

THE FRIENDS OF THE FAR NORTH LINE



Cairdean Na Loine Tuath
*the campaign group for rail north of
Inverness - lobbying for improved
services for the local user, tourist
and freight operator*

XX XXX XXXX
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Holyrood Election 2026 - Highlands' Railways

Dear xx xxxx,

We are the Friends of the Far North Line, the campaign group for the railway from Inverness to Thurso and Wick, founded in 1994 at the beginning of the rail privatisation process. With Scottish Devolution, and now the return of the Scottish railways to public ownership, many things have changed for the better, and the Scottish Government's intention of providing, and developing, excellent rail services remains.

There has been much good news for rail in Scotland since we were formed, however we have very serious concerns about the government's commitment to rail in the Highlands.

Many MSPs are new to Holyrood, and of course, many are returning for another session. Please find enclosed a pamphlet which asks you to look seriously at the problems which exist in the Highland railways network and, regardless of where your own constituency is, to support the urgent improvements which are required to bring the Highlands' railways up to the level of speed, capacity and reliability which is essential for residents, businesses, visitors and tourists.

When you read the pamphlet, you may find some of its contents shocking.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Budd

Ian Budd, Convener, FoFNL
3 Villafield Loan, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, G64 3NZ
ian.budd@fofnl.org.uk