GNER Edinburgh – Transport Scotland response

From: Amanda Harding

To: Rachel Gilliland/Jonathan Cooper

Date: 31 January 2014

Rachel/Jonathan

Please see response from Transport Scotland below -

Transport Scotland are in principle supportive, as it reflects Scottish Government policy on journey time reduction over long distance routes, and is consistent with our position on reliance on domestic (abstraction from aviation on those routes is desirable). However, would require to be satisfied of the viability of operations, infrastructure works and speed upgrades proposed.

We will also need to develop a fuller picture of the interaction between this proposal and potential impacts on the forthcoming ICEC franchise.

Assuming train stock would be maintained and serviced at Newcastle, we not the opportunity for services to provide connecting services between Newcastle and Edinburgh at the beginning and end of the day, rather than operating ECS movements.

Thanks,

Amanda

Amanda Harding |Rail Regulatory Policy Advisor|Rail Strategy & Finance Team|Transport Scotland