DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL
WRITTEN SUBMISSION

Dundee is currently delivering one of the most significant urban regeneration projects in the UK which will see nearly £1Billion invested in the Dundee Waterfront. This project will realise several thousand new jobs, new commerce, retail and residential developments reconnecting Dundee City Centre to the River Tay. The project has international scale and includes the V&A Dundee Design Museum which will attract in excess of 300,000 visitors each year.

This major urban regeneration is being undertaken with sustainability and accessibility for all at the heart of the master plan and will see a new Dundee Rail Station opening in 2017 in readiness for the new V&A Dundee which will open in 2018.

In late 2013 the old Dundee station buildings (at street level) were demolished as part of the Waterfront regeneration and the citizens of Dundee and users of Dundee Station were pleased to see the removal of an unloved and unattractive yet essential component of the city’s transport infrastructure.

There had been long campaigns by users to radically overhaul the station, however, aside from cosmetic refurbishment over the past 20 years, no significant refurbishment/replacement was programmed by the rail industry with Rail Track and Network Rail unable to make an investment due to the station facilities being deemed fit for purpose.

Over the past 3 years Dundee City Council has developed a financial model, with contributions from the European Regional Development Fund, Transport Scotland and Network Rail to construct a new station with commercial space in a five storey building above the street level station buildings. The primary function of the building above the station will be hotel accommodation. This will see an investment in excess of £25M managed by Dundee City Council, with appropriate station areas handed over to Network Rail and ScotRail to operate thereon. Currently no provision has been made to upgrade the rail side platform and waiting areas.

With the opportunity to start afresh the new street level station facilities will feature best practice in terms of accessibility, passenger management, signage/assistance and retail options offered. This will include modern lifts, escalators and complementary facilities, taxi rank, short stay parking, cycle parking, car clubs, Electric Vehicle charging, environmentally attractive public space around the station environs and onward connection to local bus network designed in. Discussions in terms of the inclusion of a green travel hub nearby within the Central Waterfront area are underway.

Over the past 15 years Dundee City Centre has seen the formation of a high quality bus based public transport hub, whereby almost all bus services operating within Dundee and to/from the city hinterland pass within a short stroll of the rail station. The close proximity of this hub and the availability of 100% real time bus information
will see bus departure information displayed within the new station, allowing interchanging passengers to remain informed about where and when their onward connections are. Dundee also maintains a highly regarded pedestrian signage system with on street mapping and key destinations signed at important decision making points and there is commitment from Abellio ScotRail to integrate this information back to the platform so that the arriving passenger can gain confidence in direction signage immediately from within the station and onwards to destination.

Dundee Station In 2017

Neil Gellatly
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Dundee City Council

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