

THE COCKBURN ASSOCIATION

THE EDINBURGH CIVIC TRUST

Trunk's Close, 55 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR Tel: (0131) 557 8686
www.cockburnassociation.org.uk email: admin@cockburnassociation.org.uk



February 2013

Network Rail Strategic Business Plan for Scotland - Control Period 5 (2014 - 2019)

1. The Cockburn Association supports Network Rail's proposals in the above Plan to electrify Edinburgh's South Suburban line as it would make no sense for this line to be left isolated from the surrounding wired railway.

Together with the Edinburgh Tram, electrification of the South Suburban line presents an opportunity for a tram-train operation in the city which would provide a new public transport corridor taking in Haymarket, via the underused but densely populated South Suburban corridor, to the Royal Infirmary and other businesses at Little France.

A tram-train operation of this nature would meet another target outlined in Network Rail's recent "Alternative Solutions" document.

The benefits of electrification on energy use and transport carbon emissions reduction is most welcome.

2. We would also support a proposal to re-model Carstairs Junction to alleviate delays on journeys between Edinburgh and Glasgow via Carstairs and between Edinburgh and points south via the West Coast Main Line.

We are hopeful that these schemes will be considered worthy in addition to those already proposed in the IIP.

3. Work at Waverley has seen considerable improvements to a station that compares poorly with the facilities in other capital cities. Network Rail, Transport Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council should be persuaded to commission a study/competition on how best to use the large amount of space beneath the renovated roof. We would want to see something that has a sense of arrival to the city. We would hope for significant progress being made in this regard during Control Period 5.

Marion Williams
Director

President: Sir Sandy Crombie
Chairman: The Hon Lord Brodie

Director: Marion Williams
Treasurer: Val Urquhart

Scottish Charity No: SC011544