



Your ref. PE1236
Our ref. EW/PM/H/1/60/120/1

Alison Wilson
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Edinburgh
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Infrastructure Services

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Dear Mrs Wilson,

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE 1236

I refer to your letter of 21 December 2011 to Colin MacKenzie regarding the above and seeking a response to the written question posed by the petitioner. We understand that the petitioner has asked Transport Scotland if a split level junction is something that they would consider and that the Committee agreed to also write to Aberdeenshire Council to seek its views on the suggestion of a split level junction. By "split level" we assume that this refers to a grade separated layout where side road traffic is able to pass either over or under the A90, allowing the dual carriageway central reservation gap to be closed.

The Council considers that the introduction of grade separation will benefit road safety and reduce delays. The cost refinement exercise carried out by Transport Scotland in 2011 presents a range of junction options in accordance with current roads design standards. It is unclear how the proposed "split level" junction compares with these and it is difficult to comment further without details. The Council would, however, be happy to consider alternative proposals if they are in accordance with relevant design standards and that this is done in consultation with Transport Scotland.

I can also confirm that our officers have met with colleagues from Nestrans and Angus Council recently to discuss a number of issues relating to the provision of grade separated junctions at Laurencekirk. The outcome of these discussions was that in order to move matters forward, Nestrans will look at the information/reports produced to date and consider the wider strategic matters such as the current access provided to the Trunk Road Network in this area, comparable situations across the Trunk Road Network where 50 mph limits have been utilised and the cumulative impact of future developments within the relevant Local Development Plans.

Should it be of interest to the Committee, officers from Aberdeenshire and Nestrans would be willing to participate in future meetings once the above piece of work is completed.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Ewan Wallace,
Head of Transportation

CC

Colin Mackenzie – Chief Executive

Stephen Archer – Director of Infrastructure Services

William Munro – Kincardine, Mearns & Marr Area Manager

Eric Lowson - Angus Council Director of Infrastructure Services

Jeff Green - Angus Council Head of Roads

Laurence Kenney – Transport Scotland

Stuart Wilson – Transport Scotland

Derick Murray - Director of Nestrans