



National Transport Authority

Garth S. Fine, High Court,  
Marcoult Lane, Dublin 2

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_t] &= \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_t^{\text{train}}] + \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_t^{\text{test}}] \\
 &= \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_t^{\text{train}}] + \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_t^{\text{test}}]
 \end{aligned}$$

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to the following request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 and 2003 for records held by this Department/Body:

- I have made a final decision to grant your request today June 5<sup>th</sup> 2012.

Rather than keeping each email as a separate document I have decided to release the trail of emails, in certain occasions these may mean that the final version would not have all attachments, in those cases I will include the attachment.

Yours sincerely,

Derek O'Neill  
Decision Maker

Record No.	Description	Date	Pages	Decision (Release/Partial/Refuse)	Basis of Refusal (if any)
1	Emails between Dick Fearn and Gerry Murphy	17/02/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
2	Emails between Stephen King and Michael Warnock-Smith (the timetable attachment on this email fell off and is included here as record 2a)	17/02/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
3	Emails between Gerry Murphy, Dick Fearn and Michael Warnock-Smith with attachment	17/02/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
4	Email between Dick Fearn & Gerry Murphy	17/02/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
5	Email from Michael Warnock-Smith to Gerry Murphy with attachment	21/02/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
6	Email from Dick Fearn to Gerry Murphy	23/02/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
7	Email from Michael Warnock-Smith to Peter Fitzsimons with attachment	02/03/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
8	Email Dick Fearn to Gerry Murphy	23/03/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
9	Emails between Michael Warnock-Smith, Aedín Ryle, Dick Fearn, Gerry Murphy & Brian O'Meara (with attachment)	27/03/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
10	Approvals Master Sheet Excel	28/03/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
11	Proposed Limerick & Nenagh Service Changes	17/02/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A
12	Approval for Timetable Alterations	22/02/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A

	22022012				
13	Approval for Timetable Alterations 30032012	30/03/2012	Electronic	Release	N/A

Time	PROPOSAL	
	GENERAL	
09:00 Limerick / Heuston (Mon to Sat)	New Service	
13:40 Heuston / Limerick (Mon to Sat)	New Service	
05:15 Limerick / Heuston (Mon to Fri)	New Service operating via the Nenagh branch direct service for stations along that line to	
16:45 Limerick / Ballybrophy	Advanced to 16.05 and now operates Mon	
17:05 Heuston / Tralee (Mon to Sat)	Provide additional stop at Ballybrophy	
17:45 Limerick / Nenagh	Advanced to 17.05, extended to Ballybrophy operates Monday to Saturday.	
18:00 Heuston / Cork (Mon to Sat)	Provide additional stop at Ballybrophy	
18:54 Ballybrophy / Limerick	Advanced to 18.20 and now operates Mon	
19:15 Ballybrophy / Limerick	New Service operating Monday to Saturday	
05.15 Limerick / Heuston (Mon - Fri)	Advance to 05.05 from Limerick to give additional time on the Nenagh Branch. Operates in conjunction with Portlaoise/Heuston service from Portlaoise	
19.15 Ballybrophy / Limerick	On Saturdays will only call at Roscrea or operate 11 minutes earlier to Limerick	

	Received	NTA Action	Notes	Proposed Date	Actual Date
	17 .02.2012	Approved 17.02.2012		05.03.2012	05.03.2012
	17 .02.2012	Approved 17.02.2012		05.03.2012	05.03.2012
anch and providing a Dublin	17 .02.2012	Approved 17.02.2012		05.03.2012	05.03.2012
iday to Friday only.	17 .02.2012	Approved 17.02.2012		05.03.2012	05.03.2012
	17 .02.2012	Approved 17.02.2012		05.03.2012	05.03.2012
hy and now	17 .02.2012	Approved 17.02.2012		05.03.2012	05.03.2012
	17 .02.2012	Approved 17.02.2012		05.03.2012	05.03.2012
iday to Friday only.	17 .02.2012	Approved 17.02.2012		05.03.2012	05.03.2012
y.	17 .02.2012	Approved 17.02.2012		05.03.2012	05.03.2012
ditional running path of 07.25 a. Previous 07.25	27.03.2012			20.03.2012	20.03.2012
one minute and then	27.03.2012			20.03.2012	20.03.2012

