

Hugh Gillies  
Director of Roads  
**Roads Directorate**

Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF  
Direct Line: 0141 242 7321  
Hugh.gillies@transport.gov.scot



Edward Mountain MSP  
Convener  
Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee  
The Scottish Parliament

11 October 2019

By e-mail to [rec.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:rec.committee@parliament.scot)

Dear Mr Mountain

Further to my giving evidence to the Committee on 2 October I thought it may be useful to clarify my comments in relation to the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR) and the A9 and A96 Dualling Programmes.

As you will be aware the STPR will set out the Scottish Government's transport infrastructure investment priorities in the context of the National Transport Strategy. This will chart the future direction of our transport system over the next 20 years and provides context within which future decisions will be made. My comments in relation to these policies were intended to be distinct from commitments already made by the Scottish Government in relation to the A9 and the A96.

As the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity, Michael Matheson MSP, advised the Committee on 11 September, the Scottish Government remains committed to dualling the A9 between Perth and Inverness and the A96 between Inverness and Aberdeen as part of its current programme of infrastructure improvements.

I am sorry for any confusion and I hope this helps to clarify the position.

**HUGH GILLIES**  
Director of Roads