

Press Release

Date: 15 December 2011

A83 Rest and Be Thankful – The Way Ahead

The A83 trunk road at the Rest and be Thankful has been fully open since 14 December 2011.

The safety of the public is paramount and to ensure their protection continues the failure area of the hillside will be continually observed by professionally qualified spotters. This will be supplemented by a Traffic Management team, on either side of the suspect area, who will react immediately to any real concerns about hillside stability and close the road. This arrangement, which will remain in place until mid-January, 2012, will continue during the hours of darkness as the road will remain open under tower lights. The Wig Wag signs will also remain 'on' during this period to advise the public of the increased risk.

Further protection measures are programmed to be in place in the coming weeks

- Tiltmeters, fitted with warning lights, will be positioned within the risk areas which will aid visual inspection during darkness
- Regular visual inspections of the slope
- Tiltmeters and Piezometers which can be monitored remotely will be positioned in the new risk area
- Quarterly monitoring/condition reporting of the whole hillside will continue
- The reviewing/costing of the provision of debris fencing below both failure areas

While these mitigation measures are being installed/assessed road closures may be required when the risk is perceived to be unacceptable. We are continuing to work with the Met Office to ensure current trigger points for closure are appropriate.