



Mr Humza Yousaf MSP Cabinet Secretary Minister for Transport & the Islands **D&G Transport Summit** Transport scotland Buchanan House 58 Port Dundas Road Glasgow G4 0HF

29 September 2016

Dear Cabinet Secretary

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Further to the document produced following the Transport Summit held in Dumfries on 22nd August I wish to add the following points.

- I remain disappointed that no significant new investment was outlined at the 1. Summit itself.
- In my view the range of organisations, particularly campaign groups in the region, 2. who were invited was too narrow. There are a number of individuals and action groups who could have made a significant and substantial contribution. Instead some were left to protest outside.
- It is disappointing that cycling and active travel were not included on the agenda 3. and even at this stage I would welcome any further commitments from the Scottish Government to explore how this fits with the wider transport strategy in the region.
- I would again re-state the case for up-grading the A75 and believe that dualling 4. the route from Dumfries to Gretna would unlock the economic potential of the Crichton Campus, Chapelcross site and link Dumfries with the M74 corridor. I would also highlight that fatal accidents on the A75 remain significantly above the Trunk Road average in Scotland, that the number of miles of dualled road in the region remain significantly below the average and that Dumfries as the largest town in the region should have suitable access to the motorway to protect jobs and secure investment.
- I remain concerned about the slow progress on the A76 and share local anger at the use of temporary traffic lights for two years on the route. I welcome your continued help and hope for a speedy resolution.

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Notwithstanding the above I do welcome your interest in transport in the Dumfries and Galloway region and I hope I am proved wrong and we see significant progress on the projects outlined and get feasibility studies moving and secure real investment from the Scottish Government.

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Yours sincerely

Oliver Mundell MSP