

The Aberdeen Metro

Mk1 of the Aberdeen Metro is a particularly simple system, with just one line, but it is a real cross-city metro, connecting the Union station, right in the city centre, with Dyce Airport and Inverurie in the north, and Deeside in the south west, out as far as Banchory, all trains passing through the centre.

At present, the Royal Deeside Railway owns Milton of Crathes station and c.1 mile of track, just east of Banchory. It is suggested that they be granted joint use of Banchory station, and a replacement length of route to the west thereof (in principle, all the way to Ballater,) for progressive restoration.

Mk2 is suggested as a contingent benefit of Mk2 of the proposals for HS14, which provides, inter alia, for HS services from Aberdeen to both Glasgow and Edinburgh, fast and stopping via the restored and upgraded Great Glen route, and via Dundee. At Mk2, new infrastructure is proposed between Dunlithie Junction, south of Stonehaven and Aberdeen, with a new, straight alignment on the approach to Aberdeen itself. This makes available the classic route between Aberdeen and Stonehaven to be taken over by the Aberdeen Metro, connecting into / from HS14's stopping and via-Dundee services at Stonehaven. To balance this service north of Aberdeen, the former route to Fraserburgh and Perethad is incorporated, as far as Ellon.

The Mk2 metro service is:

- 4tph Inverurie – Kintore – Kinaldie – Pitmedden – Dyce Airport – Stoneywood – Bankhead – Bucksburn – Persley – Woodside – Don St. – Kittybrewster – Hutcheon St. – Schoolhill – Aberdeen Union Station – Ferryhill – Holburn St. / Duthie Park – Ruthrieston – Pitfodels – Culter – West Culter – Bielside – Murtle – Milltimber – Culter – Drum – Park – Crathes – Milton of Crathes (Royal Deeside) – Banchory
- 4tph Dyce Airport – Stoneywood – Bankhead – Bucksburn – Persley – Woodside – Don St. – Kittybrewster – Hutcheon St. – Schoolhill – Aberdeen Union Station – Ferryhill – Holburn St. / Duthie Park – Ruthrieston – Pitfodels – Culter – West Culter – Bielside – Murtle – Milltimber – Culter.
[Only the above two services feature at Mk1.]
- 4tph Ellon – Esslermont – Logierieve – Udney – Newmachar – Dyce Airport – Stoneywood – Bankhead – Bucksburn – Persley – Woodside – Don St. – Kittybrewster – Hutcheon St. – Schoolhill – Aberdeen Union Station – Ferryhill – Nigg Road – Middleton – Cove Bay – Porthlethen – Newtonhill – Muchalls – Stonehaven
- 4tph Dyce Airport – Stoneywood – Bankhead – Bucksburn – Persley – Woodside – Don St. – Kittybrewster – Hutcheon St. – Schoolhill – Aberdeen Union Station – Ferryhill – Nigg Road – Middleton – Cove Bay – Porthlethen – Newtonhill – Muchalls – Stonehaven

– thus 16tph [8tph at Mk1] on the core section Dyce Airport – Ferryhill, and 8tph thence to Culter [and to Stonehaven at Mk2].

The route is double track throughout, except for the Ellon branch, which will be single, with a passing loop at Udney. In addition, the RM service to Inverness must be accommodated on the tracks out to Inverurie:

- 2tphR Aberdeen Union Station – Woodside – Dyce Airport – Inverurie – Inch – Huntly – Keith – Elgin – Forres – Nairn – Inverness

Double island platforms are provided at Woodside, Dyce and Inverurie, to allow cross-platform interchange between the metro and Inverness services, and overtaking by the latter.

Possibly other services may be introduced north of Aberdeen, such as (beyond Ellon) to Fraserburgh and Peterhead, but there are as yet no firm plans.

The metro has its own tracks south of Union station, and is thus completely independent of the mainline services to the south, into and out of which it connects at Union station. Refer to the article HS Scottish Routes and Service Plans for the full services to and from the south, but the following have a local or regional character:

- 2tph Aberdeen – Perth – Stirling – Glasgow Bellgrove – Glasgow St. Enoch ('fast')
- 2tph Aberdeen – Perth – Stirling – Edinburgh Airport – Haymarket HS – Edinburgh Waverley HS – Newcraighall HS ('fast')
- 2tphH Aberdeen – Stonehaven – Laurencekirk – Bridge of Dun – Forfar – Coupar Angus – Perth – Stirling – Glasgow Bellgrove – Glasgow St. Enoch ('stopping')
- 2tphH Aberdeen – Stonehaven – Laurencekirk – Bridge of Dun – Forfar – Coupar Angus – Perth – Stirling – Edinburgh Airport – Haymarket HS – Edinburgh Waverley HS – Newcraighall HS ('stopping')
- 2tphH Aberdeen – Stonehaven – Laurencekirk – Montrose – Arbroath – Dundee Tay Bridge – Perth – Stirling – Glasgow Queen St. ('via Dundee')
- 2tphH Aberdeen – Stonehaven – Laurencekirk – Montrose – Arbroath – Dundee Tay Bridge – Leuchars Junction – Kirkcaldy – Edinburgh Airport – Haymarket HS – Edinburgh Waverley HS – Newcraighall HS ('via Dundee')

The following page gives the key to the various maps of the Aberdeen Metro, followed by the maps themselves.









