



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Jackson Carlaw MSP
Member for Eastwood

Joanne Maguire
Managing Director, ScotRail
By E-Mail

11th July 2024

Dear Joanne,

Temporary Timetables for Glasgow to East Kilbride and Glasgow to Neilston train lines

I was both disappointed and frustrated to learn on Tuesday that ScotRail were implementing a reduced timetable for the two train lines in my Eastwood constituency on the very next day.

The Glasgow to East Kilbride line provides transport to and from Thornliebank, Giffnock, Clarkston and Busby stations in Eastwood. The Glasgow to Neilston line stops at Williamwood, Whitecraigs and Patterton stations in my constituency.

The introduction of the temporary timetable has resulted in a major reduction to the availability of trains for my constituents who make use of the East Kilbride line with a total of 28 services cut on a daily basis from Monday to Friday. The train service cuts include the hugely damaging decision to reduce services from twice hourly to just the one between the hours of 9am to 5pm.

On the Neilston line, a total of 12 midweek services have now been withdrawn following the implementation of the temporary timetable on Wednesday. Key morning and late night services have been cancelled including the 07.41 and 08.07 from Neilston alongside the 21.36 and 22.35 trains, which depart from Glasgow Central.

A similar reduction for the East Kilbride line has been put in place for weekends. There is a more limited impact on Saturday trains for Neilston as only a small number are missing from the scheduled services albeit there is a much greater reduction on Sundays.

I am hugely concerned by the significant drop in the availability of train services for people living in Eastwood and the negative impact that the reduced offering will have on transport for my constituents who travel to and from Glasgow for work and leisure.

In terms of the ongoing issues with the drivers union, I would be grateful if you could set out what actions are now being pursued to seek a resolution and when talks are next planned to take place.

Additionally, it is not entirely clear how long the new timetables may remain in place and I would also be grateful for any clarity on the length of time my constituents will be expected to navigate the reduced train service offering.

It is an issue of critical importance that the standard train timetables for the Glasgow to East Kilbride and Glasgow to Neilston lines are reinstated as matter of priority and to avoid the unwanted scenario of the significantly lower number of services now in place unintentionally becoming a more permanent state of affairs.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards,

Jackson Carlaw CBE MSP
Member of the Scottish Parliament for Eastwood

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