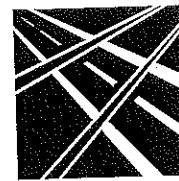


Major Transport Infrastructure Projects

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TRANSPORT
SCOTLAND

Your ref:
PE 1236

Our ref:

Date:
9 April 2013

Dear ,

PE 1236 - A90/A937 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Thank you for your letter of 3 April 2012 to Mike Bloom regarding Petition PE1236 requesting the information offered by myself at your meeting on 20 March. This information related to the decision to construct grade separated junctions on the A90 between Perth and Dundee a number of years ago now and also to providing the Committee with a copy of the Laurencekirk Safety Measures Evaluation Report.

Regarding the grade separated junctions on the A90 between Perth and Dundee, the upgrading of this section of the A90, previously the A85, has its genesis prior to the establishment of Transport Scotland. The A85 Perth to Dundee Route Action Plan, published by the Scottish Office in December 1991, comprised a package of improvements and safety measures.

Although we have not been able to locate the original Route Action Plan to establish the detail of the underlying rationale, the introduction to an appeal to Court of Session in 2006 regarding one of the measures notes that the Action Plan mentions "a higher [than the national average] proportion of accidents which result in serious or fatal injuries" and "the very high growth in traffic". For these reasons a "package of proposals" was announced, of which the first two were:

- "a. Construction of four grade-separated junctions (flyovers) at Glendoick, Inchmichael, Inchtute and Longforgan - this allows amalgamation of side roads and removes T-junctions onto the trunk road; and

- b. Closure of all but emergency central reserve gaps - removes crossing and right turning movements which have the greatest accident potential. These movements will be via the flyovers."

Subsequently, a fifth interchange was proposed, at Kinfauns Village.

The grade separated Longforgan interchange opened in 1996, Inchmichael in 2001, Inchtute in 2002 and Glendoick and Kinfauns both in 2007.

It is understood that Tayside Regional Council was the delivery agent for the Longforgan Interchange and Perth & Kinross Council for the Inchmichael and Inchtute Interchanges. The Glendoick and Kinfauns Interchanges were delivered directly by Transport Scotland.

In terms of the Laurencekirk Safety Measures Evaluation Report, completion of the 3 year period since the opening of the packages of safety measures in Laurencekirk will be May 2013. It will take a number of months to collect the data from all relevant authorities to allow the performance of the measures to be evaluated in detail. In light of this, the evaluation report will be completed later in the year and we will supply a copy to Committee should Petition PE1236 still be under consideration at that stage.

The Committee may also be interested to know that we will be meeting soon with Aberdeenshire Council and Nestrans to further discuss matters relating to Laurencekirk.

I hope this information is helpful to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

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Head of Planning & Design
MTRIPS