

## Petitioner submission of 10 November 2022

### PE1967/C: Protect Loch Lomond's Atlantic oakwood shoreline by implementing the High Road option for the A82 upgrade between Tarbet and Inverarnan

I would like to draw the Committee's attention to the new A9 at Killiecrankie, a location which is in many ways analogous to Loch Lomondside between Tarbet and Inverarnan. The new road has been constructed on a viaduct above the ancient woodland, railway and the old road. The old road now only carries local traffic and gives access to the walking trails along the gorge. The new A9 bypasses both Pitlochry and Killiecrankie. The view of the gorge from the new road is stupendous: <https://threelochsway.co.uk/news/article/trust-petition-scottish-parliament-re-a82-upgrade/>

#### **Additional note based on an analysis of plans and figures issued by Transport Scotland**

There are no tunnels identified on the plan, but there are 3 tunnels on the [costing spreadsheet](#). Each of these tunnels has been costed at £50m+44% (£72m per km) whilst the norm is actually £30m per km. This alone increases the cost of the High Road by £146.55m (43.2, 24.5 and 78.85).

The 200m long viaduct across the Inveruglas Water has been costed at just under £50m (49.8) ie, £250m per km. The Transport Scotland documentation costs the viaducts over water at £22.5m per km, less than 10% of the cost proposed for the viaduct over land. That would put the cost of the Inveruglas water crossing at £5m i.e. reduce the costs by £45m and reduces the overall cost to £173m, (364-147-45) less than the cost of the shoreside route (£185m).

For something else which requires no civil engineering knowledge, the cost of a cycle track has erroneously been added to the High Road when it is simply not required as the old road would become the cycle track.

Clearly there is something wrong with these figures. Common sense suggests **the construction costs of the two alternatives would be similar** and the benefits of the High Road in terms of no construction

related delays and benefits to the environment would be huge. At the very least the two should be examined properly.