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23 May 2017

Dear Alec,

**A720 Sheriffhall**

Thank you for your letter of 2 May regarding the Sheriffhall Roundabout.

The Scottish Government remains committed to undertaking improvements at Sheriffhall roundabout and I would like to reassure you that suitable provision for all users, including cyclists, is an important part of the scheme.

As you are aware, on 3 April Transport Scotland announced that the preferred option for grade separation of the Sheriffhall roundabout to be taken forward for further detailed development and assessment was Option B. This announcement is based on the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges Stage 2 options assessment. Each of the emerging grade separated junction options, as presented to the public, were assessed in terms of engineering, environmental and economic factors. The options were also compared against all of the scheme objectives, and were considered in terms of value for money and risk. When taking all of these factors into consideration Option B was assessed to be the preferred option.

Grade separation at Sheriffhall will improve access for pedestrians and cyclists compared to the existing arrangement. By allowing Edinburgh City Bypass traffic to pass over it will significantly reduce congestion and improve accessibility for all modes of transport including pedestrians and cyclists.

As I highlighted above suitable provision for all users, including cyclists, is an important part of the proposed scheme and this will be developed in further detail as we progress the development and assessment of the preferred option, in consultation with local interest groups, including Spokes.



Over the coming months Transport Scotland will be in touch with you to discuss the developing provision for non-motorised users and provide an opportunity for you to provide vital feedback.

The work we continue to progress on the development and assessment of the preferred option will culminate in the publication of draft orders in 2019 for formal comment. 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 set in line with available budgets.

I hope this is helpful.

Best Wishes,  
M. You  
HUMZA YOUSAF