

**PE1540/J**

South Knapdale Community Council Email of 7 February 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

The community of South Knapdale is one of a sparsely populated nature in Mid Argyll, but the needs of its population are no less than those anywhere else in Argyll, that have a need to travel in and out of the county and journey to and from Glasgow and the central belt, or to points further north, south or east.

The road is a major lifeline for all of us, it is vital for all goods and supplies that must come in and out of our area even for the basic essentials of life, also it provides the only corridor which allows our small but vitally important Commercial and Tourist industries to function. New investment in the Region will be less likely if confidence in the A83 is low. Those people in our community who are referred to a Hospital in the Central Belt for their health or their well being, have even greater suffering if any additional travelling occurs should the road be obstructed, it can end up making attendances almost impossible in both time constraints and definitely in financial terms.

This Community appreciates that some effort has been applied to the previous and current problems, however given the importance this road means to the whole of our population we find the solution so far offered, far from satisfactory, and we know the road remains unsafe.

The Geology and Geography of the area will, if current weather patterns persist, create regular and further blockages to our access in or out of Argyll, so we would urge the Government to seek a much better and more permanent solution to the blockages of this road. Please do not throw relatively small amounts of money at the problem each time a slip occurs, but address the solution by a larger scale of works that solves the access to Argyll once and for all. We believe a much larger land slip than those so far experienced is a distinct possibility.

David Kent  
Convener,  
South Knapdale Community Council