



11 October 2005

Susan Clark
EARL Director
tie Limited
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Dear Susan

Thank you for taking the time to summaries and explain the key points relating to the Edinburgh Airport Rail Link (EARL) project at our recent meeting in your offices.

Transport is the number one business agenda item for North East businesses so major infrastructure developments of this type, even outwith our region, are of considerable interest. Access to air services is a particular need of our business community so the international routes available from Edinburgh are a major attraction for our global businesses.

Equally, fast, regular rail services inside Scotland are vitally important to our Members. We need to work energetically to see real improvement in the journey times on the inter city journeys within Scotland if we are to deliver sustainable modal shift and release lost driving time for enterprise. We note that the EARL projects takes account of this ambition in its design and planning. We also recognise the importance of EARL to the economic competitiveness of not just the Edinburgh area and the Central Belt but also to the North East of Scotland as a key strategic location within Scotland. The EARL project will form an important part of improving our prime transport infrastructure for the long term.

Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce is fully supportive of the implementation of this major initiative. In the meantime we will continue to invest time through our involvement with NESTRANS, the regional strategic transport partnership, and will ensure that the EARL project implications are fully reflected in our regional transport connections plan.

Thank you again for your time. Should you wish to update the Chamber further at any time then please feel free to get in touch.

Yours sincerely



Geoff Runcie
Chief Executive