**05.15 Limerick / DUBLIN Heuston (A409) 3 ICR** New Service. (Mon to Fri)

**13.40 DUBLIN Heuston / Limerick (A404) 3 ICR** New Service. (Mon to Sat)

**16.45 Limerick / Ballybrophy (A463) DMU** to be advanced to 16.05 from Limerick as below, connects into 16.30 Cork/Heuston (Mon to Fri)

**18.54 Ballybrophy / Limerick (A464) DMU** to be advanced to 18.20 from Ballybrophy as below, taking connection off 17.05 Heuston/Tralee and also 16.30 Cork/Heuston. (Mon to Fri)

**17.45 Limerick / Nenagh (A465) DMU** to be advanced to 17.05 from Limerick and extended to Ballybrophy as below, connects into 17.30 Cork/Heuston (Mon to Sat)

**19.15 Ballybrophy / Limerick (A466) DMU** new service that takes connection off 18.00 Heuston/Cork (Mon to Sat)

TRAIN I.D. : TRAIN TYPE :	(Mon to Fri) A409 3 ICR		TRAIN I.D. : TRAIN TYPE :	(Mon to Sat) A404 3 ICR	
	Arr.	Dep.		Arr.	Dep.
<b>LIMERICK</b>		05.15	<b>DUBLIN Heuston</b>		13.40
Killonan Jctn.		05.21½	Inchicore		13.44
Castleconnell	05.30½	05.31	P. West & Ch. Orch. (Fast)		13.46
Birdhill	05.39½	05.40	Clondalkin Fonthill (Fast)		13.47½
Nenagh	06.03½	06.04½	Adamstown (Fast)		13.50
Cloughjordan	06.20½	06.21	Hazelhatch (Fast)		13.52½
Roscrea	06.38	06.38½	Sallins		13.58
Ballybrophy	06.56	07.01	Newbridge		14.06
Portlaoise	07.14	07.16	Kildare		14.13½
Portarlinton		07.26½	Cherryville Jctn.		14.17½
Monasterevan		07.32½	Monasterevan		14.22½
Cherryville Jctn.		07.39½	Portarlinton		14.30
Kildare		07.43½	Portlaoise	14.38½	14.39½
Newbridge		07.51	Ballybrophy		14.51½
Sallins	07.58	07.59	Lisduff		14.56
Hazelhatch (Slow)	08.07	08.08	Templemore		15.00½
Adamstown (Slow)	08.12	08.13	Thurles	15.07½	15.08½
Clondalkin (Slow)		08.16½	Limerick Jctn. Loop		15.26
ParkWest (Slow)		08.18	Dromkeen		15.36½
Inchicore		08.20	Killonan Jctn.		15.42
<b>DUBLIN Heuston</b>	08.25		<b>LIMERICK</b>	15.50	

TRAIN I.D. : TRAIN TYPE :	(Mon to Fri) A463 DMU		(Mon to Sat) A465 DMU	
	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.
<b>LIMERICK</b>		16.05		17.05
Killonan Jctn.		16.13		17.13
Castleconnell	16.25	16.25½	17.25	17.25½
Birdhill	16.33½	16.34	17.33½	17.34
<b>NENAGH</b>	16.59½	17.00	17.59½	18.00
Cloughjordan	17.17½	17.18	18.17½	18.18
Roscrea	17.37½	17.38	<u>18.38</u>	<u>18.42</u>
<b>BALLYBROPHY</b>	18.00		19.04	

TRAIN I.D. : TRAIN TYPE :	A312 6 ICR		(Mon to Fri) A464 DMU		A224 MKIV		(Mon to Sat) A466 DMU	
	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.
<b>DUBLIN Heuston</b> <b>BALLYBROPHY</b> Roscrea Cloughjordan <b>NENAGH</b> Birdhill Castleconnell Killonan Jctn. <b>LIMERICK</b>	18.04	17.05 18.06 <b>To</b> <b>Tralee</b>	<u>18.40</u> 19.00½ 19.19 19.46 19.54½ 20.14	18.20 <u>18.40½</u> 19.01 19.19½ 19.46½ 19.55 20.05½	19.05½	18.00 19.07½ <b>To</b> <b>Cork</b>	19.36 20.08 20.26½ 20.53½ 21.02 21.22	19.15 19.48 20.08½ 20.27 20.54 21.02½ 21.13

Altered paths for 17.05 Heuston / Tralee and 18.00 Heuston / Cork are below showing Ballybrophy stops with no effect on current end arrival times:

