



David Stewart

Regional MSP for the Highlands and Islands

news release

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Inverness congestion to go on without the 'missing link'

Calls from Highlands and Islands MSP David Stewart for Government intervention in funding the 'missing link' trunk road for Inverness went unheeded today.

Mr Stewart, during Questions in Parliament, called on the Transport Minister Stewart Stevenson to give the area a Christmas boost and finance the crucial link between the A82 and the A9.

"Mr Stevenson does not seem to grasp the economic importance to the development of the city of Inverness of this link.

"He has stated in the review that it represents 'poor value for money'.

"The Council has stated quite clearly that they will not be able to fund this route themselves and are concerned there may now be no action until 2020.

"Everyone travelling around the Highland capital knows that the only way to allow expansion in the city is to relieve congestion.

"While I welcome his words of commitment to dual the A96 from Nairn to Inverness, the problems in the City will only grow, unless a safe route is created from the A82 to the A9.

"The minister has said that he will continue to talk with the Council and Hitrans to look at what should be done as any economic case develops.

"I would hope this will include key issues involving the long promised Elgin bypass, the A9 north of Inverness and the Inverness Trunk link road."

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