

Response ID ANON-S26Z-NYX6-A

Submitted to **Consultation on the M8 and M9 Trunk Roads (Newbridge to Hermiston Gait) (Actively Managed Hard Shoulder and Speed Limit) Regulations**

Submitted on **2021-01-13 15:14:21**

Questions

1 We welcome comments on the proposal to make the Regulations, and in particular comments in relation to the bus lane provisions contained within. Any specific reference to operational or safety considerations by consultees in support of their comments would also be welcomed

Please explain your answer:

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in Transport Scotland's consultation on the M8 and M9 trunk roads (Newbridge to Hermiston Gait) (actively managed hard shoulder and speed limit) Regulations 2021. Please note this is an officer response to the consultation.

It is noted that the AMHS initiative is linked to the autonomous bus demonstration Project CAV Forth and it is noted that this is initially focussed along a 14-mile route across the Forth Road Bridge between Fife and Edinburgh.

Although the AMHS are only being introduced over relatively short lengths of the M8 and M9 they will have benefits for bus operators entering West Edinburgh from the Central Belt motorway network. The measures are welcomed in terms of them providing and improving bus priority infrastructure which will help tackle the impacts of congestion on bus services whilst supporting and encouraging future bus usage following a return to more normal travel patterns after the current COVID 19 pandemic.

This as a positive initiative to promote bus travel and one which it is hoped can be extended quickly to other sections of the Central Belt motorway network and is supported by SEStran.

SEStran has seen the West Lothian Council response to the consultation and fully support their suggestions to extend the AMHS proposals to the west on the Central Belt M8 and M9 motorway network, including the extension of the proposals on the M8 out of the City; particularly between Hermiston Gait and Newbridge.

There are major development areas in West Lothian with local development plan requirements in place to provide substantial bus-based park and ride facilities adjacent to the motorway network at Winchburgh and Linlithgow on the M9 and at Heartlands and Livingston on the M8.

Early introduction of AMHS on further sections of the Central Motorway network would support the delivery of new development in a way that forms part of a sustainable transport future and making bus services greener and more punctual and reliable in support of the aims of NTS 2. Early delivery would provide positive support for public transport, which will be critical in the recovery of bus based public transport usage in an uncertain future.

About you

What is your name?

Name:

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What is your email address?

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Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

Organisation

What is your organisation?

Organisation:

South East of Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran)

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

Publish response only (without name)

We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Yes

I confirm that I have read the privacy policy and consent to the data I provide being used as set out in the policy.

I consent

Evaluation

Please help us improve our consultations by answering the questions below. (Responses to the evaluation will not be published.)

Matrix 1 - How satisfied were you with this consultation?:

Very satisfied

Please enter comments here.:

Matrix 1 - How would you rate your satisfaction with using this platform (Citizen Space) to respond to this consultation?:

Very satisfied

Please enter comments here.: