

NEWS RELEASE

DUNDEE RAILWAY STATION CONCOURSE OPENING

DUNDEE'S NEW £38m railway station officially opened its doors for the first time today (Monday 9th July).

Passengers were joined by Minister for Public Health and Sport Joe FitzPatrick MSP, Lord Provost Ian Borthwick and representatives from Dundee City Council, contractors, suppliers and operators for the first day of operation at one of Dundee Waterfront's most prominent building projects.

Completed by contractors Balfour Beatty in 32 months the building hosts a new passenger concourse and ticketing facilities, as well as a café/restaurant and retail space.

A new 120 bedroom hotel operated by Sleeperz Hotels is accommodated on three floors above the new concourse.

Designed by Jacobs and local architects Nicoll Russell Studios to create an impressive new landmark within the Central Waterfront development, it provides an attractive gateway into the city for thousands of rail passengers.

Joe FitzPatrick, Minister for Public Health and Sport said "The revitalised Dundee Station creates a gateway to the city and is an excellent example of how the industry can work in partnership with the public and private sector to deliver to wider regeneration goals. It is also delivering additional benefits through significantly increased cycle facilities, providing cycling capability to all parts of the Waterfront Development.

"The investment in this station is just one part of our efforts to build the best railway Scotland has ever had. We look forward to the delivering more services and more seats in the north east making rail travel even easier, bringing with that benefits for communities, business and tourism alike."

2.

Lord Provost Ian Borthwick said: “This building is concrete evidence of the new Dundee. A city that is getting fairer, more resilient and where there are opportunities for all of our young people.

“The opening of the new railway station is a move towards creating a strong and sustainable city economy that will raise the quality of life and improve the environment. It is a great building that will present our best face to first time and repeat visitors.”

Lynne Short convener of Dundee City Council’s city development committee said: “The origin of the project goes back some 18 years and is testament to the public partners’ tenacity and the council's leadership that it has been delivered at all and in time for the V&A opening.”

In total the building is constructed on 188 piles to raise it above the platforms to street level, which are connected by lifts and escalators.

The building’s steel frame weighs more than 2600 tonnes, with another 500 tonnes of metal in the bridge beams, the longest of which is 38.5 metres.

More than 2200 cubic metres of concrete was poured into the floor slab and foundations, enough to almost fill an Olympic sized swimming pool.

Pupils from Dundee Schools Music Theatre were also on hand to mark the opening with excerpts from Starlight Express.

NOTE TO NEWS EDITORS: You are invited to send a photographer and/or reporter to cover this event at 10am on Monday July 9 at Dundee Railway Station.