



# Accessible Travel Policy

Making Rail Accessible at Prestwick  
International Railway Station

July 2022

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## Introduction

Welcome to Glasgow Prestwick Airport (GPA). In addition to operating the Airport, we own and operate the Airport's railway Station, known as Prestwick International. We are licensed by the Office of Rail and Road (ORR) and as a Station operator only, we are not part of any franchised operation and do not operate train services at the Station. Our industry partner, ScotRail, provides train services.

Prestwick International Railway Station is principally an interface between Glasgow Prestwick Airport and the National Rail system and whilst the overwhelming numbers of passengers using the Station are airline passengers, Airport visitors or employees going to and from the Airport, the Station is also accessible and available to passengers from outside the Airport. All passengers, regardless of their reasons for using the Station, are welcome to use the Airport's facilities.

Our operation of the Airport is compliant with the provisions of the Department for Transport (DfT) Code of Practice "Access to Air Travel for Disabled Persons and Persons with Reduced Mobility" and this Assisted Travel Policy (ATP) describes how our operation of the Station complements the Airport operation and the operation of train operators serving the Station.

This document explains our policies and practices to ensure that Prestwick International Railway Station is fully accessible to as many people as possible.

Ian Forgie  
Chief Executive Officer  
Glasgow Prestwick Airport  
Prestwick  
Ayrshire KA9 2PL

July 2022

## 1. Policy Summary

It is our policy to make your journey through the Airport as easy as possible and we will:

- Provide facilities at Prestwick International Railway Station giving step free access between the Airport and the Station and to maintain all of the facilities currently in use.
- Work with our train operator partner (ScotRail) who provides train services at our Station and we will ensure that the interface between us works to your benefit and we will improve arrangements wherever that is possible.
- Consider the impact any renewal or redevelopment work that takes place on the Station has on your access to it, and we will make arrangements to mitigate any difficulty liable to be encountered.
- Consult as necessary with groups representing disabled people, Transport Focus and ORR when we wish to change facilities.
- Review our ATP annually and notify the ORR of our performance and any difficulties in achieving our objectives.
- Train our passenger assistance staff in disability awareness.
- Place the responsibility of the movement of disabled passengers under one manager.

## 2. Helping Passengers

### 2.1 Using the Passenger Assist Scheme

If you are planning to use our Station and wish to arrange for assistance for your train journey to and from the Airport, we recommend that you make arrangements through the train operator ScotRail, who may be contacted by any of the following means:

- Visiting any staffed Station on the ScotRail network
- Visiting the ScotRail website [www.scotrail.co.uk](http://www.scotrail.co.uk). Or the online [Assisted Travel booking form](#) (*please do not use this between 2200 and 0700 as applications are only processed between the hours of 0700 to 2200*)
- Telephone - **Free Assisted Travel Helpline:** 0800 046 1634
- **Assisted Travel Textphone:** 18001 0800 046 1634 (if you are deaf or suffer from hearing loss) These facilities are available between the hours of 07.00 and 22.00 daily (except Christmas Day.)
- Visiting any ScotRail staffed Station.

You may use this ScotRail service up to 1 hour before you are due to travel.

If you use this service, ScotRail will make all the necessary arrangements for your train journey to or from the Airport, and they will advise our passenger assistance staff the time of your arrival as well as the details of your assistance requirements. If you are flying to or from the Airport, and you need assistance right through between the aircraft and the train, we can arrange this for you. This assistance is available to you during the hours that trains are scheduled to stop at the Station.

### 2.2 When Not Using the Passenger Assist Scheme

#### 2.2.1 Arranging assistance at the Airport

If you have not made arrangements with ScotRail for assistance on the train through Passenger Assist but would like to be assisted from or to the train, please let us know and we will make the necessary arrangements based on your specific assistance requirements. To make such arrangements please

contact our Information Centre which is found in the main Terminal Building, or by telephone (0871 2230 700 ext. 4434.)

