



RE-ELECT Jim Eadie 2016
STANDING UP FOR EDINBURGH SOUTHERN



[REDACTED]

13 April 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Cycle Space on Trains

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding Transport Scotland's proposals to reduce the number of spaces available on the newly electrified Edinburgh to Glasgow line and the Glasgow to Oban / Fort William line.

I fully agree with you that such proposals would threaten the benefits of being able to take bicycles on trains, such as supporting active travel, cycle tourism and the subsequent investment in the local economies of the Highlands and beyond. I believe these proposals would also undermine the Scottish Government's ambition of further integrating transport services in Scotland.

This matter was raised with the Managing Director of the ScotRail Alliance, Phil Verster, during an evidence session of the Scottish Parliament's Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee, of which I was convenor before the Parliament dissolved last month. While I appreciate Mr Verster's statement that a balance needs to be struck on trains for the different needs of customers, I believe reducing the number of cycle spaces does not represent a fair balance and penalises cyclists.

I have written to both the Minister for Transport and Islands, Derek Mackay, and the Senior Public Affairs Manager of Network Rail in order to enquire whether your concerns are being taken into consideration, and to ask what steps are being taken to maximise the number of cycle spaces on Scotland's trains.

Once I receive a response from the Minister and Network Rail I will be in touch with you again.

Yours sincerely

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SNP Candidate for Edinburgh Southern

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