as being of local, national and international importance. As well as offering guided tours and resources for professional and private researchers the facility offers a range of formal and informal learning opportunities as well as a full schools programme for both primary and secondary students. There are c. 150 staff based at GMRC and we welcome in the region 11,500 visitors per annum.

Point 14 of the Executive summary of the proposals states "we do not intend to reduce the number of stations on the network. We are however considering the possibility of attuning the number and location of stations..." This is at odds with section 7.10 on Scottish stations declaring that "In the Glasgow commuter area, there are 11 stations located less than one mile from another rail station offering similar services. The lease costs associated with these 11 stations total £208,000." The suggestion of savings is confused further by 7.11 asserting that "We do not intend to reduce the size of the Scottish rail Network, or reduce the number of stations, but we are considering whether it would be possible to re-configure the network by reviewing the location of stations."

The location of the station in Nitshill does not need altering. The Office of Rail Regulation figures show that Nitshill station has seen an increase in traffic of over 25% in two years and 50% in five years. At a time of increased fuel prices and a push to get commuters out of their cars and on to public

transport Transport for Scotland/Scotrail proposal to close stations would appear to be a retrograde step. This part of Glasgow is poorly served by public transport – no Sunday rail service and a bus service that has recently been truncated further (number 45 bus on shortened route) – and the train station is unmanned and does not have step-free access on the south-bound platform. Quite the opposite from closure, at this time Nitshill station would benefit from investment, particularly with regards to making it more accessible. Furthermore, the area of wasteland (part-owned by Scotrail) that sits beside the station that is used by visitors to GMRC as the main pedestrian route to the centre should receive urgent attention.

Glasgow City Council's Development & Regeneration Services have launched a Nitshill Development Framework Consultation - www.nitshill.org/ - and closure of the train station in Nitshill would be a hammer blow to the regeneration of Nitshill and to those trying to access the world class Glasgow Museums' facilities at Glasgow Museums Resource Centre. I ask that this be taken in to consideration when determining what rail stations are required and their location, including whether stations should be closed.