### **2.2.2 Not making prior arrangements at the Airport**

If you arrive by train and would like assistance but have not made any prior arrangements, you will find a help point in the waiting area of the Station platforms. The help points are located opposite the lifts and will connect you with our Information Centre from whom assistance can be requested. We will provide assistance for you as soon as we can but please bear in mind that under these circumstances our staff may already be assisting passengers joining or alighting aircraft therefore you may be asked to wait a period of time until our passenger assistance staff become available.

If you have not made use of Passenger Assist we will advise ScotRail of the train you are catching to ensure there is a member of the on board staff available to help you.

## **2.3 Ramps**

All trains serving Prestwick International are provided with ramps on board and the ScotRail staff on board the train will deploy the ramp and assist you on or off the train. If you are joining the train at Prestwick International and have asked for our assistance, we will advise ScotRail the train you are boarding and ask them to make the ramp available when the train stops at the Station should this be required.

## **2.4 Passenger Information**

We will ensure that details of the facilities available at Prestwick International Station are kept up to date and shown on the National Rail website, and also on GPA's own website. Any changes to the facilities available will be notified to all parties within 24 hours of the changes taking place. We will also advise ScotRail immediately there is any loss of facility affecting accessibility of the Station.

## **3. At the Station**

### **3.1 Station Entrance**

There are two entrances to the railway Station to the railway Station:

- i) via the Airport terminal building, or
- ii) via a gate leading from the A79 road, which is also an access point to/from bus stops.

These are available at all times the railway Station is open subject to any requirement dictated by DfT associated with the safety of people using Airports or when there is a fire alarm activated in the terminal building.

For further information regarding access to the railway Station an Access Guide is available at [www.accessible.co.uk/venues/prestwick-international-Airport-Station](http://www.accessible.co.uk/venues/prestwick-international-Airport-Station) .

### **3.2 Aural and Visual Information**

Aural Information about train services is provided at Prestwick International Station in the form of long line public address system provided by ScotRail to all Stations on the route. Our staff can also use the public address system to make announcements concerning the operation of the Station and Airport.

Visual information is provided by Passenger Information screens, which give details of train information provided by ScotRail's customer information system to all Stations on the route, are provided at the Station entrance, and on the platforms and in waiting areas.

### **3.3 Information Points and Displays**

The Information Centre is situated in a central position of the Airport concourse, which provides information about rail services serving Prestwick International Station, including a visual display monitor showing the current trains from the Station, together with other Airport and local information. The centre is open during the periods when flights are operating and remains open if flights are delayed for any reason.

On the railway Station, there are help points situated on each platform for your use, inside the waiting areas opposite the lifts. The help points will link you with the Information Centre, and you can use these if you require any assistance, or information should trains be delayed. If the Information centre is closed, the help point will link you with our CCTV control room. This is available 24 hours per day.

Timetable posters for trains serving Prestwick International are displayed at the entrance to the railway Station and also in waiting areas on each platform whenever they are available for display. Information leaflets and timetables for other ScotRail train services are displayed at the Information Centre whenever available. All current train information is displayed on customer information screens.

An information poster is situated at the entrance to the Station and gives details of the telephone numbers and other means of communication with the train operator and other railway enquiries.

We make every effort to ensure our information reflects the up to date position of rail operations on the train services affecting Prestwick International Station in accordance with our access agreement with ScotRail and our licence commitments.

### **3.4 Ticket Purchase**

There are no ticket machines or ticket gates at Prestwick International Station. If you require a ticket for your journey, please purchase it from ScotRail staff on board the train. If you require any information about fares and discounts available to disabled people, please contact National Rail Enquiries, by telephone **03457 484950** or their website at [www.nationalrail.co.uk/Stations\\_destinations/44965.aspx](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/Stations_destinations/44965.aspx)

### **3.5 Luggage**

If you need to have assistance with your luggage between the Airport and the railway Station a member of staff will be made available upon request to help you.

