

Transport Scotland

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Ref: TF/D28

26 February 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

THE A830 TRUNK ROAD (SHLATACH RAIL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT) (SIDE ROADS) ORDER 201[] THE A830 TRUNK ROAD (SHLATACH RAIL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT) (TRUNKING) ORDER 201[]

Thank you for your e-mail of 24 January, the telephone discussion with Stephen Atkinson earlier this month and the opportunity to comment on the proposals for renewal of this road over rail bridge on the A830 near Glenfinnan.

While GoBike actively campaigns for good cycle infrastructure in the Strathclyde area centred on Glasgow, many of our members and supporters cycle further afield and we are pleased to see this improvement on the A830. We welcome the slight straightening of the road bringing an improvement in sighting distances and the widening of the main carriageway to 6m with a 1m hard strip and a 1.5m verge each side.

We do, though, have two concerns, which are:

- 1. That the improvement in sighting distances will encourage motor drivers to raise their speed, thus potentially endangering any people walking or cycling on this route. We trust that motor traffic speeds will be managed on this route that has seen significant widening over the years.
- 2. It was mentioned during the telephone call that people might choose to cycle in the 1m hard strip. 1m is not an adequate cycle lane width but, while some might choose to cycle there, such hard strips are well-known for not being cleared of grit etc and for being invaded by vegetation from the verge. It is hoped that ongoing maintenance will ensure the full 8m of roadway is available for both motor and cycle traffic to use.

Yours sincerely

Tricia Fort

for Consultations, GoBike