

Rebecca MacLennan

I am horrified to learn that Kelvindale, as well as other stations on that line, are under threat of closure. One of the main reasons I purchased my property in Kelvindale was the promise of a new station opening. Although this was 3yrs after I moved in, it has been a godsend having public transport at our doorstep. This means that I no longer need to drive to work each day, which, in itself, is an environmental saving. Friends and family visiting can also easily be transported to and from the city centre, saving a fortune on taxis and therefore, putting money back into the public transport purse. It also means that I can transfer to other rail services north or east from Queen Street as well as linking with Anniesland to afford transfer to services south of the border. The cost of £208K for the lease of these stations is a mere drop in the ocean when this is set against the cost of passengers changing to using cars or buses – I cannot travel on a bus as I suffer greatly from travel sickness, and to be told to use the station at Anniesland is just a ridiculous option as the walk there, in good or bad weather, is just not feasible for anyone, especially more senior members of the community. This could also seriously inhibit the safety of people, especially women, when having to walk that distance at unsociable hours of the day.

SNP should first consider the inflammatory costs of quangos and other money wasting projects before sacrificing public services. These closures could mean the end for these residential areas as many would need to move to find alternative accommodation near to functioning rail services. These areas were deemed “regeneration” projects, so why is the Government now peddling backwards when we should be investing in such communities? Everyone is aware that we are working within difficult economic climate, but the loss of vital services is not the answer. I sincerely hope that these services are spared the axe as I know that I for one, would need to relocate if they are to be mothballed.