



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**Joan McAlpine MSP**  
**South of Scotland Region**

Derek Mackay MSP  
Minister for Transport & Islands  
The Scottish Government  
St Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
EDINBURGH  
EH1 3DG

Our ref: JM/LB

28 January 2016

Dear Derek

There is understandably some dubiety among my constituents in Dumfriesshire regarding improvements to the local rail service following Abellio's successful bid for the ScotRail franchise.

In their bid, Abellio committed to making certain improvements across the network throughout Scotland. Of particular concern to my constituents were promises of refurbished trains on Dumfries/Carlisle lines, at-seat catering and enhanced timetables for Glasgow/Dumfries/Carlisle and increased commuting opportunities between Dumfries and Carlisle.

Can you please advise when my constituents should expect to benefit from the delivery of these network improvements?

Yours sincerely

**Joan McAlpine MSP**