

A51843636

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 January 2025 08:49
To: [REDACTED] @aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] @amey.co.uk>
Subject: A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement - Access to Oatyhill

Good morning [REDACTED],

I am contacting you regarding the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement Scheme. We recently discussed Access to Oatyhill, which involves replacing the existing Oatyhill rail bridge that carries the U91K (Oatyhill to Laurencekirk).

The draft Orders for Access to Oatyhill were published on the 6th of December 2024. During the draft Orders objection period we received a call from a resident of Oatyhill. [REDACTED] lives in [REDACTED] and operates a [REDACTED] from the side of his property. He is concerned about being able to turn vehicles [REDACTED].

Currently, [REDACTED] uses the existing U91K and the existing A90/Oatyhill junction area to reverse and turn. When the main scheme progresses, this facility will be removed as the A90/Oatyhill junction will be closed due to its proximity to the northbound diverge taper. This is the reason it was stopped up as part of the 2019 draft Orders for the main scheme (Reference C5 on the attached Side Road Drawing).

To assist [REDACTED] there is the opportunity to use a part of this 'Stopped up' area and install a turning head. Most of this existing junction area will still be stopped up but pulled back approximately 10m to allow the inclusion of the turning head. The turning head will remain part of the Council's network as this portion will no longer require to be stopped up.

I have also attached drawing A90LK-AMY-GEN-SJ-DR-C-0014 which illustrates this. Once the grade-separated junction is in place this road would be a dead end accessed from the A937 via Oatyhill bridge.

To allow this to progress we looking to obtain Aberdeenshire Council's acceptance on this proposal.

If you are not the correct person we need to consult, or if there are addition council departments, I would be grateful if you could give me their contact details, please?

I can discuss/explain over Teams if required.

Thanks,
[REDACTED]
Regards,

[REDACTED] CEng FCIHT MICE NECReg
Technical Director | Consulting



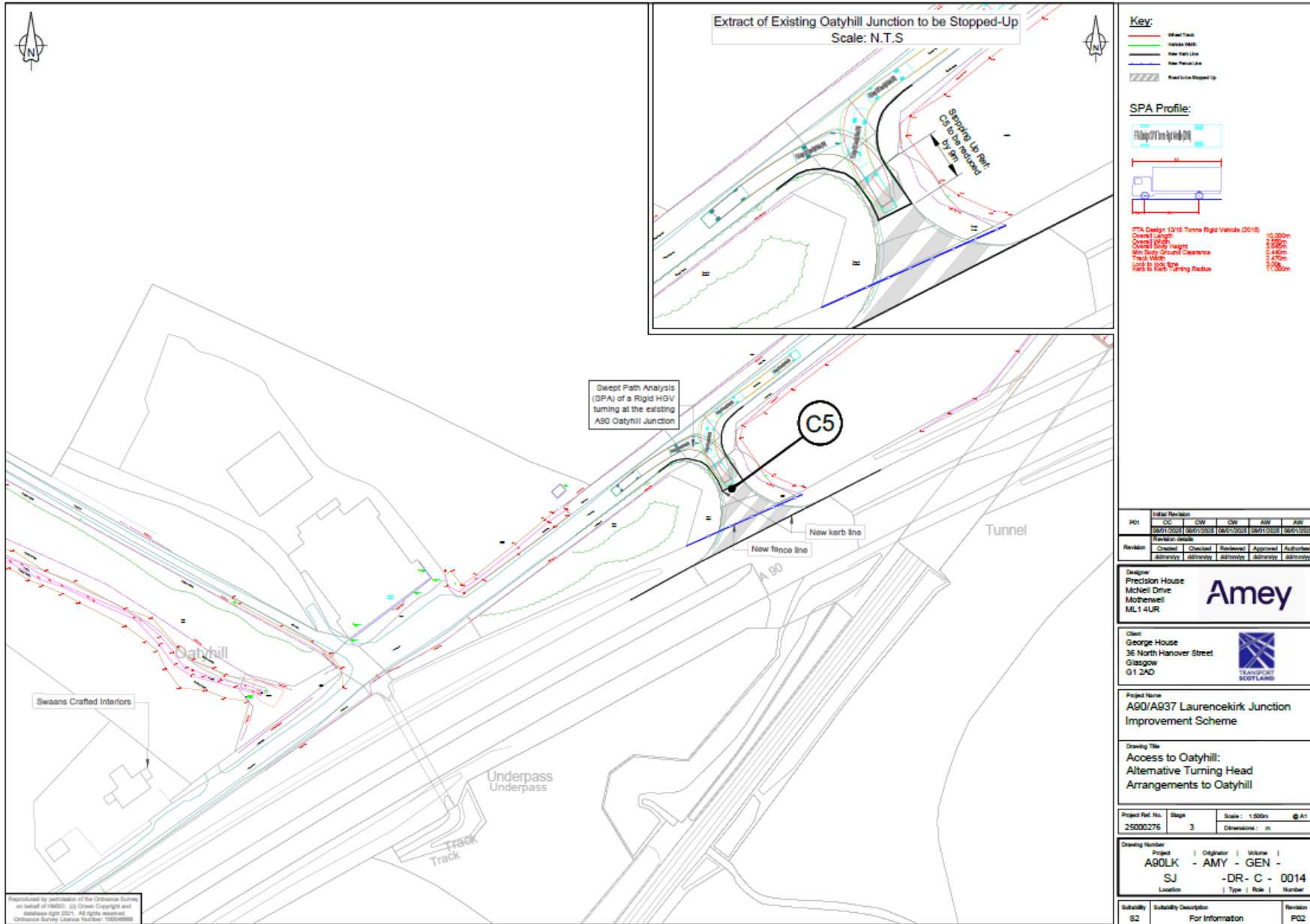
[REDACTED]

