

Head of Network Maintenance
Trunk Road and Bus Operations

Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF
Direct Line: 0141 272 7342, Fax: 0141 272 7400
Graham.edmond@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk



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Anne Peat
Assistant Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee
Room T3.40
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Your ref:
PE1428

Our ref:
A5224220

Date:
18 February 2013

By email:
Anne.peat@scottish.parliament.uk

Dear Anne

PE1428 A83 Rest and Be Thankful

In advance of the next meeting of the Public Petitions Committee, I am writing to provide an update on the A83 Rest and Be Thankful.

Works on the Old Military Road emergency diversion route are almost complete, although unfortunately progress has been hampered by poor weather. The completion of the works on the Old Military Road fulfils our commitment to deliver an alternative and shorter diversion route for the people of Argyll in the event of the closure of the A83 following a landslide at the Rest & Be Thankful.

Our consultants, Jacobs, will publish their final A83 Study report, which investigated the feasibility of longer term improvements on the A83, on 22 February and this will be available on the Transport Scotland website. I will send you a copy of this report. The Minister for Transport and Veterans will be hosting the next meeting of the A83 Taskforce on 25 February. The main purpose of this meeting will be to consider the Scottish Government's response to Jacobs' Study. We will write to the Committee formally after this meeting.

Works are progressing well on the next phases of landslide protection, with the additional netting and catch pit sump on programme for completion by the end of March 2013.

We are working with Argyll & Bute Council, who are developing a business case for the trunking of the A83 between Kennacraig and Campbeltown.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

GRAHAM EDMOND
Head of Network Maintenance