



Briefing for the Public Petitions Committee

Petition Number: [PE1478](#)

Main Petitioner: Murray Cooper

Subject: Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to deliver the A90 Balmedie to Tipperty Dualling Project as near to the original Transport Scotland promise of 2013 as possible, and by no later than mid-2014.

Background

The A90 Balmedie-Tipperty project involves the construction of an 8km long dual carriageway trunk road, mainly away from the route of the existing A90, with two lanes in each direction and hard strips on each side of the road. Access will be provided via grade separated junctions at Balmedie, Rashierieve and Fountainbleau. The completion of this project will provide continuous dual carriageway between Aberdeen and Ellon.

This Balmedie-Tipperty project is being funded by the Scottish Government through the Non-Profit Distributing Model and is predicted to cost £92m, excluding VAT, at 2012 prices. This project is being delivered alongside the larger Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (AWPR) project, with the full scheme due to open during 2018, although the Scottish Government is committed to earlier phased-opening if this is appropriate.

Transport Scotland's [Trunk Road and Motorway Programme issued on 31 December 2009](#) indicated an anticipated construction completion date for the Balmedie-Tipperty project of 2012-13. However, it is important to remember that this date was based on the project entering construction during 2010. The bundling of this project with the AWPR, the final authorisation of which was substantially delayed by legal challenges, has resulted in the anticipated completion date of the Balmedie-Tipperty project being delayed, as indicated above.

Given the time required for project tendering, detailed design work and construction to be completed, there is little realistic prospect of the Balmedie-Tipperty project being delivered by mid-2014.

Scottish Government Action

Aberdeen City Council is acting as managing agent for the combined AWPR/Balmedie-Tipperty project and is currently engaged in the tendering process for the main project contractor.

Scottish Parliament Action

The Scottish Parliament has not considered the change in the predicted completion date of the Balmedie-Tipperty project.

Key Organisations

- **Scottish Ministers/Transport Scotland:** The Scottish Government/Transport Scotland is responsible for the specification and funding of the Balmedie/Tipperty project.

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May 2013

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