TRAIN I.D. : TRAIN TYPE :	A312 6 ICR		A224 MKIV	
	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.
<b>DUBLIN Heuston</b> Inchicore P. West & Ch. Orch. (Fast) Clondalkin Fonthill (Fast) Adamstown (Fast) Hazelhatch (Fast) Sallins Newbridge Kildare Cherryville Jctn. Monasterevan Portarlinton Portlaoise Ballybrophy Lisduff Templemore Thurles Limerick Jctn. Charleville Mallow Killarney Jctn.		17.05 17.09 17.11 17.12½ 17.15 17.17½ 17.23 17.29 17.33½ 17.35½ 17.38½ 17.44 17.52 18.04 18.06 18.12 18.17 18.25½ 18.47 19.04½ 19.22 19.27		18.00 18.04½ 18.06½ 18.08 18.10½ 18.14 18.20½ 18.27½ 18.33 18.35 18.39 18.45 18.53½ 19.07½ 19.13½ 19.18 19.26 19.47½ 20.08½ 20.25½ 20.27
Rathpeacon <b>CORK</b>			20.50	20.41
Banteer Millstreet Rathmore Killarney Killarney Check Farranfore <b>TRALEE</b>	19.37½ 19.49½ <u>19.58½</u> 20.22½ 20.27½ 20.44 21.00	19.39½ 19.51½ <u>20.05</u> 20.25½ 20.30½ 20.45		

## Proposal for Permanent Timetable Alteration

[illegible]



Mr Dick Fearn  
Chief Executive  
Iarnrod Eireann  
Connolly Station  
Dublin 1

22 February 2012

Dear Dick

**Public Service Contract  
Timetable Changes**

I confirm approval for the proposed changes to services as outlined on the attached schedule.

The changes can be implemented on or after 5 March 2012.

I enclose 2 copies of the approved and signed schedule and should be grateful if you would if you would arrange to sign, date and return one copy.

Yours sincerely



Michael Warnock-Smith  
Head of Public Transport Regulation Division



## Proposal for Permanent Timetable Alteration

[illegible]

**John Reville**  
**General Manager ICCN**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Gerry Murphy**  
**National Transport Authority**

Signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_

27/02/12

22/12/22

7/2/20

Mr Dick Fearn  
Chief Executive  
Iarnród Éireann  
Connolly Station  
Dublin 1

22 February 2012

Dear Dick


**Public Service Contract  
Timetable Changes**

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Yours sincerely



Michael Warnock-Smith  
Head of Public Transport Regulation Division

### Proposal for Permanent Timetable Alteration

[illegible]

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**From:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Sent:** 27 March 2012 17:58  
**To:** Aedin.Ryle  
**Subject:** Document 9  
**Attachments:** 05.05 Limerick-Heuston (Via Nenagh) Timetable Alteration.JPG; ATT00001.txt

Aedin

We will need to do our version

---

Michael Warnock-Smith

HEAD OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT REGULATION DIVISION



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Harcourt Lane  
Dublin 2

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Ddi: + 353 (0) 1 879 8344

E-mail: [michael.warnock-smith@nationaltransport.ie](mailto:michael.warnock-smith@nationaltransport.ie)  
Web: <http://www.nationaltransport.ie>

---

**From:** O'Meara Brian [mailto:brian.omeara@irishrail.ie]  
**Sent:** 27 March 2012 16:57  
**To:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Subject:** Nenagh train

Michael

I refer to the email conversation below between Gerry Murphy & Dick Fearn in relation to an alteration to the newly introduced 05:15 Limerick/Heuston (Via Nenagh) Service. Please find attached the relevant timetable alteration document.

On another matter which we discussed by email last week in relation to the Annual Census information, I am informed that this document has already been forwarded to Mr John Knott of the NTA.

Kind Regards

Brian

Brian O'Meara

Operations Planning Manager, Irish Rail, Connolly Station, Dublin 1

**Bainisteoir Pleanála Óibríochtaí, Iarnród Éireann, Stáisiun Uí Chongaille, Baile Átha Cliath 1**

T: +353 (0) 1 703 2464 F: +353 (0) 67 2892265 E: [brian.omeara@irishrail.ie](mailto:brian.omeara@irishrail.ie) W: [www.irishrail.ie](http://www.irishrail.ie)

**From:** Fearn Dick  
**Sent:** 26 March 2012 18:00  
**To:** O'Meara Brian  
**Subject:** Fw: Nenagh train

Brian,

I attach an email that I sent last week to Gerry Murphy, CEO NTA, regarding the Nenagh changes, together with his reply.

