

**PE1657/Z**

Allan Dorans MP submission of 4 February 2021

As the MP for the area in which the A77 is located and as someone who has loved, for most of his life, relying upon it for travel between family, work and community groups, I have the strongest of reasons for supporting this petition to have it dualled.

There are many reasons why the A77 from Ayr to Cairnryan should be dualled and, indeed, why it should have been upgraded to that level decades ago. I will list three of the more important.

First, this is a dangerous, a very dangerous, road. Those of us who live in the towns it passes through read in the local press, all-too-often, of injury and the tragic loss of life resulting from accidents on the A77. Often the losses have been among the young. We read of the tragic loss of life every year and 2020 has been no exception. When the route from Glasgow to Ayr was upgraded to full motorway status, we could not help but notice the reduction in accidents and the deaths avoided. Separating oncoming traffic saves lives and we have known this since the dawn of motorised transport.

Second, this road is a barrier to trade. Passing through several small towns and villages, narrow and twisting, major traffic between much of Scotland and Ireland is reduced to a time-consuming, energy-sapping and costly crawl. Dualling this would transform the efficiency and significantly reduce the costs of transport which is vital to the economy of large parts of Scotland.

Third, this is the major tourist route between the rest of Scotland and the outdoor recreational attractions of South-west Scotland. As staycations become the norm once more, post-Brexit and post-Covid, the A77 will be under even greater pressure than before, to enable access to the many attractions offered. Again, dualling the A77 is no longer desirable, it has become essential.

Taken together, these three highly important reasons alone, make an irresistible case for the upgrade of the A77 to full dual carriageway status.

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**Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock**