

# Petitioner submission of 01 June 2022

## PE1804/YY - Halt Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd's Air Traffic Management Strategy

During the meeting of 18th May Rhoda Grant questioned Inglis Lyon about the Sumburgh Radar project delays.

Inglis stated that the Sumburgh Radar project is complex, a green field site and that the CAA had not done that in Scotland before. He also stated that HIAL had not done such a complex project before.

Had he forgotten that HIAL introduced a radar service at Inverness 15 years ago?

He was Managing Director of HIAL at the time so should have remembered.

Inverness Radar was a green field site with a new radar system and required additional Controllers to be recruited and trained. Inverness was a more complex project for HIAL than Sumburgh as it meant the creation of a new radar service from scratch. Sumburgh Radar on the other hand has existed for decades.

Inglis Lyon also said that Sumburgh Radar was slightly behind in training. I have heard that training given to staff for the Sumburgh Radar project has been declared invalid and has to be started again from the beginning. This will further delay the project by a year. If correct then the project is not slightly behind but years behind schedule. This bodes badly for a centralised radar service for all HIAL ATC airports.

On a final note, delays cost the public purse money yet nobody seems to be able to hold HIAL management to account, least of all the HIAL Board, which is odd considering that is their main job.