



for sustainable transport

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Jim Eadie MSP  
Convener  
Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

Friday 8 May 2015

Dear Mr Eadie

### Access to Scotland's major urban railway stations

We are pleased that the Committee has decided to review this topic as this is an issue that is also of concern to ourselves. As such, I thought we should take the opportunity to write to yourself to express some of our views.

1. Current access to Edinburgh Waverley station from Waverley Bridge for pedestrians and cyclists has been severely restricted by measures taken by Network Rail to curtail vehicular traffic. We have no objection to the restrictions on vehicular traffic; indeed we do not know of another major station that now allows free access for vehicles into the main station area. However, the current restrictions that confine pedestrians and cycles to a narrow walkway are totally unacceptable and a poor advert for Scotland's capital city. We would refer you to the website of our member group Spokes for a detailed commentary on the major inconvenience caused to the travelling public caused by Network Rail's actions.
2. In response to the Network Rail consultation for the redevelopment of Glasgow Queen Street station, we and others have emphasised that this major rebuild must ensure that the new station then integrates well with other modes of transport. This is clearly in line with existing Government policy. We and others were therefore disappointed to receive from Network Rail a response to the effect that this is not part of their remit. It is our view that all publicly-funded projects such as this must be specified to ensure that all key stakeholder organisations be tasked to work together to maximise transport integration.
3. We have recently completed a major project on cycle integration at bus and railway stations and ferry terminals. The project covered access to most of the main railway stations upon which you are seeking views. We would draw the project's conclusions and recommendations to your attention. The project, and its series of audit reports, can be accessed at <http://transformscotland.org.uk/what-we-do/research/interchange/>.

I would be grateful if you would share these views with the rest of the Committee. We would be happy to supply further information as required.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Colin Howden'.

Colin Howden  
Director, Transform Scotland

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