

28 April 2015

## **New ScotRail team to transform Scotland's railway for passengers**

The executive management team that will lead an ambitious programme to improve Scotland's railway and deliver greater choice and value for customers has been unveiled today (*Tuesday April 28*).

The move is a crucial step in the creation of the ScotRail Alliance – a formal agreement between Abellio ScotRail and Network Rail to make the industry more responsive to customers' needs.

Both will remain separate companies, led by ScotRail Alliance managing director Phil Verster, whose appointment was confirmed on 25 March.

The new management team draws on the experience of the two current teams in Kenny McPhail as Finance Director, Julie McComasky as HR Director, David Dickson as Infrastructure Director and Jacqueline Taggart as Customer Experience Director.

The team is strengthened by the recent additions of Angus Thom as Engineering Director, David Lister as Safety & Sustainability Director, Jonathan Crick as Commercial Director and now also Danny Williams as Operations Director and Ian McConnell as Programmes & Transformation Director.

The ScotRail Alliance will officially launch on May 11, but work has already begun to deliver improvements for passengers.

Phil Verster, managing director said: "Our customers are already benefiting from our closer working relationship. This approach will continue as both organisations come together to work as one team. We will improve the infrastructure and roll out services and facilities that will make a real difference to people's journeys, such as smartcards, great value fares, integrated travel options and improved connections.

"I would like to thank Steve Montgomery and his team unreservedly for their great service to Scotland and to our customers. The new team will build on what has gone before to deliver our vision of 'Connecting Scotland' with great services for our customers and our communities."

Jeff Hoogesteger Abellio Group CEO said: "The development of this new ScotRail Alliance is an exciting development for the country. This will deliver a bigger and better railway, but more important than track and trains, will transform the position of the customer. Every member of the team will work to put the customer at the heart of everything we do. Our job is not just to run the railway but to truly serve the travelling public and in doing so make the economy and society stronger. "

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### **Notes to Editors**

Sean Duffy (Client and Commercial Director); Jacqueline Day (Operations Director); and Matt Watson (Business Transformation Director) will not be part of the ScotRail executive management team.

Responsible for running over 2,500 trains per day, managing and maintaining over 350 stations and nearly 3,000 miles of track, the ScotRail Alliance will create a combined team of more than 7,000 railway staff across Scotland.