



Edinburgh | 16 September 2015

# Can public transport ever offer a better choice?

How can public transport represent an attractive option to transport users as part of the whole door-to-door journey.

## Programme

Time	Subject	Leading
<b>Preliminary</b>		
14.00	Chairman's welcome	<b>Jeff Halliwell</b> Chair, Transport Focus
14.05	The choice facing transport users	<b>Anthony Smith</b> Chief executive, Transport Focus
<b>Can public transport ever offer a better choice?</b>		
14.15	Keynote speaker	<b>Derek Mackay MSP</b> Minister for Transport and Islands
14.45	Scotrail/Network Rail Alliance	<b>Phil Verster</b> Managing director Scotrail/Network Rail Alliance
15.00	City of Edinburgh Council	<b>Councillor Lesley Hinds</b> Transport convener City of Edinburgh Council
15.15	Caledonian MacBrayne	<b>Martin Dorchester</b> Chief executive Caledonian MacBrayne
<b>Questions and discussion</b>		
15.30	Q&A	<b>Jeff Halliwell</b> Chair, Transport Focus
16.25	Closing remarks	<b>Jeff Halliwell</b> Chair, Transport Focus

**16 September 2015**  
**2pm-5pm**  
**Surgeons' Hall,**  
**Nicolson St, Edinburgh,**  
**EH8 9DW**

Light refreshments available from 1.30pm

For further details of this venue please go to [www.surgeonshall.com](http://www.surgeonshall.com)

Organised by **Transport Focus**

For more information please contact Michelle Calvert

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All delegates are invited to attend our Board meeting, held in public on Wednesday 16 September, 10am-12 noon at the Carlton Hotel, Edinburgh.

### Contact Transport Focus

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Transport Focus is the operating name of the Passengers' Council

All delegates are invited to join the board and management team of Transport Focus at a reception to be held at the Scottish Parliament from 6pm to 8pm on Tuesday 15 September. This event is hosted by **Patrick Harvie MSP**.

Join in the conversation on Twitter via **@TransportFocus**





**Anthony Smith**  
Chief executive  
Transport Focus

Anthony has been chief executive of Transport Focus (previously Passenger Focus) since its creation in 2005. Previously he was national director of its forerunner, the Central Rail Users' Consultative Committee, later the Rail Passengers Council. Having qualified as a solicitor, Anthony worked for five years as principal consumer lawyer for the Consumers' Association, publishers of Which? This was followed by a year as the legal consultant for Consumers International, a worldwide federation of consumer groups. Prior to joining Passenger Focus, Anthony was deputy and acting director of ICSTIS, the regulator of premium rate telephone services.



**Jeff Halliwell**  
Chair  
Transport Focus

Jeff Halliwell is the chair of Transport Focus. He started this new role in February 2015. His background is in marketing and commercial roles with international companies such as Mars and Colgate-Palmolive. Latterly he held managing director positions with household-name businesses such as Fox's Biscuits (Northern Foods), Bernard Matthews, and First Milk. Jeff is based in Northampton and he holds a number of non-executive roles across different sectors. These include: the Food Standards Agency, Cáfedirect plc, Working Links Ltd, Airport Coordination Ltd, and NHS Kettering General Hospital Foundation Trust.



**Derek Mackay MSP**  
Minister for Transport  
and Islands

Derek was elected as member of the Scottish Parliament for Renfrewshire North and West in May 2011. He currently serves in the Scottish Government at Minister for Transport and Islands. Prior to this Derek served as Minister for Local Government and Planning from December 2011 until November 2014, having served on the Finance Committee of the Scottish Parliament and as PLO (political liaison officer) to the Cabinet Secretary for Parliamentary Business & Government Strategy. Derek is currently SNP business convener (Chairman of the Party), responsible for chairing conference, the national executive and the management and administration of the party. Elected to Renfrewshire Council in 1999 at the age of 21 he was the youngest male councillor in Scotland at the time. He won three successive ward elections, to become Leader of Renfrewshire Council in May 2007, taking the SNP from opposition to lead the administration for the first time. He became a national figure in local government leading the SNP group at COSLA (Convention of Scottish Local Authorities) 2009-2011. He served on Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board as a non-executive director and chair of Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership (2007-2011). He was also previously chair of the Paisley Vision Board and Renfrewshire's Fairtrade Steering Group.



**Phil Verster**  
Managing director  
ScotRail/Network Rail Alliance

Phil leads the new ScotRail Alliance in Scotland which offers a unique opportunity to do things differently and to transform Scotland's railway. Formally launched in May this year, the ScotRail Alliance joins together the train operator Abellio ScotRail and infrastructure manager Network Rail Scotland to work as one team under a single brand. Phil has a key role in bringing greater efficiencies and passenger benefits to the railway in Scotland and delivering the goals and aims of the Scottish Government in the transformation of the railway. He was previously route managing director of Network Rail's second largest route, London North East which includes the East Coast Main Line between London and Scotland. Prior to joining Network Rail in 2012, Phil was deputy chief executive officer at Irish Rail and before that Engineering director at a London-based train operating company.



**Councillor Lesley Hinds**  
Transport convener  
City of Edinburgh Council

Lesley Hinds first became a Councillor in 1984. Currently the Councillor for the Inverleith ward, she has held numerous positions in the council, including Leader and Lord Provost. In addition she is a past chair of NHS Health Scotland-appointed by the Health Minister. She is a member of Unite the Union, CND, the Co-op Party and Scotmid. Lesley has extensive experience of board membership in a personal capacity, as well as representing the council in numerous public and private sector organisations, such as Edinburgh's Telford College, Pilton Partnership, Edinburgh's Mela, Dance Base, Edinburgh Fairtrade City, One City Trust and the City of Literature. She has knowledge of various industries such as retail, tourism and was convener of Lothian and Borders Police Board for 4 years. The first chair of Edinburgh's Fairtrade City, she has campaigned on international development issues including Scotland-Malawi partnership, Make Poverty History Campaign, as well as establishing and chairing the Tsunami Taskforce.



**Martin Dorchester**  
Chief executive  
Caledonian MacBrayne

Martin Dorchester is the CEO of the David MacBrayne Group and operates as managing director of both Argyll Ferries and Caledonian MacBrayne. In a career spanning 30 years Martin has operated nationally and internationally with organisations covering logistics, technology and finance. As CEO of Dixon's B2B operation Martin built up the largest Apple reseller business in the UK as well as developing a £100m public sector business. Martin was part of the team that brought the 5 radio authorities together to create Ofcom and worked with the London Borough of Hackney on developing its infrastructure for the 2012 Olympics. Martin is a non-executive director with Traveline UK and the Sailors' Orphan Society of Scotland. He is a supporter of Social and Community Business and chairs Firstport Ltd, a start-up funding organisation for social enterprises.