

HRP MEMBERS MEETING 4th SEPTEMBER 2007
QUESTIONS & ANSWER SESSION

Steve Montgomery, Deputy Managing Director, First ScotRail

- 1 'In the light of a longer tourist season than the standard Summer Timetable Period (May - September), is it possible to alleviate overcrowding, particularly on certain trains on the Mallaig line, to strengthen the 0820 ex Queen Street and 1610 ex Mallaig for a longer period to cover Easter, May and October holidays? It seems the 1210 from Fort William has had overcrowding problems from as early as Easter and given the strengthening of certain trains now runs all summer period as opposed to a high summer period in previous years, the pressure on using West Highland sets for Central Belt services seems less with the introduction of more suburban Class 170s.'
- 2 When will Club 55 be on this year?
- 3 Inverness Station – is there an intention to re-orient the opening from the Eastgate side?
- 4 158 fleet – performance problems – how will 158 refurbishment improve the reliability of these trains?

- 5 When will the next round of fares increases be?
- 6 With the demise of the National Railway Timetable will First ScotRail market a Scotland only version?
- 7 Can you tell us by how much West Highland journey times will be extended from December?
- 8 (a) Given that everyone is working hard to extend the tourism season for all the obvious reasons, could not the engineering works between Kyle and Strathcarron have been delayed until the quieter times of November or even February next year?
This may be a question for both Network Rail and Scotrail.
- (b) Those wishing to commute to Inverness for work are increasingly requesting to know when the proposed advancement of the 0725 hrs departure from Kyle to 0630 hrs is expected to take place?