

## TRANSPORT SCOTLAND UPDATE

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### 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on Transport Scotland's progress to date on the A83 Trunk Road.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members note this report.

### 3. DETAIL

#### Argyll and Bute Trunk Roads Liaison Meeting

Transport Scotland met with Police Scotland, Argyll and Bute Council's Head of Roads and Shadow Spokesperson for Transport and Infrastructure for their 3-monthly Trunk Road Liaison Meeting on the 20th of August 2013. Transport Scotland and the Council shared detail of their current 2013-2014 roads maintenance programmes and continue to work closely to identify opportunities for joint working across the region.

Responses to elected members issues were provided at the meeting, please see the attached copy.

#### A83 Rest and Be Thankful

##### Progress

We are in the process of carrying out the "Red Option" mitigation works. The Red Option contains a range of hazard reduction measures which will be built along the line of the existing road. The works will include additional fencing and debris netting, drainage improvements, enhancement to slope vegetation and culvert improvements.

We are undertaking the works in phases to avoid road closures and reduce the amount and length of delays at this part of the route.

As part of the monitoring process of the slope, we have identified priority sites for mitigation. We will target these areas in order of priority. As a result of monitoring and investigations, the priorities change and we may update our programme to reflect the most current priorities.

#### **Phase 3 and 4**

Phase 3 and 4 of landslide protection at the Rest and Be Thankful were completed in April. These works included fencing and netting works and construction of a catch pit capable of retaining 1200 tonnes of material with erosion control matting.

#### **Phase 5 and 6**

Phases 5 and 6 of the works will focus on putting risk reduction measures in place at the next highest priority sites as identified through the geotechnical monitoring process which is updated on a regular basis. The works are likely to be similar to those carried out under phase 3 and 4. The procurement of these works is ongoing and we will be working together with the Contractor for the works to implement a suitable solution. The current programme of works for phases 5 and 6 commences 1st July and was complete in August 2013.

#### **Phase 7, 8 and 9**

These works are planned to be constructed between September and December 2013 and are currently being procured.

#### **Task Force Meeting**

The next Task Force meeting will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2013.

#### **a. A83 Improvements**

Following the A83 Route Study, undertaken by Jacobs, Transport Scotland has been working on developing a programme of investigations of works on a number of issues along the route. An update on these is given in the below table.

Programme of works					
	Scheme location/ name	Work due to commence	Planned completion	What we are currently doing	2013/14 expected output
Pedestrian assessments	Ardrishaig	Summer 2013	Summer 2013	We have completed our information gathering stage and are preparing the draft report	Report with recommendations
	Tarbert	Summer 2013	Autumn 2013		Report with recommendations
	Inverary	Summer 2013	Autumn 2013		Report with recommendations
Landslide Mitigation (Red Option)	A83 Cairndow	Summer 2013	Autumn 2013	We have carried out the visual site survey and are in the process of doing the desk study.	Report with recommendations
	A83 Glen Kinglas	Autumn 2013	Autumn 2013		Report with recommendations
	A83 Loch Shira	Summer 2013	Autumn 2013		Report with recommendations
	Rest and Be Thankful woodland planting	Autumn 2013	2015+	We are currently determining the best course of action with the Forestry Commission for planting	Design
	Red Option (Phase 5 and 6)	Complete	Complete	Works complete in August 2013	Construction of debris netting
	Red Option (Phase 7, 8 and 9)	Summer 2013	Spring 2014	We are currently in the process of procuring these works	Procurement, design & Construction
	Red Option (Phase 10)	2014	2014/15		
	Red Option (Phase 11 and 12)	2014/15	2014/15		
	Rest and Be Thankful slope monitoring improvements	Summer 2013	Spring 2014		
Minor improvements	Dunderave Ph1 (Resurfacing)	Summer 2013	2014/2015		Design, procurement process
	Dunderave Ph2 and Ph3	Autumn 2013	2015+		
	Erines	Autumn 2013	2015+		
	Barmore road, Tarbert	Autumn 2013	2015+		
	Strone Point	Autumn 2013	2015+		
Speed Control Measures	Ardrishaig	Summer 2013	Autumn 2013	We are preparing the draft report	Report with recommendations covering all three areas
	Minard	Summer 2013	Autumn 2013		
	Lochgair	Summer 2013	Autumn 2013		

## 2. Trunking of the A83 from Kennacraig to Campbeltown

The First Minister made announcement on Wednesday that the 51km of A83 between Kennacraig and Campbeltown will be trunked. This builds on significant transport investment in the area and emphasises the Scottish Governments commitment to enhance strategic links to Kintyre region benefitting communities, businesses and tourists

Improving this transport connection ensures local communities and businesses prosper and play their part in sustaining economic growth across the country. Following completion of the trunking process, the route will be maintained to the same high standard applied to the rest of Scotland's Trunk Road network, ensuring that it performs its strategic function of moving people, goods and services efficiently and effectively between our major towns and cities.

Transport Scotland will work with Argyll and Bute Council to discuss how best to take forward the formal transfer of responsibility. This will include undertaking a detailed inspection of the route and discussing the timing of the transfer, maintenance costs and any employment issues arising. The Campbeltown to Kennacraig section of the route will be included in the on-going A83 route study, and an update of the next steps will be provided during the next A83 Taskforce meeting on 4 September.

Taking account of statutory processes, it is expected that the road will be trunked by summer 2014. The exact extent of the section to be trunked will be discussed with Argyll and Bute Council.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

This report provides Members with an update on Trunk Road issues in MAKI.

#### **5. IMPLICATIONS**

5.1	<b>Policy</b>	None
5.2	<b>Financial</b>	None
5.3	<b>Personnel</b>	None
5.4	<b>Equalities Impact Assessment</b>	None.
5.5	<b>Legal</b>	None