

Minister for Transport and Veterans
Keith Brown MSP

T: 0845 774 1741
E: scottish.ministers@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



Mr George Alexander
Waterford Farm
FORRES
IV36 3TN



Your ref:
Our ref: 2013/0021110

14 ^{October}
~~September~~ 2013

Dear Mr Alexander.

The Scottish Government plans to dual the A96 between Aberdeen and Inverness by 2030. This will be a strategic road and route options are still to be fully developed and evaluated. The A96 dualling is unrelated to the need for an effective road network in the town which the Council's Elgin Traffic Management Plan is seeking to address, and would be progressing irrespective of the Scottish Government's proposals.

Transport Scotland officials presented how the A96 dualling programme will be taken forward to Moray Council officials and the elected members Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee on 9 July 2013 and 3 September 2013 respectively. At both presentations the early A96 dualling corridor development position was highlighted.

The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 places the statutory responsibility for local roads improvement with local road authorities, and this is not an issue where the Scottish Ministers or the Scottish Government would become directly involved. Local roads authorities are responsible for deciding how best to meet this duty on local roads in their areas.

Transport Scotland will continue to work with Moray Council as our plans for dualling the A96 develop.

Kind regards

KEITH BROWN