

**21 January 2012**

**Herald**

[Call for more trains refused](#)

[Helensburgh ferry 'unviable'](#)

**P&J**

[Hauliers angry at freight ferry™s poor sailing record](#)

[Hydrogen-powered buses may be on way to north-east](#)

**UK Nationals**

[A380 superjumbos to undergo checks after regulator finds cracks in wings](#)

[Fuel tanker driven into house](#)

[Virgin tycoon Sir Richard Branson is criticised for charging musicians to carry instruments](#)

[Costa Concordia crew members claim captain was playboy who treated liner as his own yacht](#)

**BBC Online**

[Jobless 'pay higher car premiums'](#)

[Mayor 'should run' rail services](#)

**22 January 2012**

**UK Nationals**

[Ashcroft offers £5m towards cost of royal yacht](#)

[Airline cost blow for Boris Island](#)

[Formula one teams slow off the grid to pay bills](#)

[Pilot on Boeing 757 dies of heart attack mid-flight with 239 passengers on board](#)

['Why I back the Thames hub': The architect behind some of the world's greatest airports outlines his ambitious vision for Britain](#)

[Justine's lonely road to the top](#)

[TV probe reveals rail network wastes millions... as fares go up by 11%](#)

[Schoolboy becomes Britain's youngest pilot on his 16th birthday](#)

**23 January 2012**

**Scotsman**

[Learner drivers at the crossroads as theory test gets even tougher](#)

[Cruise ship sinking: Concordia's captain ready to accept blame](#)

**Daily Record**

[Parking scheme will stop kind-hearted drivers passing on tickets for free](#)

[Network Rail plan 300ft high viewing platform on Forth Bridge](#)

**UK Nationals**

[Costa Concordia captain claims company ordered 'salute' to island](#)

[Clegg hints Huhne may go if he is charged over speeding points](#)

[Will government cuts grind the country bus to a halt?](#)

[Car insurance doubled? Want to know where the money goes? Here's the shocking truth](#)

[Thames estuary hub: Lord Foster and the £50bn airport that we don't need](#)

[More than 600 convicted killer drivers allowed back on the road](#)

**BBC Online**

[Visitor platform for Forth Bridge](#)

[Rail signal staff suspend strike](#)

[VIDEO: 'Insurers undervalue wrecked cars'](#)

## [Insurers 'undervalue car wrecks'](#)

### Scottish Government

### [Budget Bill 2012-13](#)

### Holyrood

### Future Meetings of the Parliament

#### **Business Programme agreed by the Parliament on 18 January 2012**

#### **Wednesday 25 January 2012**

**1.30 pm** Time for Reflection – Reverend Dr Stewart Gillan, Minister, St Michael's Parish Church, Linlithgow

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Ministerial Statement: Referendum Consultation

*followed by* Stage 1 Debate: Budget (Scotland) Bill (*for text of motion see S4M-01773 in [Section F](#)*)

*followed by* Business Motion

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**5.00 pm** Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business – S4M-01700 Stewart Maxwell: Holocaust Memorial Day 2012 (*for text of motion see [Section F](#)*)

#### **Thursday 26 January 2012**

**9.15 am** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Scottish Labour Party Debate – Public Transport

*followed by* Scottish Labour Party Debate – Supporting Families

**11.40 am** General Question Time (*for text of General Questions see [Section D](#) of the Business Bulletin for Thursday 19 January 2012*)

**12.00 pm** First Minister's Question Time

**2.15 pm** Themed Question Time

Education and Lifelong Learning (*for text of Themed Questions see [Section D](#) of the Business Bulletin for Thursday 19 January 2012*)

**2.55 pm** Scottish Government Debate: Claim of Right

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**5.00 pm** Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business – S4M-01690 Patricia Ferguson: Save Glasgow's Local Train Services (*for text of motion see [Section F](#)*)

**Wednesday 1 February 2012**

**2.30 pm** Time for Reflection

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Scottish Government Business

*followed by* Business Motion

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**5.00 pm** Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

**Thursday 2 February 2012**

**9.15 am** Parliamentary Bureau Motions

*followed by* Scottish Government Business

**11.40 am** General Question Time (*for names of those Members selected for General Questions see [Section D](#) of the Business Bulletin for Thursday 19 January 2012*)

**12.00 pm** First Minister's Question Time

**2.15 pm** Themed Question Time

Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth (*for names of those Members selected for Themed Questions see [Section D](#) of the Business Bulletin for Thursday 19 January 2012*)

**2.55 pm** Scottish Government Business

*followed by* Parliamentary Bureau Motions

**5.00 pm** Decision Time

*followed by* Members' Business

### **Future Meetings of Committees**

#### **Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee, 25 January 2012, 2nd Meeting, 2012**

The Committee will meet at **10.00 am in Committee Room 2**

1. **Decision on taking business in private:** The Committee will decide whether to take item 5 in private.

