

Briefing for the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee on PE1967: Protect Loch Lomond's Atlantic oakwood shoreline by implementing the High Road option for the A82 upgrade between Tarbet and Inverarnan, submitted by John Urquhart on behalf of Helensburgh and District Access Trust and The Friends of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs

Background

- Transport Scotland is leading work on a project to upgrade the 10.6 mile long section of the [A82 trunk road between Tarbet and Inverarnan](#), which runs along the west bank of Loch Lomond and the River Falloch.
- This project was identified as a priority for investment in the [first Strategic Transport Projects Review](#) (STPR), published by Transport Scotland in October 2009.
- The STPR was completed using the [Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance](#) (STAG), which provides a framework for identifying and assessing potential transport interventions.
- Detailed options for the scheme were then developed and refined using a three-stage process for set out in the [Design Manual for Roads and Bridges](#) (DMRB). The DMRB is used by the four UK administrations in the development of all major strategic road schemes.
- The High Road option favoured by the petitioners was one of three possible route alignments considered as part of the [DMRB Stage 1 assessment](#). This was rejected in favour of a route largely following the existing A82, which was assessed as offering the greatest benefits of the three options considered.
- Final detailed designs for the proposed scheme design are yet to be published.
- The most significant deviation from the existing route proposed involves routing the road over three viaducts between Inveruglas and Pulpit Rock, which Transport Scotland state will “provide a safer alignment and improve forward visibility compared to the current Seven Bends (Seven Sisters) section of the road”.

Scottish Government Action

As an agency of the Scottish Government, Transport Scotland is leading the A82 Tarbet – Inverarnan project.

Scottish Parliament Action

The Scottish Parliament has not previously considered the alignment of any upgrade to the A82 between Tarbet and Inverarnan.

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