Please can you submit the change retrospectively to Michael Warnock Smith at the NTA for his approval.

Many thanks,  
Dick

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**From:** Gerry Murphy [mailto:[gerry.murphy@nationaltransport.ie](mailto:gerry.murphy@nationaltransport.ie)]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2012 01:11 PM  
**To:** Fearn Dick  
**Subject:** RE: Nenagh train

Dick,

Thanks for info. You will need to get someone to submit the application formally to Michael Warnock Smith.

Gerry

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**From:** Murphy Ann (IR Connolly) [mailto:[Ann.Murphy@irishrail.ie](mailto:Ann.Murphy@irishrail.ie)] **On Behalf Of** Fearn Dick  
**Sent:** 23 March 2012 17:15  
**To:** Gerry Murphy  
**Subject:** RE: Nenagh train

Gerry,

Thank you for your email of 21<sup>st</sup> March regarding the query you have received concerning the new Nenagh to Dublin train service.

The timetable plan, approved by your Authority, involved two services operating from Portlaoise to Dublin at 07.16 and 07.25 respectively. The first of these calls at Sallins, Hazelhatch and Adamstown before arriving in Heuston at 08.25. The second service calls at Monasterevin, Kildare, Newbridge, Sallins, Hazelhatch and Adamstown and arrives in Heuston at 08.33. In the plan the service from Nenagh (departing from there at 06.04) formed the 07.16 departure from Portlaoise.

However, as we discussed, the restricted speeds on the Nenagh line made it very difficult for the train to arrive in Portlaoise on time to make the 07.16 departure and as a result this was disrupting other commuters' journeys. We therefore decided to schedule the Nenagh train to form the 07.25 from Portlaoise.

Consequently, the Nenagh passengers now arrive in Dublin at 08.33 instead of 08.25 as originally scheduled. However, since making this change, the Nenagh service has been arriving punctually in Dublin and I am not aware of any adverse reaction from the public on this matter.

I am sorry I did not alert you to this change beforehand, but I would be grateful if you could now arrange for this amendment to be considered by your Authority.

Many thanks,

Dick

**From:** Gerry Murphy [mailto:gerry.murphy@nationaltransport.ie]

**Sent:** 21 March 2012 16:52

**To:** Fearn Dick

**Subject:** Nenagh train

Dick,

Query was "are you aware that the new " improved " service now has three extra stops - Monasterevin, Kildare, and Newbidge bringing the journey time from Nenagh to 2 hours twenty nine minutes - as of yesterday morning. Was this approved by you / the NTA?"

Thanks

Gerry



**From:** Gerry Murphy  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 10:17  
**To:** 'Fearn Dick'  
**Subject:** Document 1

Thanks Dick.

-----Original Message-----

From: Fearn Dick [mailto:Dick.Fearn@irishrail.ie]  
Sent: 16 February 2012 18:41  
To: Gerry Murphy  
Subject: Re: Proposed change to Nenagh line services

Gerry,

Thank you for forwarding me a copy of the email from Mark Gleeson.

The issue of bringing forward the 17.45 departure to Nenagh from Limerick, to 1705, was considered carefully, because at first glance it does look like it would inconvenience people.

However, the fact is that there are very few people using the 17.45 service at all at present. Most homebound commuters to Nenagh use the current 16.45 departure from Limerick.

Typically the loading of the 17.45 is in single figures, and on many occasions recently the service has been terminated at Birdhill and not even run through to Nenagh because no passengers were left on the train!

Local feedback is that the proposed new departure times from Limerick of 16.05 and 17.05 will be more popular.

Regards,  
Dick

----- Original Message -----

From: Gerry Murphy [mailto:gerry.murphy@nationaltransport.ie]  
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2012 05:13 PM  
To: Fearn Dick  
Subject: FW: Proposed change to Nenagh line services

Dick,

Further to our phone conversation I just got this and thought you might be interested!