2. **The Scottish Ferry Services Draft Plan:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Keith Brown, Minister for Housing and Transport, Graham Laidlaw, Head of Ferries Unit, Judith Ainsley, Head of Ferries Policy and Procurement, David Notman, Economic Adviser, and Cheryl Murrie, Ferries Policy Officer, Transport Scotland, Scottish Government.

3. **Scottish Social Housing Charter:** The Committee will take evidence from—

Jim Harvey, Director, Glasgow and West of Scotland Forum of Housing Associations;

David Bookbinder, Head of Policy and Public Affairs, Chartered Institute of Housing in Scotland;

Euan McDougall, Policy, Information and Parliamentary Officer, Scottish Disability Equality Forum;

Danny Mullen, The Regional Networks of Registered Tenants Organisations;

Alan Stokes, Policy and Strategy Manager, Scottish Federation of Housing Associations;

Ilene Campbell, Director, Tenants Information Service.

4. **Subordinate legislation:** The Committee will consider the following negative instrument—

the Housing (Scotland) Act 2010 (Consequential Amendment) Order 2011 (SSI 2011/445)

5. **Work programme:** The Committee will review its work programme.

### **Proposed future business**

At its next meeting, on 8 February, the Committee will continue to take evidence on the Scottish Social Housing Charter and the 2012 Homelessness Commitment.

### **Motions and Amendments**

**S4M-01765 Margaret McDougall: Ardrossan Town Station under Threat**—That the Parliament recognises the importance of local train services to commuters in Ardrossan; notes Transport Scotland's publication, *Rail 2014 - Public Consultation*, which calls into question the future of train stations within one mile of each other; expresses concern that Ardrossan Town station is under threat; understands that there has been no decline in passenger numbers using this station and that it is still well used; further understands that the Strategic Transport Projects Review Intervention 26, Rail Enhancements Between Inverclyde/Ayrshire and Glasgow, aims to deliver further improvements to passenger services and make a significant contribution to increasing rail capacity in Ayrshire, which is expected to encourage modal shift from road to rail, and expresses concern that the closing of Ardrossan Town station does not fit into this model and will further reduce transport services in North Ayrshire, increasing journey times to work for commuters and cutting people off from work opportunities.

**Supported by: Anne McTaggart\*, John Lamont\*, Neil Findlay\*, Patricia Ferguson\***

**S4M-01717 John Mason: A2B Rail Link Steams through First Year**—That the Parliament notes that 12 December 2011 was the first anniversary of the opening of the Airdrie to Bathgate rail link, which helps connect Glasgow with Edinburgh; welcomes recent figures published by Transport Scotland suggesting that the stations built at Armadale, Blackridge and Caldercruix are all on target to meet their initial annual passenger forecasts; considers that the increased frequency and greater seating capacity has also helped boost usage at existing stations on the route with Bathgate, Uphall and Livingston North all showing increases in travel to and from Edinburgh; welcomes the news that new direct journey opportunities have also delivered an average 14% increase in usage from intermediate stations on the route between Helensburgh and Edinburgh Waverley, and commends the Scottish Government, Network Rail, ScotRail and the other partners that delivered and operate the new route, which also serves the east end of Glasgow.

**Supported by: Hanzala Malik, Kevin Stewart, Humza Yousaf, Rob Gibson, Margaret Burgess, Kenneth Gibson, Richard Lyle, Gordon MacDonald, Dennis Robertson, Mike MacKenzie, Annabelle Ewing, Fiona McLeod, David Torrance,**

***Paul Wheelhouse, Colin Beattie, Bill Kidd, Jamie Hepburn, Jim Eadie, Gil Paterson***

**S4M-01690# Patricia Ferguson: Save Glasgow's Local Train Services**—That the Parliament recognises the importance of local train services to commuters in Glasgow; notes Transport Scotland's publication, *Rail 2014 - Public Consultation*, which calls into question the future of railway stations within one mile of another station; expresses concern that nine of the 14 stations identified in this category, Ashfield, Barnhill, Duke Street, Gilshochill, Kelvindale, Kennishead, Maryhill, Mosspark and Nitshill, are in Glasgow and that five of these are on the Anniesland to Queen Street via Ashfield line; notes that each of the nine stations has seen an increase in passenger numbers over the last two years, with Ashfield seeing a 32% increase during this time; further notes that passenger numbers have increased by 189% and 145% at the threatened Gilshochill and Possilpark and Parkhouse stations since 2005; also notes the ongoing Edinburgh Glasgow Improvement Plan consultation, which, it understands, threatens the future of a direct train service to Glasgow Queen Street on the Ashfield line, and believes that these changes would restrict access and deter the use of local rail services in Glasgow and will inevitably make it more difficult for local residents to travel to work and access health and leisure facilities.