Rail Directorate

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CÒMHDHAIL

Your ref:

Our ref:

Date: Jaugust 2011

Alison Wilson Assistant Clerk Public Petitions Committee Room T3.40 The Scottish Parliament EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

Dear Ms Wilson,

Consideration of Petition PE1115

Thank you for your letter of 4 April to Carron Pollock in relation to Petition PE 1115, which supports the re-opening of Blackford Railway Station.

Your letter enquires if a final decision has been reached on whether to reopen Blackford Railway Station or to upgrade Gleneagles Railway Station.

As I have explained in previous correspondence our investment strategy as set out in the Strategic Transport Projects Review, makes it clear that making best use of current stations to achieve optimum utilisation of the existing network should be considered before the opening of new or former stations. As such, we have no plans at present to reopen Blackford Railway Station.

Transport Plan for 2014 Ryder Cup

The transport plan currently being developed by Events Scotland, Perth & Kinross Council and Transport Scotland for the 2014 Ryder Cup is exploring strategies to improve access from Gleneagles Station, including road links to service the station for the event. As explained previously the plan will be fine-tuned over the next three years as ongoing consultation with relevant stakeholders takes place. It is anticipated that the transport plan will take the form of an access strategy rather than a formal published document.

I hope this helps to clarify the present position.