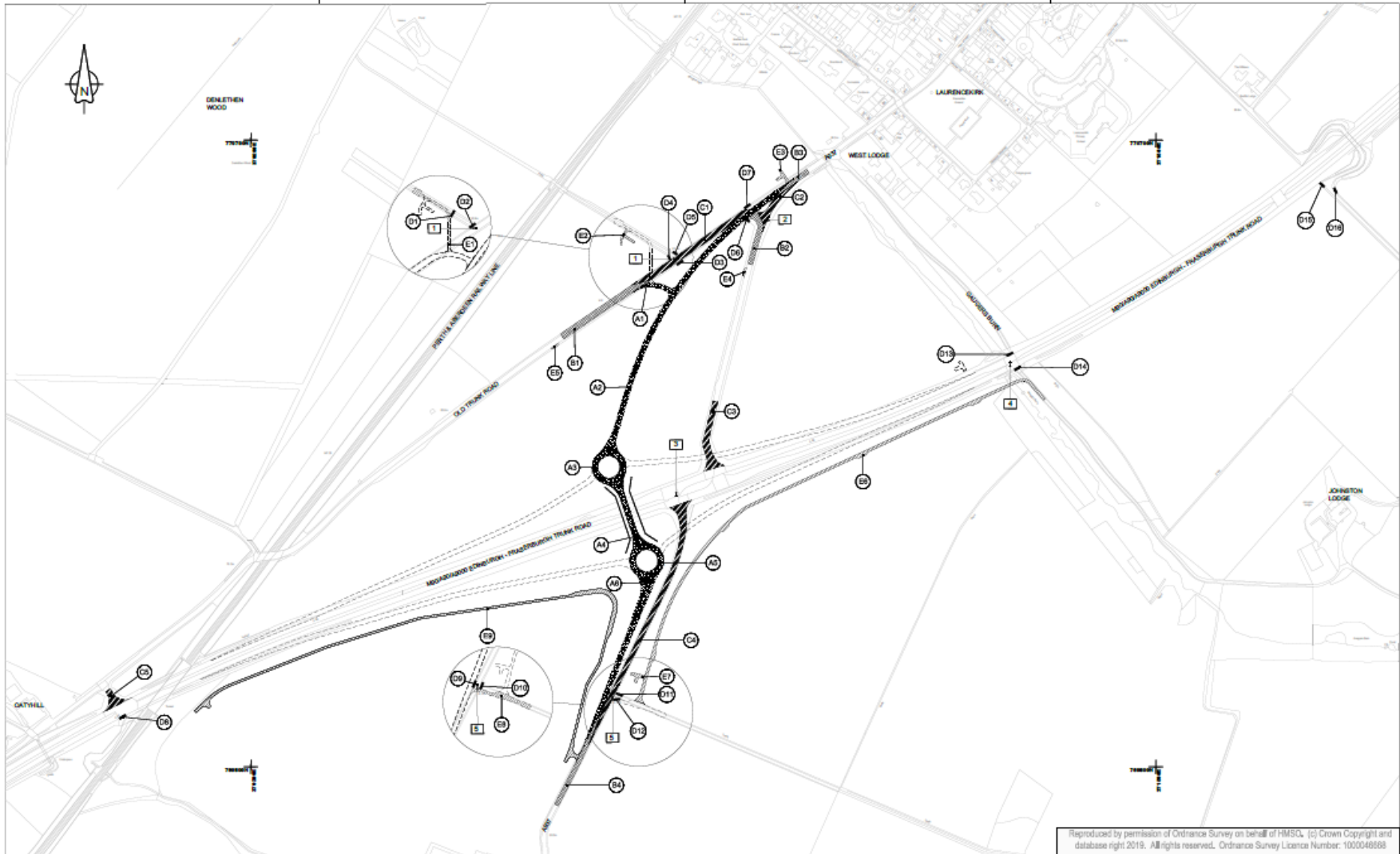
[REDACTED] @amey.co.uk

Precision House, Eurocentral, Motherwell, ML1 4UR

amey.co.uk

Attachments to email above





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THE M90/A90/A9000 TRUNK ROAD
 (A90/A937 LAURENCEKIRK JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT)
 (SIDE ROADS) ORDER 201[]

KEY

- Associated Road Proposals
- New Side Road
- Road to be Improved
- Road to be Stopped Up
- Private Means of Access to be Stopped Up
- New Means of Access

-
- ▨
- ▨
- ▨
- ▨
- ▨



SCALE 1:2500 @ A1
 Plan No. SRO/1

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 January 2025 14:00
To: [REDACTED] @aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] @amey.co.uk>
Subject: RE: A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement - Access to Oatyhill

Hi [REDACTED]

Have you or Aberdeenshire Council had an opportunity to consider the email below?

If you would like to discuss please let me know.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 February 2025 15:57
To: [REDACTED] @aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement - Access to Oatyhill

Thanks [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] @aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Sent: 17 February 2025 15:54
To: [REDACTED] @amey.co.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] @amey.co.uk>; [REDACTED] @aberdeenshire.gov.uk; [REDACTED] @aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement - Access to Oatyhill

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[REDACTED]

My apologies for the delay in responding. Aberdeenshire Council would not object to the formation of a turning facility at this location.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Roads Development Manager
Aberdeenshire Council – Planning and Economy would not object to the formation of a turning facility at this point.
Gordon House
Blackhall Road

Inverurie
AB51 3WA
[REDACTED]
www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>
Sent: 24 January 2025 17:30
To: [REDACTED] @nestrans.org.uk>; [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] @aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] @aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] @angus.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Draft note of discussion - Laurencekirk meeting this afternoon

Hi All,

Please see the draft note from the meeting which I have updated to include the information Transport Scotland shared with the Group at the meeting.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]
Project Manager
Design Team 1
Major Projects
M: [REDACTED]
transport.gov.scot

Transport Scotland, 2nd Floor, George House, 36 North Hanover Street, Glasgow, G1 2AD



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Attachment to email

A90 / A937 Laurencekirk Junction – Stakeholder Liaison Meeting
14:15, Friday 17 January 2025, TEAMS

[REDACTED] – Aberdeenshire Council.
[REDACTED] – Nestrans
[REDACTED] – Angus Council
[REDACTED] – Transport Scotland

Introductions

Welcome to [REDACTED] from Angus Council

[REDACTED] provided the context that the group had previously met regularly during scheme development phases etc.