### **3.6 Left Luggage**

We have a luggage storage facility located in the check-in area of the terminal, between the Information Centre and the first check-in desk and is displayed with the sign Outsize Baggage above the door. You may leave or collect your luggage from 04:00 until the closure of check in for the last departure, seven days a week. The charge for the use of this facility is £5 per item per day. To use the facility, please pick up the telephone adjacent to the door to call a member of staff who will assist you.

### **3.7 Tactile Surfaces**

Tactile surfaces currently are not provided at the edges of the platforms on the Station.

### **3.8 Third Parties**

There are no third parties involved in the operation of Prestwick International Station. Passenger facilities within the Airport Terminal are, however, available for your use, and every effort is made to ensure that these are accessible.

## **4. On the Train**

ScotRail provides train services to and from the Airport. If you require information about train services and the facilities available to make an assisted journey, please visit the ScotRail website ([www.scotrail.co.uk](http://www.scotrail.co.uk)) where you will also find details of the ScotRail's Accessible Travel Policies

## **5. Making Inter-modal Connections**

### **5.1 Between Train and Air**

Prestwick International is principally an inter-modal Station to connect between train and air. As both the Airport operator and the Station operator, we have staff available to assist you between the railway Station and the Airport. Assistance is provided to meet your individual requirements.

### **5.2 Between Train and Other Onwards Transport**

If you wish to change from a train to a local bus, car or taxi service at Prestwick International Station we will provide assistance for you. If you have not made arrangements through the rail industry Passenger Assist scheme (see section 2.1) it would be helpful if you could give us advanced notice for such a request so that we can have someone available to assist you immediately. If you have not been able to make any prior arrangements we will do our best to assist you as soon as possible.

Whilst taxis are normally available at the taxi pick up point, located in the car park at the front of the Airport's terminal building, at quiet times you may need to call for a taxi. Accessible taxis are normally available and can be called by the Information Centre if none are immediately available.

## **6. Disruption to Facilities and Services**

### **6.1 Access to and from The Station**

From time to time, it may be necessary for our facilities such as walkways, lifts, escalators etc to be closed for maintenance, repair or renewal. Whilst these occasions are rare, should any of our facilities not be available for your use to access the railway Station, we will arrange to transport you by accessible taxi and free of charge between the Airport terminal and the Station or to a neighbouring and accessible ScotRail Station, whichever is the most appropriate for your journey.

If the loss of these facilities is unplanned, we will advise ScotRail as soon as possible to ensure that you can join/alight at the nearest accessible Station and we will arrange to transport you free of charge to or from that point. Where the loss of the facility is due to longer-term work, for example replacement or re-development, we will ensure that the rail industry is informed through the National Rail Stations Made Easy website ([www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)) and we will also liaise with ScotRail to ensure that their Stations and staff are aware of the issue.

We will update information within 24 hours of any disruption to our facilities and /or services.

## 6.2 Planned Interruption of Rail Services

If disruption is caused by planned interruption of the rail service, such as bus replacement services due to engineering operations, ScotRail will make the necessary arrangements for alternative/replacement transport serving the Station. We will liaise with ScotRail to ensure that there is access for you between the Airport and the drop off/pick up point for the alternative transport arrangements.

## 6.3 Unplanned Interruption of Rail Services

Should there be any unplanned and/or emergency interruption of train services affecting Prestwick International, we will liaise with ScotRail to ensure the best possible arrangements are made between the Airport and the alternative/replacement transport provided.

## 7. Contact Us

If you wish to provide general feedback on services and facilities available to you at Prestwick International railway Station, and your experience using our service, this may be done by:

- E-mail: [feedback@glasgowprestwick.com](mailto:feedback@glasgowprestwick.com)
- Visiting our website [www.glasgowprestwick.com/passengers/customer-service/feedback/](http://www.glasgowprestwick.com/passengers/customer-service/feedback/)
- Letter addressed to Railway Station Manager, Glasgow Prestwick Airport, Aviation House, Prestwick KA9 2PL.

Feedback given by any one of these means will be recorded and the comment dealt with and responded to. Internally, these are reviewed at the quarterly Railway Safety and Operations committee within GPA.