Gerry

-----Original Message-----

From: Anne Graham  
Sent: 16 February 2012 17:03  
To: Michael Warnock-Smith  
Cc: Gerry Murphy  
Subject: FW: Proposed change to Nenagh line services

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Evin Mc Mahon

Sent: 16 February 2012 16:56

To: Anne Graham

Subject: FW: Proposed change to Nenagh line services

FYI

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From: Mark Gleeson [mark.gleeson@railusers.ie]

Sent: 16 February 2012 16:41

To: Evin Mc Mahon

Subject: Proposed change to Nenagh line services

Dear Evin,

Its come to our attention that a PSO contract/timetable variance has been sought by Irish Rail with respect to services on the Nenagh line.

While we welcome any initiative to improve services, this must never impact on current service and must respect priorities on the national level. Despite agreement with Irish Rail management there has been no public consultation or notification of this change.

As a result we are extremely concerned that the leaked proposal indicate that it will be impossible to commute Nenagh Limerick as the last service departs 40 minutes earlier than current 17:05 vs 17:45, again typical of the crazy timetabling Irish Rail has used to kill routes such as Waterford Rosslare.

We firmly believe that the NTA needs to call shots as to what the timetable is as distinct from Irish Rail doing what comes convenient to them. We note it is impossible to reach Cork, Limerick and Belfast from Dublin by rail before 9am (the opposite being possible) which is a disgrace which should be addressed, and indeed we see that there is a fighting chance of doing so on a close to break even basis. Irish Rail management always respond that they don't have the financial ability to implement it yet magically now seem to be able to find a considerable sum for a morning Limerick Nenagh Dublin service. We also note that Clonmel is the largest inland town in Ireland has no commuter services to/from Waterford and no ability to reach Dublin for a 9am start.

We suggest that the PSO contract needs to stipulate high level service requirements e.g. there shall be a train Mon-Fri from Dublin to Cork which arrives no later than 08:40am, a weekday service shall operate on Good Friday etc. Such requirements are routine in UK rail franchise obligations and both protect and enhance the service to passengers.

It is clear to us that political influence is intervening by focusing on local issues instead of following national priorities. There has been noticeable capital spend in the constituencies of the current pair of Transport Ministers, indeed what we have been able to determine is that considerable political pressure has been applied in a similar fashion to the WRC on Irish Rail management to comply or else with the ministers wishes.

It is clear the proposals will introduce significant extra cost, at a time when there is no additional subsidy, the proposed change will immediately kill off all Nenagh Limerick commuters in favour of an unknown market to Dublin. If the money can be found we believe there are other routes which are a higher priority which will deliver far greater benefits, in the case of Nenagh that should be focused reducing the journey time to Limerick where there is already a considerable daily flow of commuters. Irish Rail has spent a small fortune on that section but no reduction in time has been forthcoming.

We have already been contacted by a concerned annual ticket holder who relies on the current 17:45 Limerick Nenagh service who will be forced find alternative transport if the proposals are implemented.

Regards

Mark

Dr Mark Gleeson  
Rail Users Ireland  
w: <http://www.railusers.ie>  
e: [mark.gleeson@railusers.ie](mailto:mark.gleeson@railusers.ie)  
t : +353 (0)86 8642583

Rail Users Ireland is a voluntary body relying solely on donations from the public to keep going, please visit  
[http://www.railusers.ie/get\\_involved/support.php](http://www.railusers.ie/get_involved/support.php)

**From:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Sent:** 30 May 2012 17:43  
**To:** Derek O'Neill  
**Subject:** Document 2

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Michael Warnock-Smith

HEAD OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT REGULATION DIVISION



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Harcourt Lane  
Dublin 2

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E-mail: [michael.warnock-smith@nationaltransport.ie](mailto:michael.warnock-smith@nationaltransport.ie)  
Web: <http://www.nationaltransport.ie>

---

**From:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 17:17  
**To:** 'King Stephen'  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes

Thanks Stephen

---

Michael Warnock-Smith

HEAD OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT REGULATION DIVISION



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Dublin 2

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E-mail: [michael.warnock-smith@nationaltransport.ie](mailto:michael.warnock-smith@nationaltransport.ie)

Web: <http://www.nationaltransport.ie>

---

**From:** King Stephen [mailto:Stephen.King@irishrail.ie]

**Sent:** 17 February 2012 16:38

**To:** Michael Warnock-Smith

**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes

Michael,

As requested, please find the timetables attached.

Regards,  
Stephen

**From:** Michael Warnock-Smith [mailto:MichaelW@nationaltransport.ie]

**Sent:** 17 February 2012 16:24

**To:** King Stephen

**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes

Stephen

Could you please send on the proposed revised timetables incorporating these changes to services.

