

# School Transport and First Scotrail Enhanced Oban Rail Service

Joint Presentation  
Argyll and Bute Council  
and  
HiTRans



# Oban 6.2

Frank Roach HITRANS 11.12.13

- Highland Rail Partnership policy of min 4 trains per day on rural routes with ability to make half and whole day trips to the regional centre
- Wick, Kyle achieved 2008
- Arrochar commuter funded- the first step
- Oban business case, timetabling, SRTs studied- very positive benefit-cost ratio. Virtual-shovel ready!
- Oban 6.2 announced by Minister in Feb 13, as part of the FSR franchise continuation agreement
- HITRANS working with ABC and First ScotRail to deliver not 4 not 5 not even 6 **but 6.2 trains!**



- Scottish Transport Minister announced major enhancement to the train service between Glasgow and Oban on 19 February 2013
- ScotRail invited the Council to consider the option of using rail to transport pupils
- Council approved this decision on 27 June 2013



# Use of rail for school transport within Argyll and Bute

- Long standing arrangement in place for circa 130 pupils between Cardross and Craigendorrnan
- Oban – Dalmally corridor circa 114 pupils



# Benefits to pupils and communities

- The pupils' annual rail season tickets allow unlimited travel during school session
- Attending after school activities will be easier with no additional charge for travelling home on later trains at 1811 and 2037 whereas at present there are additional costs for pupils travelling home later by bus or coach



# Benefits to pupils and communities

- Pupils will be able to attend local GP or other appointments and travel to or from school outwith the usual time at no additional charge
- Journeys at other times (weekends and some school holidays) will be possible via the use of the annual season ticket
- Oban High School pupils travelling on the train will help to secure the long term future of the enhanced train timetable



# Benefits to pupils and communities cont...

- The enhanced train timetable will give all year round commuting possibilities into Oban for others
- Two full time traincrew jobs will be created, based in Oban and should more than compensate for any loss of bus work at school times



# Benefits to pupils and communities cont...

- The enhanced train timetable will substantially reduce the waiting time for foot passengers travelling from the islands and who require onward transport
- Fewer buses in Oban at morning rush hour helping relieve congestion





# Safety of pupil transport

- Key requirement to transport pupils to and from school safely and on time
- Approximately 3500 pupils transported each day
- All modes of transport used, including rail



# All stations

- Help point
- Shelter
- Litter bin
- Lighting
- Station dwell time => 1 minute
- Pupil briefing on safe station use
- Smart card opportunities
- **Oban**- staffed station, train to be available from 1555?



12/18/2013

10:00 AM



# Dalmally

- 34 pupils
- Increase cycle stands
- Install larger shelter
- Relocate litter bin



HI TRAILS

THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP



12/18/2013

# Loch Awe

- 7 pupils
- Increase cycle stands
- Move litter bin?
- Improve lighting on approach



TRANS

HI

THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP



12/18/2013

# Taynuilt

- 56 pupils
- Replace shelter
- Cycle parking on Oban bound platform- integral with shelter?



TRANS

HI

THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP



12/18/2013

12/18/2013

# Connel Ferry

- 17 pupils
- Increase cycle parking
- Monitor shelter capacity
- Improve lighting on approach



12/18/2013

Highland Council



HI

TRANS

THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

# Specific safety information relating to rail

- It is intended that joint safety presentations involving the Council, Scotrail and the British Transport Police will be made to pupils in advance of the new service and that this will also include the primary schools where primary seven pupils in the current 2013/14 session will be going on to first year at Oban High School from August 2014

# Specific safety information relating to rail cont...

- Train will always have a conductor on board, whose responsibility includes platform control
- The train will always approach stations at 15 miles an hour, and will only leave after given authorisation via radio control
- The trains are fitted with CCTV