

Linking railway and community



## **Press Release**

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## **Improved Rail Services at Gleneagles Station**

On Sunday, 15 December 2024, ScotRail introduced their new rail timetable throughout Scotland, which will operate through to 17 May 2025.

One of the improvements made by ScotRail is an increase in the number if trains serving Gleneagles Station, including new opportunities for direct travel to and from Edinburgh, Pitlochry and Inverness without the need to change at an intermediate station.

Bill Young, Chair, Strathallan Community Rail Partnership (SCRP) commented "Whilst Gleneagles Station has seen significant passenger growth in the last decade, SCRP had been proactively advocating further improvements to rail services to help continue this positive trend. We are delighted that ScotRail management have listened to our requests and made several of the improvements we had suggested."

Bill continued "In addition to the direct journeys provided by LNER's Highland Chieftain, on weekdays and Saturdays, ScotRail will now provide three direct journeys to/from Edinburgh, whilst there will also be seven direct services to/from Pitlochry and Inverness. An extra stop at Gleneagles has also been added to the 21:40 Glasgow - Aberdeen service."

Mark Ilderton, Scotrail's Service Delivery Director highlighted "Our December timetable change represents another step in our ongoing commitment to deliver the best service we can and encourage more people to choose rail travel instead of using the car."

Andrew Warrington, Vice Chair, SCRP noted "ScotRail will be assessing the usage of these additional stops at Gleneagles, so we hope that residents do make use of them. The more passengers using these trains from/to Gleneagles, the stronger will be the SCRP case for further timetable enhancements being made by ScotRail later in 2025."

Andrew added "SCRP has been keen to have better bus-rail co-ordination at Gleneagles Station and has been working closely with Docherty's Midland Coaches and Perth & Kinross Council to try and achieve this. We are really pleased to be able to advise that from, hopefully, the end of January 2025, Docherty's Midland Coaches Service 19 and 20 timetables will be revised to enable more bus journeys from Aberuthven, Auchterarder, Gleneagles and Blackford to complement rail services at Gleneagles Station. Further details will be issued in mid-January 2025 once the start date has been formally confirmed."

## About Strathallan Community Rail Partnership:

Strathallan Community Rail Partnership (SCRP) is one of nine Community Rail Partnerships in Scotland.

It was launched at Gleneagles station in 2015 and aims to link the stations of Gleneagles, Dunblane, and Bridge of Allan with the local countryside and the communities that the stations serve. These communities include, but are not limited to, Aberuthven, Auchterarder, Ashfield, Blackford, Braco, Bridge of Allan, Comrie, Crieff, Doune, Dunblane, Dunning, Greenloaning, and Muthill.

The SCRP team are all volunteers who are committed to ensuring that the above communities can access, and be accessed by, railways and other forms of transport including buses, cycling and walking.

The SCRP website provides useful information as well as a contact form that you can complete if you wish further details. You can find our website at <a href="https://www.strathallancrp.org.uk">www.strathallancrp.org.uk</a>