Thanks

Michael

---

Michael Warnock-Smith

HEAD OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT REGULATION DIVISION



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Web: <http://www.nationaltransport.ie>

---

**From:** King Stephen [mailto:Stephen.King@irishrail.ie]  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 15:26  
**To:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Subject:** Proposed changes

Michael,

As per our phone conversation, please find attached the proposed timetable changes for the Nenagh branch and Limerick area.

Regards,

*Stephen King,*

**Operations Planning, Iarnród Éireann, Connolly Station, Dublin 1.**

**☎: 01-7031680    🖨: 01-7034613 / 01-8364760    ✉: [stephen.king@irishrail.ie](mailto:stephen.king@irishrail.ie)**

**irishrail.ie**  
It's easy by train

---

**From:** King Stephen <Stephen.King@irishrail.ie>  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 16:38  
**To:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Subject:** Document 2a  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg; image002.jpg; Proposed Limerick + Nenagh Service Changes.doc; ATT00001.txt

Michael,

As requested, please find the timetables attached.

Regards,

Stephen

From: Michael Warnock-Smith [mailto:MichaelW@nationaltransport.ie]  
Sent: 17 February 2012 16:24  
To: King Stephen  
Subject: RE: Proposed changes

Stephen

Could you please send on the proposed revised timetables incorporating these changes to services.

Thanks

Michael

---

Michael Warnock-Smith

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Web: <http://www.nationaltransport.ie> <<http://www.nationaltransport.ie/>>

---

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Subject: Proposed changes

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Regards,

Stephen King,

Operations Planning, Iarnród Éireann, Connolly Station, Dublin 1.

(: 01-7031680      7: 01-7034613 / 01-8364760      š: [stephen.king@irishrail.ie](mailto:stephen.king@irishrail.ie) <<mailto:stephen.king@irishrail.ie>>  
<<http://www.irishrail.ie/>>



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**From:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 17:20  
**To:** Peter Fitzsimons  
**Cc:** Aedin.Ryle  
**Subject:** Document 3  
**Attachments:** Timetable Alteration Application 16-02-12.xls

Peter

FYI

---

**Michael Warnock-Smith**

HEAD OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT REGULATION DIVISION



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E-mail: [michael.warnock-smith@nationaltransport.ie](mailto:michael.warnock-smith@nationaltransport.ie)

Web: <http://www.nationaltransport.ie>

---

**From:** Gerry Murphy  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 16:56  
**To:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Subject:** FW: IE Proposal Nenagh, ballybrophy

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**From:** Gerry Murphy  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 16:54  
**To:** Dick Fearn (Anne) ([dick.fearn@irishrail.ie](mailto:dick.fearn@irishrail.ie))  
**Cc:** Anne Graham ([Anne.Graham@nationaltransport.ie](mailto:Anne.Graham@nationaltransport.ie))  
**Subject:** FW: IE Proposal Nenagh, ballybrophy

Dick,

We have received an electronic copy of the application, see above. **This application is approved** and the hard copy signed application will be countersigned and copied to you.

We approve on the basis that the cost impacts are negligible, thereby not affecting the 2012 subsidy, and that the end to end Cork/Tralee to Dublin journey times will not be affected. This proposal is a measure to attempt to grow a rail commuter market and it will be interesting to see the response.

The new 16.05 and 17.5 departures (advanced from 16.45 and 17.45) will need to be reviewed after a period of operation to see how appropriate they are – this, of course, would be good practice where commuter services are being revamped in the period of the evening commute.

Regards  
Gerry Murphy

**From:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 16:23  
**To:** Gerry Murphy  
**Cc:** Anne Graham  
**Subject:** IE Proposal

Gerry

Formal proposal attached as discussed.

Regards

Michael

---

Michael Warnock-Smith

HEAD OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT REGULATION DIVISION



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Web: <http://www.nationaltransport.ie>

---

**From:** Fearn Dick <Dick.Fearn@irishrail.ie>  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 22:37  
**To:** Gerry Murphy  
**Subject:** Document 4  
**Attachments:** ATT00001.txt

Gerry,

Thanks very much indeed for that which is very helpful.