Transport Scotland Progress Update - including EIA Addendum, supplementary Draft Orders and Associated Papers

[REDACTED] provided an update on the scheme:

Supplementary draft Orders were published on 6 December 2024 to facilitate provision of a new bridge across the railway at Oatyhill. The Statutory Consultation period for these Orders remains open until 31 January 2025. The orders are being promoted as part of the Laurencekirk Junction Improvement scheme and form part of the statutory procedures that will be necessary to enable the scheme to progress further.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Addendum was completed on the proposals which identified that no additional significant effects would result from the development when compared to the EIA for the original scheme and therefore a separate EIA was not necessary. The EIA Addendum and Record of Determination recording this finding were also published on the TS website.

As part of the supplementary draft Order process, and considering updated guidance, an assessment of LA114 Climate was also completed for the whole scheme and this is reported on the TS Website. The findings are in summary that the scheme as a whole will have no significant effects on climate.

[REDACTED] highlighted the range of opportunities available for viewing the scheme details, including virtual exhibition on the TS website, papers in council offices, and a dedicated phone line.

No objections had been received by the date of the meeting, but an objection from Network Rail was expected before the end of the consultation period. This is common where there is interaction with the live railway with a roads project. TS is hopeful this could be dealt with through discussions.

A Public Local Inquiry may be necessary if statutory objections are received and not able to be resolved. Should this be necessary, timescales are not entirely within the control of the Scottish Ministers and may add upwards of 18 months to timescales required to complete the statutory process. It is therefore difficult to predict timescales for future stages of the scheme with any accuracy at this time.

Subject to the resolution of any objections or conclusion of a Public Local Inquiry, a formal decision from Scottish Ministers would be required to proceed before Transport Scotland could make Orders for the scheme. This would open a further opportunity for a legal challenge to be received against the making of the Orders (within 6 weeks of publication and would require to be related to a legal issue associated with the publication).

The scheme can only proceed following successful completion of the relevant statutory processes. A timeline for procurement and construction phases could then be determined in line with available budgets.

Aberdeenshire Council Update - any local update relevant to the project

[REDACTED] Team have engaged on the AIP work for the bridge side of things, and content with the scheme. Roads Dev have had input as well, likewise content.

Noted that [REDACTED] will probably need to look at getting Planning, Roads and Area side involved in the future meetings later in 2025 and 2026 when things progress further.

[REDACTED] will look at the Political updates post the 31st January

Angus Council Update - any local update relevant to the project

[REDACTED] joining Angus shortly in transportation manager role.

No major schemes planned in Angus area at this time.

[REDACTED] has discussed the potential HGV routing matters from any Montrose Harbour extensions with [REDACTED] at Angus. There are of course resilience issues at key points along the A90/A92 corridor between Aberdeen and Dundee

Nestrans/Aberdeen City Region Deal Update

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to continue to liaise on the updates to CRD Joint Committee, but hopefully the progress that can be demonstrated will help to provide some comfort to elected Members on that Committee.

Next Steps/Meeting/Timelines

Aim for an early August meeting. TS will set up.

A52457272 - Relates to MiCase 202500458918

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of TS Corporate Correspondence Support Team

Sent: 31 March 2025 12:26

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: TS Corporate Correspondence Support Team <TSS@transport.gov.scot>

Subject: FW: Meeting with Tess White

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see below email from Cab Sec's office.

Many Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Transport

Sent: 28 March 2025 16:56

To: TS Corporate Correspondence Support Team <TSS@transport.gov.scot>

Subject: Meeting with Tess White

TSS,

Please can this be forwarded to the official responsible for Tess White's previous request to meet with the Cab Sec, which is currently being processed.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] |Assistant Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Transport - Fiona Hyslop MSP | The Scottish Government | Web: www.gov.scot| Email: cabsecfortransport@gov.scot

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From: White T (Tess), MSP <Tess.White.MSP@Parliament.scot>

Sent: 27 March 2025 17:31

To: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>

Cc: **[REDACTED]** <[\[REDACTED\]@Parliament.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@Parliament.scot)>

Subject: RE: NOTIFICATION: MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT

Thank you **[REDACTED]**

There are two things if I may:

1. The Laurencekirk Junction
2. The follow up from the AWPR build and where contracts were not followed through. Two constituents would like to share their experiences with the Cabinet Secretary as there are lessons that can be learnt. They would be happy to come to Edinburgh at a convenient time. Even if The Cabinet Secretary can give the constituents 5 minutes to hear what they would like to share with her.

I hope that helps. Thank you in advance.

Kind regards,

Tess



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Tess White MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for the North East Scotland Region

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP | 0131 348 6218

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From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of CabSecfortransport@gov.scot

Sent: 27 March 2025 14:27

To: White T (Tess), MSP <Tess.White.MSP@Parliament.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED] @Parliament.scot>

Subject: RE: NOTIFICATION: MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT

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Dear Ms White,

Unfortunately, due to diary pressures the Cabinet Secretary will be unable to meet with you tomorrow whilst she attends an event in Dundee.

Ms Hyslop has asked if you could please provide further information as to what transport related issues you wish to discuss with her, noting that you have already expressed a desire to discuss the Laurencekirk Junction.

We will also ensure you are made aware of any future meetings regarding Transport Scotland issues, in your area.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] | Assistant Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Transport - Fiona Hyslop MSP | The Scottish Government | Web: www.gov.scot | Email: cabsecfortransport@gov.scot

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From: White T (Tess), MSP <Tess.White.MSP@Parliament.scot>

Sent: 25 March 2025 14:57

To: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] @Parliament.scot>
Subject: RE: NOTIFICATION: MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT

Hello [REDACTED]

I would like to request a meeting with the Cabinet Secretary to be joined by two constituents from Stonehaven.

