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Travellers would pay more for improved rail service

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Transport Correspondent

BUSINESS passengers are prepared to pay significantly higher rail fares in return for improvements to services, a leading Scottish trade organisation said.

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DAMIEN HENDERSON Transport Correspondent

A survey carried out by the Scottish Council for Development and Industry found only one-quarter of passengers identified "minimising fare increases" as their main priority.

By contrast, the survey of 212 individuals and businesses around Scotland found reliability and punctuality was rated as the top priority by 69% of respondents. Service frequency, the ability to work on board a train and obtain a seat were all ranked higher than ticket prices.

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