Regards,  
Dick

**From:** Gerry Murphy [mailto:gerry.murphy@nationaltransport.ie]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 17, 2012 04:54 PM  
**To:** Fearn Dick  
**Cc:** Anne Graham <Anne.Graham@nationaltransport.ie>  
**Subject:** FW: IE Proposal Nenagh, ballybrophy

Dick,

We have received an electronic copy of the application, see above. **This application is approved** and the hard copy signed application will be countersigned and copied to you.

We approve on the basis that the cost impacts are negligible, thereby not affecting the 2012 subsidy, and that the end to end Cork/Tralee to Dublin journey times will not be affected. This proposal is a measure to attempt to grow a rail commuter market and it will be interesting to see the response.

The new 16.05 and 17.5 departures (advanced from 16.45 and 17.45) will need to be reviewed after a period of operation to see how appropriate they are – this, of course, would be good practice where commuter services are being revamped in the period of the evening commute.

Regards  
Gerry Murphy

---

**From:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 16:23  
**To:** Gerry Murphy  
**Cc:** Anne Graham  
**Subject:** IE Proposal

Gerry

Formal proposal attached as discussed.

Regards

Michael

---

Michael Warnock-Smith

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**From:** Gerry Murphy  
**Sent:** 28 May 2012 15:37  
**To:** Derek O'Neill  
**Subject:** Document 5  
**Attachments:** Timetable Alteration Application 16-02-12.xls; ATT00001.txt

**From:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Sent:** 21 February 2012 16:06  
**To:** Gerry Murphy  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed changes

As requested

---

Michael Warnock-Smith

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Web: <http://www.nationaltransport.ie>

---

**From:** King Stephen [mailto:Stephen.King@Irishrail.ie]  
**Sent:** 17 February 2012 15:26  
**To:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Subject:** Proposed changes

Michael,

As per our phone conversation, please find attached the proposed timetable changes for the Nenagh branch and Limerick area.

Regards,

*Stephen King,*

**Operations Planning, Iarnród Éireann, Connolly Station, Dublin 1.**

**☎: 01-7031680**

**☎: 01-7034613 / 01-8364760**

**✉: [stephen.king@irishrail.ie](mailto:stephen.king@irishrail.ie)**

**irishrail.ie**  
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**From:** Fearn Dick <Dick.Fearn@irishrail.ie>  
**Sent:** 23 February 2012 15:14  
**To:** Gerry Murphy  
**Cc:** Anne Graham  
**Subject:** Document 6  
**Attachments:** ATT00001.txt

Thanks again Gerry.  
Dick

**From:** Gerry Murphy [mailto:gerry.murphy@nationaltransport.ie]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2012 02:26 PM  
**To:** Fearn Dick  
**Cc:** Anne Graham <Anne.Graham@nationaltransport.ie>  
**Subject:** RE: Nenagh line

Dick,

Thanks for the follow-up explanation. That seems eminently reasonable.

As I said in my text I thought you did an excellent interview with Pat Kenny and I thought he responded well and took on board your points. You handled the Leap card issues particularly well to all our benefit.

Gerry

**From:** Fearn Dick [mailto:Dick.Fearn@irishrail.ie]  
**Sent:** 23 February 2012 08:16  
**To:** Gerry Murphy  
**Cc:** Anne Graham  
**Subject:** Re: Nenagh line

Good morning Gerry,

Thanks for your two emails regarding timetabling.

First of all, with regard to the new Nenagh service plan, I can confirm that the plan is workable and I will endeavour to explain why.

- 1) At present there is a 6-car train from Portlaoise departing at 07.20 and calling at Monasterevin, Kildare, Newbridge, Sallins, Hazelhatch, Adamstown and Heuston.
- 2) In the new arrangement this train will become two 3-car trains. One 3-car service will continue to run as a Portlaoise starter, with the same stopping pattern as above, but it will now depart from Portlaoise slightly later at 07.25.
- 3) The other 3-cars will form the new train from Limerick via Nenagh. It will run in front of the Portlaoise starter service. After calling at Portlaoise itself at 07.16, it will then run non-stop to Sallins, and then also call at Hazelhatch and Adamstown. This stopping pattern will ensure that the Sallins, Hazelhatch and Adamstown passengers are spread over the two trains.
- 4) Should there, on occasions, be any delay to services, there is always the opportunity, on the 4-track section

between Hazelhatch and Cherry Orchard, for the controllers to regulate the trains as necessary. However the morning peak services into Heuston are running very punctually at present and I do not believe these marginal changes will disturb that equilibrium.