Whilst I am with the Cabinet Secretary I would also hope to touch base on the Laurencekirk Junction.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Tess



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Tess White MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for the North East Scotland Region

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP | 0131 348 6218

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A53197283 – Attachment is MiCase reply 202500468060

From: Andy Hynds

Sent: 17 June 2025 15:43

To: 'Mairi.gougeon@parliament.scot' <Mairi.gougeon@parliament.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Update on A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Scheme (Case Ref: ME5996)

Dear Mairi Gougeon MSP,

Further your email of 27 May 2025 addressed to [REDACTED], I understand that a reply from Ms Hyslop's office in relation to the same query was issued yesterday evening.

Further copy attached for your records.

I hope this is helpful.

[REDACTED]

Project Administrator
Major Projects Design Administration
Transport Scotland
5th Floor
177 Bothwell Street
Glasgow
G2 7ER

Please note I currently work a hybrid working pattern so email is the best way to contact me.



Transport Scotland, the national transport agency
Còmhhdhail Alba, buidheann nàiseanta na còmhhdhail

From: Mairi Gougeon MSP <Mairi.gougeon@parliament.scot>

Sent: 27 May 2025 09:03

To: [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>

Subject: Re: Update on A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Scheme (Case Ref: ME5996)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank-you for providing Mairi Gougeon MSP with an update on the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvements scheme.

This week Aberdeenshire Council has confirmed the sole objection to supplementary draft orders has been withdrawn, and therefore there is now no need for a public inquiry. Many local people are now hopeful that work on the scheme can begin as soon as possible.

Please could you confirm whether work will begin on the scheme this year?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

Caseworker for Mairi Gougeon MSP

From: **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>

Sent: 4 December 2024 11:42

To: Gougeon M (Mairi), MSP <Mairi.Gougeon.msp@parliament.scot>

Subject: Update on A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Scheme

Dear Mairi Gougeon MSP,

The Cabinet Secretary for Transport has asked me to provide an update on the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvements scheme given your constituency interest in the project. As you are aware, it is necessary to provide a new bridge at Oatyhill as part of the scheme to address the decision of Aberdeenshire Council to close Oatyhill Bridge to vehicular traffic. The proposals for the new bridge require compulsory acquisition of land from parties who are not currently affected by the scheme and therefore further statutory processes are required.

For your awareness, it is intended that supplementary draft Orders will be published on 6 December 2024 for the new bridge and all parties affected will be served a copy of the relevant Orders on that date. We request that you note this update in confidence ahead of the formal notification of the draft statutory Orders being issued.

In order to comply with our statutory requirements, notices advertising the publication of the supplementary draft Orders will appear in the Edinburgh Gazette, the Mearns Leader, Aberdeen Evening Express and Aberdeen Press & Journal to coincide with the publication. Additionally, public notices will be erected on site on the day of publication and the Orders material will be made available for inspection at the following locations:

Mearns Community Campus Library, Aberdeen Road, Laurencekirk, AB30 1ZJ
Aberdeenshire Council Headquarters, Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB16 5GB
Transport Scotland, 2nd Floor, George House, 36 North Hanover Street, Glasgow, G1 2AD

In addition to the required statutory notices, Transport Scotland will publish further details of the scheme proposals alongside information on the statutory processes to be followed. This information will be available at the following link from 9am on Friday 6 December 2024: <https://www.transport.gov.scot/projects/a90a937-laurencekirk-junction-improvement-scheme/project-details/> Our technical advisors, Amey, will also operate a telephone contact number where members of the public and other stakeholders will be able to discuss the proposals with a member of staff and raise any queries about the information presented.

Publication of the supplementary draft Orders will commence the necessary statutory processes for the new bridge. A statutory consultation period will take place between 6 December 2024 and 31 January 2025 to allow landowners, members of the public and other stakeholders to provide formal comment on or object to the draft Orders. While Transport Scotland will continue to work closely with affected landowners to avoid or resolve any objections that may be received to the supplementary draft Orders, if this does not prove possible, a Public Local Inquiry may be required to consider any objections made but not withdrawn.

I hope this update is helpful.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[Embedded **[REDACTED]** CEng MICE
Image] Design Manager | Major Projects Design Team 1 | Transport
Scotland
T: **[REDACTED]**
transport.gov.scot
[\[Embedded Image\]](#)[\[Embedded Image\]](#) [\[Embedded
image\]](#) [\[Embedded Image\]](#)

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A53647747 – Attachment withheld

From: **[REDACTED]**
Sent: 17 June 2025 10:25
To: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>
Cc: **[REDACTED]** @gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; Press Transport Scotland <media@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Portfolio <TSPortfolio@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Scotland Directors <DLECONPTSD@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Scotland Media <DLECONPTSM@transport.gov.scot>

Subject: Routine - For Information - A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement Scheme - Update on Objection Status and Next Steps - 17 June 2025

Cabinet Secretary for Transport,

Please see attached a Routine submission to provide an update on the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvements Scheme and the status of objections received to the published draft Orders. The submission also advises of the next steps required to progress made Orders for the Scheme which, subject to no legal challenge, would complete the statutory authorisation process.

Officials would be pleased to discuss further should this be helpful.

Regards,

[REDACTED] Project Manager | Major Projects | Transport Scotland
T: **[REDACTED]**

A53670750

From: **[REDACTED]** @gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Transport

Sent: 25 June 2025 15:00

To: **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Transport
<CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>

Cc: **[REDACTED]** @gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; Press Transport Scotland <media@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Portfolio <TSPortfolio@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Scotland Directors <DLECONPTSD@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Scotland Media <DLECONPTSM@transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Routine - For Information - A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement Scheme - Update on Objection Status and Next Steps - 17 June 2025

This email is for the official record and confirms a Ministerial Decision. This email must be placed in the official record (eRDM) by your team [in line with SG records management policy](#).