You may obtain a copy of our ATP from us by:

- Post to:  
Railway Station Manager  
Glasgow Prestwick Airport  
Aviation House  
Glasgow Prestwick Airport  
Prestwick KA9 2PL
- Visiting our web site at [www.glasgowprestwick.com](http://www.glasgowprestwick.com)

## 8. Alternative Formats

We can make this document available for you within 7 days in other formats, such as in large print. Please ask at our Information Centre should you require this.



## **9. Policies and Practices**

### **9.1 Strategy**

9.1.1 It is our policy to provide and maintain access for disabled people to all services and facilities that we provide in the operation of our Airport and railway Station. This includes making the interchange between rail and air travel as easy as practically possible and compliant with both our rail and our aviation accountabilities.

9.1.2 We welcome all persons using Prestwick International Station, whether or not you are connecting with our flights.

9.1.3 We maintain a close working relationship with our train operator partner, ScotRail, for the benefit of all users of the Station including providing passenger assistance.

9.1.4 We are committed to the continuous improvement to its facilities and services.

### **9.2 Management Arrangements**

9.2.1 We have given the Railway Station Manager overall responsibility for implementing and managing the ATP, and he/she will review the facilities for maintaining accessibility at the Station at least annually when objectives will be set to ensure compliance with the policy.

9.2.2 The Landside Operations Manager is responsible for the day-to-day management of the DPPP, including the responsibility for updating information regarding any change. He/she reports to the Railway Station Manager for issues affecting the railway Station. All passenger assistance staff are briefed on the DPPP and are disability awareness trained. This training is reviewed to ensure it remains up to date with all regulatory requirements. This information will be included in the annual review and a copy of the report sent to ORR.

9.2.3 The Railway Station Manager ensures that all new and altered works taking place on the Station, and also affecting the accessible route to the Station, are compliant with this policy.

9.2.4 Issues affecting the safety and operation of Prestwick International railway Station are raised and discussed at the Railway Safety and Operations Committee. This internal committee meets quarterly and is attended by the departments of GPA responsible for overseeing all rail safety and operations issues that we are accountable for. Review of the operation of facilities and arrangements for passenger assistance is included in the content of all meetings.

9.2.5 We hold regular liaison meetings with our industry partners Network Rail and ScotRail.

### **9.3 Monitoring and Evaluation**

9.3.1 The monitoring of our ATP arrangements is carried out also through the Railway Safety and Operations Committee. This committee is one of GPA's committees managing various activities of the company, and all managers holding railway activity responsibility attend the committee.

9.3.2 Operation of the ATP is a regular agenda item of the committee. Details of any comments made by passengers and any deviation from the policy is reported upon, and action taken. Feedback can be made in person at the Information Centre or via our website.

9.3.3 GPA operates an internal audit system which the railway Station is included. All audit findings including compliance and actions are documented. The operation of the ATP is included in the items that attract audit examination.

9.3.4 An annual report will be made to the ORR on the operation of the ATP on the anniversary date of the approval of this document.

## **9.4 Access Improvements**

9.4.1 Prestwick International railway Station is of modern construction (1994) and the Station was compliant with disability legislation applicable at that date. We will continue to make improvements to access that become necessary and will apply to Access for All Funds to help to bring projects to fruition.

9.4.2 Recent improvements have seen new lifts installed at both platforms, upgraded lighting and new carpets within the waiting areas as well as having the handrails and help points painted in a highly visible colour scheme.

9.4.3 The provision of tactile surfaces on the Station platforms is currently under consideration.

## **9.5 Working with Others**

As a major inter-modal location, GPA works with many other transport operators to ensure that all passengers and visitors have access to all services when using GPA. We liaise with our Local Authority on issues affecting the operation of the whole Airport, and regularly meet with local disability groups to ensure that the service users from the groups have the knowledge and understanding as to what GPA can provide in terms of assistance and that rail/air travel is accessible to all.

