

# Sustrans adds support to Scotland's Railway sustainability strategy

March 30, 2022



An 18-month secondment to Scotland's Railway will see a special strategic project take shape.

As of April, John Lauder, deputy CEO of Sustrans, will lead an initiative to reduce car journeys to the nation's train stations.

John will work with Network Rail Scotland and ScotRail to create a new strategy for Scotland's Railway aimed at promoting sustainable travel options and reducing passengers' reliance on cars.

The strategy will examine how to encourage more use of walking, cycling and public transport such as buses when arriving at stations.

The project is part of the rail industry's drive to decarbonise passenger rail services in Scotland by 2035 and help the Scottish Government achieve its target of reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2045.

It will build on the emphasis the industry already places on making new and redeveloped stations integrated transport hubs, offering a wide range of facilities including bike racks, public transport links and

electric vehicle charging points.

John Lauder said: “This is an exciting time for sustainable transport and active travel in Scotland with government policy moving away from private motoring and towards low carbon, people-focused transport.

“Giving rail travellers better choice not to use a car for every trip to the station is a key element in an integrated, sustainable transport strategy.

“This secondment will give me a chance to apply my learning of over 18 years working in the sustainable transport sector and improve what the railway can offer its customers.”

Alex Hynes, managing director of Scotland’s Railway, said: “With nearly two decades experience at Sustrans, few people are as well placed as John to work with our industry to help deliver real change in how our passengers travel to our stations.

“The rail industry in Scotland is fully-committed to decarbonising passenger services by 2035 and supporting the wider social and economic shift towards a greener future for our country.

“We are delighted that John is joining our team and look forward to developing new strategies to get people out of their cars and onto public transport.”

Xavier Brice, CEO of Sustrans, said: “This is a great opportunity for John and for Sustrans. Scotland’s Railway is leading the UK on decarbonisation and sustainability and is committed to helping the Scottish Government achieve its target of a 20% reduction in vehicle mileage by 2030.

“The work that John will be leading is integral to this and, of course, core to Sustrans’ vision and mission.”