Hi **[REDACTED]**

Cab Sec has noted, however would like to discuss this with TS Finance how this project can be reflected in the Investment Infrastructure Plan. I have added finance colleagues to the chain and have issued a diary invite for a meeting with the Cab Sec on Wednesday 2 July. Please let us know if there are any issues with this.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (she/her)

Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Transport
cabsecfortransport@gov.scot

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

A54243122

From: **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>

Sent: 25 June 2025 16:14

To: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>

Cc: **[REDACTED]** @gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; Press Transport Scotland <media@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Portfolio <TSPortfolio@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Scotland Directors <DLECONPTSD@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Scotland Media <DLECONPTSM@transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; **[REDACTED]** transport.gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Routine - For Information - A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement Scheme - Update on Objection Status and Next Steps - 17 June 2025

Hi **[REDACTED]**

I've had a look at the submission and noted Ms Hyslop's request to consider how it can be reflected in the IIP. We'll be preparing advice on the IIP and Capital Spending Review for the end of July and Ms Hyslop's return from leave – I was hoping to join the meeting she has with **[REDACTED]** and **[REDACTED]** about the IIP on 29 July.

It might be better to pick this up as part of that advice and discussion. Would that be ok? We're pretty thin on the ground next week anyway, with the first week of recess and school holidays.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Transport Portfolio Finance

T: Teams

From: **[REDACTED]** @gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Transport

Sent: 26 June 2025 10:12

To: **[REDACTED]** @transport.gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Transport

<CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] @gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @gov.scot>; [REDACTED]
@transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED] transport.gov.scot>;
[REDACTED] transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED]
@transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>; Kate Higgins
<Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>; DG Net Zero
<DGNetZero@gov.scot>; Press Transport Scotland <media@transport.gov.scot>; Transport
Portfolio <TSPortfolio@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Scotland Directors
<DLECONPTSD@transport.gov.scot>; Transport Scotland Media
<DLECONPTSM@transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED]
@transport.gov.scot>; Amy Lawson [REDACTED] @transport.gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Routine - For Information - A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement
Scheme - Update on Objection Status and Next Steps - 17 June 2025

Hi [REDACTED]

No problem – have cancelled the invite for 2 July and you should have the invite for 29 July
Strategy and Analysis meeting with you now.

If there are any issues, please just let me know.

Many thanks,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Assistant Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Transport - Fiona Hyslop
MSP | The Scottish Government | Web: www.gov.scot | Email: cabsecfortransport@gov.scot

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Ministerial Correspondence

Attachment is previous reply 202400443108 (below)

From: [REDACTED] @gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Transport

Sent: 10 February 2025 12:15

To: TS Corporate Correspondence Support Team <TSS@transport.gov.scot>

Subject: FW: Your recent enquiry with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202400443108 (Case Ref: AB16867)

MR please

From: Andrew Bowie MP

Sent: 10 February 2025 10:44

To: Cabinet Secretary for Transport

Subject: FW: Your recent enquiry with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202400443108 (Case Ref: AB16867)

Dear Sir or Madam

Following on from the attached response which you kindly provided us with in December 2024, [REDACTED] has emailed again today as follows:-

Hi [REDACTED],

Now that the statutory consultation period for the supplementary draft Orders expired on 31 January 2025, I'd appreciate it if you could seek an update from the Transport Minister. I'm not confident this information will be made publicly available, and there doesn't seem to be much urgency in ensuring it is.

Thanks again for your help. Hopefully, this year we can finally get an outcome that at least allows us to begin the much-needed Laurencekirk junction improvement.

***Best regards,
[REDACTED]***

I'd be grateful if you could provide a further update that I can share with [REDACTED]

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Senior Caseworker

Office of Andrew Bowie MP

Member of Parliament for West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine.

[REDACTED]

Unit 6 | 75 High Street

Banchory | AB31 5TJ

My usual work hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 am – 5 pm

From: casehandling.service@gov.scot <casehandling.service@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 December 2024 18:04
To: "BOWIE, Andrew" <andrew.bowie.mp@parliament.uk>
Subject: Your recent enquiry with Scottish Government and partner agencies - 202400443108

Please find attached a response to your correspondence.

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Attachment to the above

Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Fiona Hyslop MSP



T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Andrew Bowie MP
By email Andrew.Bowie.MP@Parliament.UK

Your ref: AB16867
Our ref: 202400443108
December 2024

A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction - Oatyhill Bridge /Junction

Thank you for your email of 29 November 2024 on behalf of your constituent, Mr **[REDACTED]** from Oatyhill, with regard to the proposed A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction improvement scheme.

I note your constituent has raised several points in relation to funding and progress on the scheme.

I would like to reassure you and your constituent that the Scottish Government remains committed to delivering a new grade-separated junction at Laurencekirk as part of the package of additional investment alongside the Aberdeen City Region Deal. I can advise that Transport Scotland published supplementary draft Orders to support a new railway overbridge at Oatyhill on 6 December 2024 ([Progress in delivering A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement scheme | Transport Scotland](#)). The new bridge is required as part of the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement scheme to provide access for local people and visitors to Denlethen Wood following the decision of Aberdeenshire Council to close the existing Oatyhill Bridge to vehicular traffic.

It is important to note that the supplementary draft Orders carry their own statutory consultation period which will expire on 31 January 2025 and it is therefore possible that further objections may be received. The statutory right for individuals to have their say in relation to major infrastructure proposals cannot be set aside and there is no mechanism by which Transport Scotland officials can enforce resolution. Should objections be received to the published supplementary draft Orders that cannot be resolved, recourse to a Public Local Inquiry may be required. As with all trunk road projects this is the appropriate forum for considering objections received and not withdrawn.

In relation to your constituent's second point with regard to funding and costs, it is correct to say that budget for the scheme has, and continues to be, outlined on a year-by-year basis as part of the annual Scottish Budget setting process. This applies to the essential design work being undertaken by Transport Scotland and the move towards completion of the statutory processes. As with all infrastructure projects, delivery of the Laurencekirk scheme can only commence when the relevant statutory authorisation powers to do so have been secured. Following completion of the statutory authorisation process we will then be in a position to set a timetable for delivery of the scheme in line with available budgets.

