

Public consultation on proposed new ScotRail timetables**Report by Kevin Anderson, Executive Director - Place****Report for Decision****1 Recommendations**

It is recommended that Council considers whether any submission is required from elected members in the current public consultation on proposed new ScotRail timetables which closes on 1 October, 2021.

2 Purpose of Report/Executive Summary

As this scheduled meeting of Midlothian Council is held on 5 October, Abellio UK and Scotrail have been contacted in order to accept a late response submitted from the elected members should councillors wish to comment on the timetable notes published for the Waverley line.

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3 Background/Main Body of Report

ScotRail is unveiling plans for new timetables from May 2022, showing that it is 'Fit For The Future'. It is part of a public consultation, as customers return to using Scotland's Railway.

It comes almost 18 months after Scotland went into its first COVID-19 lockdown, leading to the worst financial crisis the rail industry has experienced as passenger numbers dropped by 90 per cent.

<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/about-scotrail/news/public-consultation-proposed-new-scotrail-timetables>

Councillors may wish to comment on the timetable notes published for the Waverley line in the public transport modal shift considerations to address the Council's Climate Change Declaration and low emissions impact.

[Edinburgh to Tweedbank](#)

The May 2022 timetable will continue to provide two trains per hour between Edinburgh and Tweedbank during peak hours with one train per hour for the rest of the day, however through services between Tweedbank, South Gyle and Glenrothes with Thornton will all terminate or start at Edinburgh Waverley. The Saturday timetable will increase to provide two trains per hour during the day.

4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital, Risk and Equalities)

4.1 Resource

Not applicable

4.2 Digital

Not applicable

4.3 Risk

Not applicable.

4.4 Ensuring Equalities

Not applicable

4.4 Additional Report Implications

APPENDIX A – Report Implications

A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- ☐ Holistic Working
- ☐ Hub and Spoke
- ☐ Modern
- ☒ Sustainable
- ☐ Transformational
- ☒ Preventative
- ☒ Asset-based
- ☐ Continuous Improvement
- ☐ One size fits one
- ☐ None of the above

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- ☐ One Council Working with you, for you
- ☒ Preventative and Sustainable
- ☒ Efficient and Modern
- ☐ Innovative and Ambitious
- ☐ None of the above

A.4 Delivering Best Value

Not applicable

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

Not applicable

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

Not applicable

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The impact of COVID 19 in the short term and possible future impact makes optimisation of efficiency more crucial. Close working between the Council and public transport delivery will maximise the role that public transport can play in COVID-19 recovery and help to deliver modal shift.

A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

It is anticipated that any changes will have a positive impact on carbon, climate change or sustainable development impacts as a result of these proposals.