

## **Briefing for the Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee on PE1974: Adopt the A890 as a trunk road, submitted by Derek Noble**

### **Background**

The A890 is a largely single two-lane carriageway road linking the A87 at Auchtertyre with the A896 Strathcarron junction, a distance of 32.2 miles. There are single track sections, with passing places, on the three-mile stretch between Attadale and Ardnarff where the road runs along a narrow strip of flat land between cliffs and the banks of Loch Carron. Space is further constrained on this section as the road runs right alongside the Inverness-Kyle of Lochalsh railway. The road is managed and maintained by Highland Council.

With regards the development of a bypass for the Strome ferry section of the route, Highland Council state that:

“A rock fall in December 2011 resulted in the closure of the A890 at the Strome ferry Bypass for several months. The closure led to major disruption with motorists facing a 130-mile diversion.

31 route options located in 6 route corridors were identified during a pre-appraisal study period. These were sifted to 17 route options. A shortlist was established to take forward to a second stage of more detailed appraisal.

These are:

- 2 northern routes with either a tunnel or bridge across Strome Narrows
- 5 online options with either a viaduct, tunnel, extended avalanche shelter and shared use rail or road or do minimum on the existing line of the road
- 1 southern route through Glen Udalain
- 1 renewable energy option

The detailed appraisal of these routes is still underway.”

Further information on these route options is available on [the Highland Council website](#).

## **Scottish Government Action**

The Scottish Government indicated in answer to written [Parliamentary Question S5W-20047](#) that it "...has no plans to trunk the A890".

## **Scottish Parliament Action**

The Scottish Parliament has not previously considered the trunking of the A890.

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7 October 2022

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