Turning to your constituent's third point, Transport Scotland officials have advised me that it is correct to note exemptions were applied under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs) to the request for information received from your constituent. I have been advised that the exemptions were predominantly applied to anonymise the authors of the extensive correspondence received by way of representations following the publication of draft Orders for the scheme in December 2019. I would like to reassure your constituent that at no point has any one individual or collection of individuals been named by the Scottish Government or Transport Scotland as being the cause of delay in completing the statutory process for the scheme. In preparing the response to your constituent's request for information and considering the information held, exemptions have not been applied by Transport Scotland in a restrictive way and have instead applied a presumption in favour of disclosure. Where appropriate, there has also been due consideration of the public interest. If your constituent is unhappy with the way his request has been handled by Transport Scotland, the response issued to him confirms what steps he is able to take.

Lastly, as stated above, I can confirm that having completed the detailed development and assessment work required for the new railway overbridge at Oatyhill, including the environmental impact assessment, Transport Scotland published supplementary draft Orders for the scheme on 6 December 2024. These can be viewed on Transport Scotland's website at the following link:

[A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement Scheme | Transport Scotland](#)

The above link also includes a Virtual Public Exhibition which provides further information on the proposals for the new bridge at Oatyhill and provides detail on the process being followed. Your constituent may find this information helpful.

I hope this is of assistance.

Fiona Hyslop

T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Andrew Bowie
Andrew.Bowie.MP@Parliament.UK

Our Reference: 202500452124
Your Reference: AB16867

25 February 2025

Dear Andrew,

A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction

Thank you for your email dated 10 February 2025 on behalf of your constituent, Mr **[REDACTED]** from Oatyhill, with regard to the proposed A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction improvement scheme.

Following publication of supplementary draft Orders for the necessary new railway overbridge at Oatyhill on 6 December 2024, I can advise that a number of representations, including one objection, were received to the Orders. Transport Scotland is currently considering all representations received and will work at pace to resolve these if possible.

Whilst there is always a desire to deliver proposed improvements to the trunk road network in a timeous and efficient manner to provide the associated benefits to the affected communities, the Scottish Government is dutybound to properly follow the correct statutory planning process which rightly includes the opportunity for local communities to input and have any objections resolved appropriately.

As you will be aware, the scheme can only progress following successful completion of the relevant statutory processes. A timeline for procurement and construction phases could then be determined in line with available budgets.

When completed, the new grade separated junction will improve safety and help reduce delays for all who cross or turn at the busy A90 junction to the south of the town. In addition, the new bridge at Oatyhill will provide safe access over the railway for local land holders and property owners, as well as walkers, cyclists and others wishing to enjoy Denlethen Wood.

I hope you find the above information helpful.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

FIONA HYSLOP
Cabinet Secretary for
Transport

MiCase 202500458918

From: [REDACTED] @gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Sent: 24 March 2025 16:54
To: TS Corporate Correspondence Support Team <TSS@transport.gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Meeting with Fiona Hyslop

DR please

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 March 2025 16:16
To: Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Subject: Fw: Meeting with Fiona Hyslop

[REDACTED] Constituency Manager to Fiona Hyslop MSP

From: White T (Tess), MSP <Tess.White.MSP@Parliament.scot>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 4:14:24 PM
To: [REDACTED] @parliament.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] @Parliament.scot>
Subject: Meeting with Fiona Hyslop

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to see if you can help me. I would like a short meeting with Fiona Hyslop in her Cabinet Secretary Transport role to discuss Transport issues in Aberdeenshire. If possible I would like to bring with me two constituents who would like to share with Ms Hyslop about their experience. In addition I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the Laurencekirk Junction at the end of the meeting.

Please would you kindly let me know how I go about requesting this.

I look forward to your reply.

Thank you in advance.

Kind regards,

Tess



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Tess White MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for the North East Scotland Region

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP | 0131 348 6218

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Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Còmhdhail
Fiona Hyslop MSP/BPA

T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Tess White MSP
Tess.White.MSP@Parliament.scot

Our Reference: 202500458918

14 April 2025

Dear Ms White,

Thank you for your email of 24 March 2025, requesting that the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Fiona Hyslop MSP, meet with you and two of your constituents to discuss issues with the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (AWPR), along with an update on the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction.

Unfortunately, due to a fully committed diary Ms Hyslop is unable to meet at this time. However, if your constituents are in a position to provide some detail surrounding the issues they have experienced on the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (AWPR) the Cabinet Secretary's officials at Transport Scotland can look into these. Should this be of interest to your constituents I would be grateful if they could contact PDC@transport.gov.scot in the first instance.

In terms of Laurencekirk the Cabinet Secretary has asked me to reassure you that the Scottish Government remains committed to delivering a new grade-separated junction at Laurencekirk as part of the package of additional investment alongside the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

Following publication of the initial draft Orders for the scheme, Transport Scotland received four objections including one from Aberdeenshire Council. These objections have now all been removed following an intense and constructive period of consultation.

In order to address the decision of Aberdeenshire Council to close the existing Oatyhill railway overbridge to vehicular traffic, on 6 December 2024 Transport Scotland published supplementary draft Orders for a new railway overbridge at Oatyhill. This was essential to enable further progress for the scheme.

Following publication of supplementary draft Orders on 6 December 2024, a number of representations, including one objection, were received. Transport Scotland is currently considering all representations received and will work at pace to resolve these if possible.

The scheme can only progress following successful completion of the relevant statutory processes. A timeline for procurement and construction phases could then be determined in line with available budgets.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Private
Secretary

MiCase 202500468060

From: [REDACTED] @gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Sent: 28 May 2025 12:36
To: TS Corporate Correspondence Support Team <TSS@transport.gov.scot>
Subject: FW: (Case Ref: ME6674)

MR please

From: Mairi Gougeon MSP
Sent: 28 May 2025 11:49
To: Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Subject: (Case Ref: ME6674)

Dear Cabinet Secretary for Transport,

I am writing to you on behalf of Mairi Gougeon MSP regarding the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvements scheme.

This week Aberdeenshire Council has confirmed the sole objection to supplementary draft orders has been withdrawn, and therefore there is now no need for a public inquiry. Many local people are now hopeful that work on the scheme can begin as soon as possible.

Please could you confirm whether work will begin on the scheme this year?