## **9.6 Staff Training**

All of the Airport's passenger assistance staff have undertaken disability awareness training and training in the use of equipment associated with passenger assistance. Staff who answer telephones or require to communicate directly with assistance requests are trained to communicate clearly and appropriately.

## **9.7 Emergency Procedures**

In the event of any emergency evacuation of the railway Station, arrangements will be made to evacuate all passengers. The emergency evacuation of the railway Station is treated in the same way as the emergency evacuation of the Airport terminal and is part of the same process. Staff members are fully trained and competent in such evacuation procedures to ensure that all passengers are taken to a designated assembly point.

## **9.8 Car Parking**

Passengers are welcome to use the Airport car parking facilities to access the railway Station and train services. Parking facilities are available as follows:

- i) Pick up & Drop Off – Located adjacent to the terminal building.
- ii) Disabled parking spaces are located in Car Parks 1 & 2 as indicated by the disabled parking logo.
- iii) Airport parking rates are payable for the use of the car parks.
- iv) The car parks are monitored to ensure that only customers displaying the relevant blue badge use disabled parking spaces.

## Appendix A Station Accessibility Information

Station Opening Times and Staffing	Our Station is open during the period the train service operates and customer service staff are available at all times the Airport is open. If you require assistance, but have not arranged it, you may request it by using the help points that are situated adjacent to the lifts in the waiting areas of both platforms.
Step Free Access	Available between the railway Station and the Airport terminal, car parks, bus stops and taxi facilities. Step free access is available via the ground floor lift in the terminal building to the first floor and the signed "Disabled Walkway to Railway Station". Lifts are available to assist passengers to platform levels from the Station walkway.
Designated Disabled Parking	Available in Car Parks 1 & 2 which are the Car Parks outside the terminal building. These spaces are available for use of rail passengers using Prestwick International Station but are subject to Airport car park rates.
Seating	Available on both platforms adjacent to the lifts in the covered waiting areas, and also on the platforms.
Toilet Facilities	Available in the Airport terminal building. Accessible toilets are free of charge and are located on the ground floor and the first floor, accessible toilets are located adjacent to the terminal lift and main stair well.
Easy Access Ticket Sales	There are no railway ticket-issuing facilities available. All tickets can be purchased from the staff on board the train.
Designated Meeting Point	Passengers requiring assistance should either make their way to the Information centre in the Airport concourse or call for assistance from the help points inside the waiting areas situated on the platforms of the Station.
Customer Information Systems	<p>1) Long line public address system is installed on the platforms and in the waiting rooms and entrance walkway. The system is controlled by ScotRail and is part of their Glasgow – Ayr route system. Our staff can use the Public Address system to make announcements of local interest.</p> <p>2) Monitors displaying rail customer information are located at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information Centre on Airport concourse</li> <li>• Entrance to the railway Station</li> <li>• Adjacent to lift and stairway to Platform 2</li> <li>• On platform 1 at platform level in covered waiting area outside lift and on platform</li> <li>• On platform 2 at platform level in covered waiting area outside lift and on platform.</li> </ul>

Secure Station Accreditation	The Station does not have Secure Station accreditation. The Station is regularly inspected and has 24 hour CCTV surveillance by security staff and is audited by DfT for its security arrangements.
Catering	Catering facilities are available on the ground floor of the Airport terminal building. All facilities are fully accessible and open during the times of flight departures.
Wheelchair Availability	Manual/self-propelling wheelchairs can be made available to convey passengers anywhere that is required as per the requirements of the assistance passengers. Advance notice is recommended in order to meet specific requirements.
Ramp for Train Access	Ramps for access to or from trains are available on all trains serving Prestwick International railway Station. These will be deployed by the on train staff.
Accessible Set-Down and Pick-Up Point	The Airport has designated disabled parking spaces in the pick-up/drop off zone as well as in Car Parks 1 & 2. Step free access to and from the railway Station is available.
Tactile Surfaces	Tactile surfaces are not provided at the Station at the current time.