

Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition submission of 24 November 2023

Inquiry into A9 Dualling Project

I refer to your letter of 30 October 2023 in relation to the above inquiry.

I welcome the work of the Committee in taking evidence from a range of parties around this important project. I look forward to the use of that evidence to undertake a balanced inquiry into the A9 Dualling to help inform progress.

You have requested “...copies of internal advice provided to Ministers in relation to the funding of this project and the timetable for progressing the dualling works between 2012 and February 2023...”

Ministers are committed to supporting a transparent inquiry process. To that end officials at Transport Scotland will today supply the Committee with a pack of relevant documents. I understand that these documents will be issued to Clerks by means of an Objective Connect link to aid file transfer.

I note that you will extend a formal invitation to me to attend the Committee once I have made my statement to Parliament on this matter, and that you would welcome a written update in advance of my appearance before the Committee. I will be happy to assist with both requests. Since the date for my statement has not yet been finalised, I will ask my office to liaise with Clerks on the timing of my attendance at the Committee. I will provide a written update in advance of that attendance but would prefer to provide that update immediately after I have made my statement in order to make it as comprehensive and current as possible.

I trust that this is all acceptable.

Mairi McAllan MSP