



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Mercedes Villalba MSP
North East Scotland Region

Margo Williamson
Chief Executive
Angus Council
Angus House
Orchardbank Business Park
Forfar
DD8 1AN

22 June 2022

Dear Ms Williamson

Caledonian Railway – Levelling Up Funding Application

I have been contacted by Jon Gill, Chairman, Caledonian Railway Brechin Ltd, regarding his bid for UK Government levelling up funding, available through Angus Council, and I would like to support him in this venture. I understand the matter is to be discussed at a full Council meeting on 30 June and I would be glad if you could ensure that my support is highlighted to elected members making the decision in this.

Mr Gill has provided me with information about what he intends to use the funding for, and I am pleased to read that his vision covers a great many areas of relevance today including this reconnection of rail services to the main network, experience of volunteering, active travel, and bringing the community together with events as well as further tourism opportunities.

I understand that Mr Gill and the volunteers at Caledonian Railways have a great deal of experience and expertise in this area and I hope that elected members will fully consider Mr Gill's proposals.

Yours sincerely

Mercedes Villalba MSP
Scottish Labour Shadow Minister for Environment and Biodiversity