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]
Caseworker for Mairi Gougeon MSP

•

Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Còmhdhail
Fiona Hyslop MSP/BPA

T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Mairi Gougeon MSP
Mairi.gougeon@parliament.scot

Our Reference: 202500468060
Your Reference: (Case Ref: ME6674)

11 June 2025

Dear Mairi,

A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction

Thank you for your email of 28 May 2025, regarding the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvements scheme.

I would like to reassure you and your constituents that the Scottish Government remains committed to delivering the grade-separation junction at Laurencekirk as part of a package of additional investment alongside the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

Transport Scotland continues to progress the scheme through the necessary statutory authorisation process. Having resolved the objections to the initial published draft Orders for the scheme, Transport Scotland published supplementary draft Orders for a new bridge at Oatyhill last December to address the decision of Aberdeenshire Council to close the existing Oatyhill Bridge to vehicular traffic. This was essential to allow us to progress the scheme.

Following publication of the supplementary draft Orders, Transport Scotland received a number of representations, including one objection. I'm pleased to confirm that the objection received has now been resolved by my officials at Transport Scotland. While this is a positive step and confirms that a Public Local Inquiry will not be required, my officials at Transport Scotland are now pushing forward with the necessary procedural and legislative steps to complete the statutory process for the scheme during 2025/26.

Once both sets of Orders are confirmed as made, a mandatory six-week period follows during which an aggrieved party can submit a challenge to the Court of Session against the making of the Orders on legal grounds. Should no legal challenge be made, this would then allow Transport Scotland to take forward the

necessary procedural steps for Scottish Ministers to take ownership of the land included within the Compulsory Purchase Orders by way of executing a General Vesting Declaration.

Only once the above steps are successfully completed can the Scottish Government then consider a timeline for procuring and appointing a contractor to deliver the scheme in line with annual budget setting exercises.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

FIONA HYSLOP
Cabinet Secretary for
Transport

MiCase 202500469999

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Sent: 10 June 2025 10:09
To: TS Corporate Correspondence Support Team <TSS@transport.gov.scot>
Subject: FW: ** Letter for the attention of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport **

MR please

From: White T (Tess), MSP
Sent: 09 June 2025 17:35
To: Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Subject: ** Letter for the attention of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport **

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Please kindly find attached a letter about the Laurencekirk Junction that has had far too many fatalities and constant near misses.

I mentioned it to you last week and you said to write to you as you know it well.

I do look forward to your reply.

Kind regards,

Tess



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Tess White MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for the North East Scotland Region

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP | 0131 348 6218

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Attachment to Email of 10 June 2025



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Office of Tess White MSP
M2.20
Edinburgh EH99 1SP
Tess.White.MSP@parliament.scot
0131 348 6218

Fiona Hyslop MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Transport BY EMAIL

9th June 2025

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Following the welcome news that all objections to the plans for a new grade-separated junction at Laurencekirk have been withdrawn, my constituents want to see the improvement scheme get underway as soon as possible.

There have been far too many fatalities and near misses on this dangerous stretch of road and it is only a matter of time before we see another tragedy.

I am therefore writing to seek assurances that the Scottish Government has budgeted for the project to begin this year, and to find out when the timetable of works will be published.

It is vital that the junction is made safe for the many drivers who rely on this road every day. It is my sincere hope that the Scottish Government shares this ambition and that the required work can begin at pace.

I look forward to receiving your reply. Yours

sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Tess White MSP
MSP for North East Region

Cabinet Secretary for Transport
Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Còmhdhail
Fiona Hyslop MSP/BPA

T : 0300 244 4000
E : scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Tess White MSP
Tess.White.MSP@Parliament.scot

Our Reference: 202500469999
Your Reference: Laurencekirk Junction

25 June 2025

Dear Tess,

A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction

Thank you for your letter of 09 June 2025, regarding the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvements scheme.

I would like to reassure you and your constituents that the Scottish Government remains committed to delivering the grade-separated junction at Laurencekirk as part of a package of additional investment alongside the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

Transport Scotland continues to progress the scheme through the necessary statutory authorisation process. Having resolved the objections to the initial published draft Orders for the scheme, Transport Scotland published supplementary draft Orders for a new bridge at Oatyhill last December to address the decision of Aberdeenshire Council to close the existing Oatyhill Bridge to vehicular traffic. This was essential to allow us to progress the scheme.

Following publication of the supplementary draft Orders, Transport Scotland received a number of representations, including one objection. I'm pleased to confirm that the objection received has now been resolved by my officials at Transport Scotland. While this is a positive step and confirms that a Public Local Inquiry will not be required, my officials at Transport Scotland are now pushing forward with the necessary procedural and legislative steps to complete the statutory process for the scheme during 2025/26.

Once both sets of Orders are confirmed as made, a mandatory six-week period follows during which an aggrieved party can submit a challenge to the Court of Session against the making of the Orders on legal grounds. Should no legal challenge be made, this would then allow Transport Scotland to take forward the

necessary procedural steps for Scottish Ministers to take ownership of the land included within the Compulsory Purchase Orders by way of executing a General Vesting Declaration.

Only once the above steps are successfully completed can the Scottish Government then consider a timeline for procuring and appointing a contractor to deliver the scheme in line with annual budget setting exercises.

I hope this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

FIONA HYSLOP
Cabinet Secretary for
Transport

MiCase 202500478666

From: White T (Tess), MSP <Tess.White.MSP@Parliament.scot>
Sent: 01 August 2025 17:39
To: [REDACTED] <@transport.gov.scot>
Cc: Andrew Bowie MP <andrew.bowie.mp@parliament.uk>; Cllr George W. Carr <george.carr@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; Cllr Tracey Smith <cldr.t.smith@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Laurencekirk Junction

Thank you **Iain** for the cc.

May I also ask you about the date when shovels will be in the ground for the Laurencekirk Junction. Fiona Hyslop Cabinet Secretary for Transport reassured me it was very high on her priority list and is familiar with the need. She said she has relatives in Stonehaven so knows what needs to be done as travels that route to see them so experiences it and the issues first hand. There have been too many lives lost there and near misses every day.

