



Buchanan House  
58 Port Dundas Road  
Glasgow. G4 0LQ  
Tel: +44 (0)141 555  
4020

Peter Lloyd  
Rail Policy Executive  
Transport Scotland  
58 Port Dundas Road  
Glasgow  
G4 0HF

18<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Dear Peter

In response to your recent letter requesting comments on the proposed Station Car Parking Policy for Scotland.

As you will be aware these issues are also being addressed as part of Network Rail's Car Park Strategy Group with representatives from the Regional Transport Partnerships, First ScotRail and Transport Scotland in attendance.

In terms of the suppressed demand issue, there would be a need to review capacity of services over a particular route when considering increasing the number of spaces in the car park.

To enable parking during off-peak times it would be beneficial to secure spaces out of use until a later time period, but managing this would be difficult. A separate timed barrier car park would assist with saving spaces for off-peak users.

We have identified there are a number of car parks where charging is currently in place and it would appear not to deter car drivers. If parking charges were to be introduced at all stations I think this should be redeemable against the cost of the rail ticket as currently happens at certain stations. Charging at all stations would not necessarily deter passengers driving to the station, but may assist with capacity for those stations in town centre locations to deter shoppers using them. Sensitivity for those Councils who do not charge for any car parks would need to be addressed, as would parking controls in the streets around the stations.

Station choice will be an issue in certain locations due to varying frequency of services. In addition rail fare levels are also a factor in pushing drivers to other stations to reduce cost of travel. For those car parks which are currently overcrowded, rail fares could possibly be reviewed to try to overcome this problem.

We look forward to seeing the final Policy and if you require any assistance from Network Rail please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Audrey Laidlaw  
Senior Route Planner