

**Joan McAlpine MSP**  
**South of Scotland Region**

Gavin Stevenson  
Chief Executive  
Dumfries and Galloway Council  
Council Offices  
English Street  
DUMFRIES  
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Our ref: JM/RC

30 August 2016

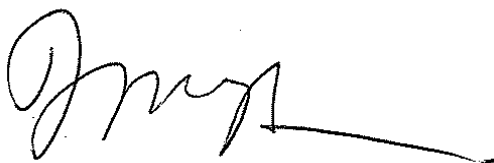
Dear Gavin,

I was very encouraged by last week's Transport Summit. Clearly there is a great deal of good will towards Dumfries and Galloway from the Scottish Government and it is significant that this was the first Summit of its kind. Given that the Scottish Government has already committed to improving links between Dumfries and the M74 and further improvements to the A75 as part of the SNP's 2016 Manifesto, as well as the fact that the National Transport Strategy is being refreshed, I think we need to take advantage of this head start and ensure that there are shovel ready projects in the pipeline. I would be grateful if you could let me know what work this Council and SWestrans are undertaking in this regard.

I am also keen to find out if there is any work planned in relation to developing projects that will ensure Dumfries has faster train links to the central belt.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



**Joan McAlpine**  
**MSP for South of Scotland**

cc. Alistair Speedie, Director of Economy, Environment Infrastructure.  
Douglas Kirkpatrick, Lead Officer, SWestrans