

## Petitioner submission of 1 June 2023

### PE1906/F: Investigate options for removing and reducing the impact of the central Glasgow section of the M8

Since the petition was submitted we have continued to discuss and our suggestions with various individuals and groups. One avenue of conversation was with the Scottish and Glasgow Greens who included in their local manifesto during campaigning for Glasgow's council elections, a commitment to ask for an options study for the M8. The Green's are now in a partnership with the SNP to run Glasgow council and have kept their manifesto pledge. Bailie Christy Mearns and colleagues with involvement from SNP Bailie Angus Millar drafted the following motion which was taken to council on 30th March 2023 and called for the City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery to

**" (1) write to the Scottish Transport Minister to: - formally request Transport Scotland's involvement in and a funding contribution towards Glasgow City Council's research into reducing the impact of the M8 on Glasgow city centre; - formally request a 6-month trial of 30mph speed limits on city centre sections of the M8; and - request a review of powers to extend the Low Emission Zone to motorway roads; and (2) bring a report on existing air quality monitoring taking place along the motorway to the relevant city policy committee within six months."**

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/councillorsandcommittees/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=108190>

This motion was passed by 80 councillors to 2 who voted for an amendment.

In conjunction, Bailie Angus Millar has written a letter to The MSP for Transport Jenny Gilruth before the recent reshuffle, asking for dialogue between Transport Scotland and Glasgow Council to investigate options, referring to existing local policy such as the City Centre Transport Plan which also calls for investigation of options. This local policy itself reflected the consultation feedback by our group to include this position.

**The actions we would like the committee to follow up on, if these are appropriate are:**

1. For a study to be commissioned which looks into options for the city centre stretch of the M8 - The study should be carried out by an independent (planning urbanism and movement/transport consultancy with Transport Scotland, Glasgow Council, Glasgow University, experienced/international experts and ideally people involved with the Replace the M8 campaign, Glasgow University (which has potential funding to contribute to this project) and the MSPs and Councillors who have been involved ( including Paul Sweeney, Angus Millar and Christy Mearns), as stakeholders, amongst numerous others who have an interest.

Replace the M8 (which is not yet registered as a community group but is a twitter based group of friends who are interested in the subject) would like to be involved in writing/editing the brief for the consultants

2. For a clear response from Mairi MacAllan and/or Kevin Stewart to Angus Millar's letter ( if that hasn't already happened) which acknowledges the recent vote at Glasgow Council and agrees to the study and to funding for it.
3. For the petitions committee to suggest a clear way forward which brings together Glasgow's Councillors and MSPs with MSPs for net zero Transition and Transport in a cross party working group, if that is appropriate.