5) We had originally intended to join up the two 3-car trains at Portlaoise, to run forward as a single 6-car train in its current path. However, any problem from time to time with the synchronisation of that joining operation would cause knock on delays to customers, so we consider the proposed plan offers a more flexible and reliable service to both existing and new commuters which is why we have proposed it.

With regard to the other timetabling issues, I have forwarded your email to Brian O'Meara, our Operations Planning Manager, and I will respond on those issues as soon as possible.

Regards,  
Dick

**From:** Gerry Murphy [mailto:gerry.murphy@nationaltransport.ie]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 22, 2012 04:38 PM  
**To:** Fearn Dick  
**Cc:** Anne Graham <Anne.Graham@nationaltransport.ie>  
**Subject:** Nenagh line

Dick,

The contentious issue is the stopping of the new Limerick service at Hazelhatch and Adamstown.

The website states: *The new 05.15 Limerick to Dublin via Nenagh service will also serve Ballybrophy (07.01), Portlaoise (07.16), Sallins (07.58), Hazelhatch (08.07) and Adamstown (08.12), giving a **new morning commuter train for these towns**.*

The contention is that there is already a Portlaoise service leaving at 7.20 which hits Sallins at 8.00 (new Limerick service comes at 07.58) , arrives at Hazelhatch at 8.10 (new service arrives at 8.07) and comes into Adamstown at 8.15 (new service arrives at 08.12).

Can you have a look and come back to me.

Thanks  
Gerry



**From:** Michael Warnock-Smith  
**Sent:** 02 March 2012 09:29  
**To:** Peter Fitzsimons  
**Subject:** Document 7  
**Attachments:** reply from Dick Fearn regarding timetable March 2012.pdf; image001.jpg

Peter

For your information.

Could you file it somewhere?

---

Michael Warnock-Smith

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Web: <http://www.nationaltransport.ie> <<http://www.nationaltransport.ie/>>

---

From: Gerry Murphy  
Sent: 01 March 2012 17:59  
To: Anne Graham; Michael Warnock-Smith  
Subject: FW: Nenagh services

From: Gerry Murphy  
Sent: 01 March 2012 17:23  
To: Jim Deegan  
Subject: Nenagh services

Jim,

You passed on some other queries regarding timetabling and I raised them with Irish Rail.

Dick Fearn came back, see attached.

Regards

Gerry

---

**From:** Murphy Ann (IR Connolly) <Ann.Murphy@irishrail.ie> on behalf of Fearn Dick <Dick.Fearn@irishrail.ie>  
**Sent:** 23 March 2012 17:15  
**To:** Gerry Murphy  
**Subject:** Document 8  
**Attachments:** ATT00001.txt

Gerry,

Thank you for your email of 21<sup>st</sup> March regarding the query you have received concerning the new Nenagh to Dublin train service.

The timetable plan, approved by your Authority, involved two services operating from Portlaoise to Dublin at 07.16 and 07.25 respectively. The first of these calls at Sallins, Hazelhatch and Adamstown before arriving in Heuston at 08.25. The second service calls at Monasterevin, Kildare, Newbridge, Sallins, Hazelhatch and Adamstown and arrives in Heuston at 08.33. In the plan the service from Nenagh (departing from there at 06.04) formed the 07.16 departure from Portlaoise.

However, as we discussed, the restricted speeds on the Nenagh line made it very difficult for the train to arrive in Portlaoise on time to make the 07.16 departure and as a result this was disrupting other commuters' journeys. We therefore decided to schedule the Nenagh train to form the 07.25 from Portlaoise.

Consequently, the Nenagh passengers now arrive in Dublin at 08.33 instead of 08.25 as originally scheduled. However, since making this change, the Nenagh service has been arriving punctually in Dublin and I am not aware of any adverse reaction from the public on this matter.

I am sorry I did not alert you to this change beforehand, but I would be grateful if you could now arrange for this amendment to be considered by your Authority.

Many thanks,

Dick

**From:** Gerry Murphy [mailto:gerry.murphy@nationaltransport.ie]  
**Sent:** 21 March 2012 16:52  
**To:** Fearn Dick  
**Subject:** Nenagh train

Dick,

Query was "are you aware that the new " improved " service now has three extra stops - Monasterevin, Kildare, and Newbridge bringing the journey time from Nenagh to 2 hours twenty nine minutes - as of yesterday morning. Was this approved by you / the NTA?"

Thanks  
Gerry