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Fraser Maxwell Scott Wilson Ltd



Scottish Badgers Working together with Scottish Natural Heritage To protect Scotland's Badgers



## <u>A96 Threapland Junction Improvements</u> <u>Consultation with Non Statutory Organisations.</u>

Dear Fraser

Thank you for consulting Scottish Badgers regarding the above subject. As you are aware there are badgers throughout the area. We are aware that you have previously carried out surveys for badgers at this location and as such we would have nothing to add to your existing knowledge relating to setts. We would however recommend that before any construction or preparation for construction takes place a further badger survey be carried out to ascertain whether badgers are present or absent from the target area mentioned in your letter, that the status of any setts is brought up to date. We would recommend that any such survey be extended to cover at least 1 km from the proposed road line and that it be undertaken by a suitably qualified person at an appropriate time of the year. The purpose of the survey would be to identify setts/signs and to assess the impact that might occur during construction and operation should the project proceed.

Scottish badger holds an extensive database of road traffic accidents (there have been a number in this area) and sett records which <u>may</u> contain data relevant to this site and could be supplied in due course should this project proceed. We would also recommend contact with other biological recording sources as we do not hold all the records for badgers in Scotland.

You may also wish to contact Mr Mike Harris of Grampian Badger Surveys who may have additional information relating to this site. You can contact Mike by telephone on 01771 653340 or email at <u>Harrisbadgergbs@aol.com</u>

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further advice or assistance.

BY Email