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Frank Roach's Successor

Dear ,

We are aware that Frank Roach, Partnership Manager at HITRANS, is approaching retirement.

We are writing to you to convey our acute concern that Frank's knowledge and expertise, especially of rail in the Highlands, is going to be extremely hard to replace. He knows exactly how the rail system functions and its limitations and needs. We ask that you appoint a full replacement for Frank as soon as possible after his retirement.

Some of his achievements in office:

- Invernet - commuter services to/from Inverness
- Blair Atholl commuter service which became new 05:36 INV-EDB
- Arrochar commuter service later included in the Oban six daily trains
- Inverness Station Master Plan for transport interchange
- Class 158 refurbishment 2007, including additional cycle capacity
- Cycle2Rail - led to procurement and adaptation of Class 153s
- Room for Growth study - leading to STPR1 and HML and A2I projects inc Forres realignment
- Fourth full-line service on the FNL
- All year Sunday trains to Wick and Thurso
- Six daily Oban services including a school train
- Beaully Station reopening
- Conon Bridge Station reopening
- Inverness Airport Station construction, including passing loop
- West Fraser freight terminal
- Timber lineside loading at Altnabreac - planning permission achieved
- Request to Stop on the FNL

We consider it vital that Frank's position is not merged with another, and that his successor is a rail specialist with in-depth knowledge of how railways work, and the ability to come up with potential solutions to issues faced by rail in the Highlands.

Frank's innovative approach, passion and persistence has borne fruit on many occasions and we don't want to see HITRANS' contribution to the success of the rail industry in Scotland diminished.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Budd - FoFNL

Allison Cosgrove - Railfuture Scotland

Hamish Baillie - FoWHL

David Watson - FNLCRP

Hege Hernes - WHCRP

Sally Spaven - HMLCRP

Paul Tetlaw - Transform Scotland