Can you kindly let me know what the delay is. Thank you in

advance,

Tess



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Tess White MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for the North East Scotland Region

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP | 0131 348 6218

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Design Administration
Major Projects

~~Transport Scotland, 177 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, G2 7ER~~
Lawrence.Shackman@transport.gov.scot



Tess White MSP
Tess.White.MSP@parliament.scot

Our ref:
202500478666

Date:
14 August 2025

Dear Tess White MSP,

A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction

Thank you for your email of 01 August 2025 addressed to my colleague, **[REDACTED]**, regarding the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvements scheme. I am responding in my capacity as Director of Major Projects.

I can advise that the Scottish Government remains committed to delivering the grade-separated junction at Laurencekirk as part of a package of additional investment alongside the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

Transport Scotland continues to progress the scheme through the necessary statutory authorisation process. As you will be aware, Transport Scotland published supplementary draft Orders for a new bridge at Oatyhill last December to address the decision of Aberdeenshire Council to close the existing Oatyhill Bridge to vehicular traffic. This was essential to allow us to progress the scheme.

Following publication of the supplementary draft Orders, Transport Scotland received a number of representations, including one objection. I can confirm that all objections to the proposed scheme have now been resolved. While this is a positive step and confirms that a Public Local Inquiry will not be required, Transport Scotland is continuing pushing forward with the necessary procedural and legislative steps to complete the statutory process for the scheme.

Once both sets of Orders are confirmed as made, a mandatory six-week period follows during which an aggrieved party could submit a challenge to the Court of Session against the making of the Orders on legal grounds. Should no legal challenge be made, this would then allow Transport Scotland to take forward the necessary procedural steps for Scottish Ministers to take ownership of the land included within the Compulsory Purchase Orders by way of executing a General Vesting Declaration.

Only once the above steps are successfully completed can the Scottish Government then consider a timeline for procuring and appointing a contractor to deliver the scheme in line with annual budget setting exercises.

I hope you find the above information helpful. Yours

sincerely

[REDACTED]

Lawrence Shackman
Director of Major Projects



Extract from Background Note to Parliamentary Question S6W-32857 answered on 21 Jan 2025. Answers are available to view on the Parliamentary Website

A90 – A937 Laurencekirk Junction (£24m committed, £4m spent)

The Scottish Government remains committed to delivering a new grade-separated junction at Laurencekirk as part of the package of additional investment alongside the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

Transport Scotland has been taking forward the necessary design and assessment work, and the scheme is currently going through the statutory authorisation process. As part of this process Transport Scotland published draft Orders and an EIAR for the proposed scheme on 19 December 2019 for formal comment. Transport Scotland received four statutory objections including one from Aberdeenshire Council. Following an intense and constructive period of consultation with all parties these objections have now all been resolved. On 6 December 2024 Transport Scotland published supplementary draft orders for a new bridge at Oatyhill, this was required in order to address the decision of Aberdeenshire Council to close the existing bridge to vehicular traffic. The supplementary draft Orders carry their own statutory consultation period which expires on 31 January 2025. Should further objections be received then these would have to be resolved before proceeding.

The Statutory right for individuals to formally comment on our projects cannot be set aside.

As with all infrastructure projects, delivery of the Laurencekirk scheme can only commence when the relevant statutory authorisation powers to do so have been secured. Following completion of the statutory authorisation process we will then be in a position to set a timetable for delivery of the scheme in line with available budgets.

Spend on the project to date has included design development, assessment, intensive consultation with stakeholders and objectors, and progression of the necessary statutory processes.

Extract from Background Note to Parliamentary Questions S6W-33166 answered on 22 Jan 2025. Answers are available to view on the Parliamentary Website

Laurencekirk Junction

38. The Scottish Government remains committed to delivering a new grade-separated junction at Laurencekirk as part of the package of additional investment alongside the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

Following publication of the Draft Road and Compulsory Purchase Orders and the Environmental Impact Assessment for the A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement, Transport Scotland received four statutory objections including one from Aberdeenshire Council following their decision to close the existing Oatyhill Bridge to vehicular traffic.

Following an intense and constructive period of consultation with all parties these objections have now been resolved.

In December 2024 Transport Scotland published supplementary orders and supplementary information to the Environmental Impact Assessment for the new bridge at Oatyhill, so to address the decision of Aberdeenshire Council to close the existing bridge to vehicular traffic.

It is important to note that whilst all initial objections to the scheme have been removed the supplementary draft Orders and Environmental Impact Assessment carry their own statutory objection period which expires on 31 January 2025 and should further objections be received then these would have to be resolved before proceeding.

Delivery of the scheme itself can only commence when the scheme is approved under the statutory procedures and thereafter a timetable for construction can be determined.

Extract from Background Note to Parliamentary Question S6O-04460 answered 20 March 2025

A90/A937 Laurencekirk Junction Improvement scheme

The Scottish Government remains committed to delivering a new grade-separated junction at Laurencekirk as part of the package of additional investment alongside the Aberdeen City Region Deal.

Transport Scotland has been taking forward the necessary design and assessment work, and the scheme is currently going through the statutory authorisation process. Following publication of the initial draft Orders for the scheme in December 2019, Transport Scotland received four objections including one from Aberdeenshire Council. These objections have now all been removed following an intense and constructive period of consultation.

In order to address the decision of Aberdeenshire Council to close the existing Oatyhill railway overbridge to vehicular traffic, on 6 December 2024 Transport Scotland published supplementary draft Orders for a new railway overbridge at Oatyhill. This was essential to enable further progress for the scheme. The supplementary draft Orders carried their own statutory consultation period which expired on 31 January 2025.

Following publication of supplementary draft Orders a number of representations, including one objection, were received. Transport Scotland is currently considering

all representations received and is working at pace with a view to resolving the objection where possible.

The Statutory right for individuals to formally comment on our projects cannot be set aside.

As with all infrastructure projects, delivery of the Laurencekirk scheme can only commence when the relevant statutory authorisation powers to do so have been secured. Following completion of the statutory authorisation process we will then be in a position to set a timetable for delivery of the scheme in line with available budgets.

Spend on the project to date has included design development, assessment, intensive consultation with stakeholders and objectors, and progression of the necessary statutory processes.