

PE1236/S

24th January 2011

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you again in my capacity, as an Angus councillor for the multi-member ward of Montrose, convener of our council's Infrastructure Services and also someone who uses the Laurencekirk junction on a regular occasion. There is no doubt that crossing the junction is a problem at any time of the day but it is without doubt dangerous at peak times and especially at 6.30 – 8.30 any week-day morning.

I invite members of the committee to join me any morning at that time and I will happily host them for breakfast afterwards. Being there at that time will reinforce how dangerous the problem, though I do thank the minister for his visit to see for himself the junction, though his commitments did not enable him to attend at the peak time when the problems are at their worst.

At a recent Angus Council Infrastructure Services committee meeting we heard of the plans that Aberdeenshire Council has both with huge numbers of new houses and a new industrial estate, which added to those in the Montrose area will only add to the pressures presently evident on the junction.

It is clear that the junction is a dangerous at present as shown by the statistics, and what is planned in the area in the next few years will make it even more dangerous. As planning and implementing a flyover takes a considerable period of time I believe that it is necessary an early decision is made to include a flyover at Laurencekirk in the transport plan.

I very much hope the Committee will not close the petition as it is clear from residents of the Mearns and North Angus area, especially in Laurencekirk and Montrose, that they want the new Transport Minister to review the evidence and see the need for the grade separation of the south junction at Laurencekirk.

Yours faithfully,

David May