



Media Release

Deliver Better Roads, Scottish Transport Boss Asks

Radical action is needed to properly upgrade and maintain Scotland's road infrastructure, a leading name in the country's delivery and courier network has warned.

Director of Eagle Couriers, Scotland's biggest independent courier, Jerry Stewart has asked urged new Transport Minister, Humza Yousaf, to take inspiration from his predecessor's focus on modernising the rail network and apply it to the nation's battered roads.

Calling for the government to address the proliferation of potholes on Scottish roads and make ample provision to councils so that they can take action before wintery weather furthers the problem.

Addressing Mr Yousaf in an open letter Jerry said: "We made no secret of our disappointment with the Government's handling of the severe weather situation early last year in our plea to Mr [Derek] Mackay to address these issues before the country pays the price once more.

"This time round we are asking for action tackling the state of the roads in the capital and beyond all year round."

This appeal for action has come on the back of Edinburgh Council's creation of a dedicated "Pothole Squad" tasked with improving the state of Edinburgh's busiest roads.

Jerry went on to praise this idea but called for further action: "While this is undoubtedly a start, more action is needed to prevent some of the countries arterial roads deteriorating further than their currently embarrassing state."

The Eagle Couriers boss drew attention to the financial costs of potholes damaging cars and requiring Councils to cough up for repairs to commuter and business vehicles.

Pinpointing that the need for proper funding would be key in maintaining and upgrading the infrastructure Jerry added: It is imperative that the Government supports Edinburgh Council's decision to create this task-force and that councils all over the country are afforded sufficient budgets."

Mr Yousaf has taken up the role of Minister for Transport and the Islands as his first position in the cabinet having previously been Minister for Europe and International Development, a junior position.

Moving on to a third cabinet position as Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution, Derek Mackay held the position of Transport Minister for 18 months before the most recent reshuffle.

Eagle Couriers has grown in their 31 year history to become Scotland's largest independent courier. Founded in 1985, the firm is now headquartered in Bathgate with key operating centres in Edinburgh and Glasgow.

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Eagle Couriers has a 3500-strong client base including the BBC and public sector organisations and sole traders. As business-to-business experts, Eagle Couriers help other firms operate more efficiently and profitably by safely delivering on time everything from documents, medical samples and engine parts to sports footage, scripts and TV props.