

## **Elgin Road Hierarchy – designation of Primary Distributor & District Distributor Roads**

The Moray Local Plan (MLP2008) sets out an 'Action Plan' that includes an action under Transport and Accessibility to produce a Roads Hierarchy for Elgin and Moray to identify a strategic approach to development capacity. The Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee approved the Elgin Road Hierarchy on 20 April 2010.

### **Background**

The aim of a road hierarchy is to enable safe and convenient movement of people and goods and reduce overall impact of traffic. This is done in part by concentrating longer distance traffic movements and medium distance traffic on to appropriate routes.

The identification of Primary Distributor and District Distributor roads provides a framework for development management and traffic management.

A well formed road hierarchy will reduce overall impact of traffic by:-

- concentrating longer distance flow onto appropriate routes;
- ensuring land uses and activities that are incompatible with traffic flow are restricted from routes where traffic movement should predominate;
- preserving areas where through traffic is discouraged;
- ensuring activities most closely related to frontage development, including social interaction and parking, can be given more space within zones where environmental and access functions should predominate

The principles of road hierarchy systems are identified in several key publications:

- Road Guidelines for New Developments
- Well Maintained Highways Code of Practice

The road hierarchy classification in the Road Guidelines document establishes the principle of access, designated design speed and the spacing and nature of junctions. The classification system in the Road Maintenance Management document has regard to traffic flows but also the basis of risk assessment and the functionality of the particular section of carriageway in the network. These classification systems are not dissimilar in that they recognise the function of the link as part of the overall transport network.

All roads in Moray have been allocated Road Maintenance Management classifications. The Roads Maintenance Management classifications for roads in Elgin have been reviewed with particular interest in identifying and reviewing the two highest classification sets of routes in Elgin. These classifications are:

- **Strategic Routes (Primary Distributor)**
- **Main Distributor (District Distributor)**

**Primary Distributor Roads**: act as links between main towns and also link rural areas to the wider road network. The main function of these roads is to serve the efficient movement of vehicular traffic including freight distribution. Long distance traffic movements to and from towns should be channelled onto these roads. It is normal to

have facilities provided to assist pedestrians to cross such as puffins, toucans, refuges, school crossing patrols and grade separated crossings. These roads allow for the frequent passage of public transport but with limited stopping points. Laybys are usually provided to maintain traffic flows.

The Primary Distributor Roads in Elgin are:

Road - A96(T)	Road - A941
Alexandra Road	Bishopmill Brae
East Road	Cumming Street
High Street (Part) *	Hay Street
South College Street (Part) **	Lossiemouth Road
West Road	Main Street
	New Elgin Road
	North Street
	Northfield Terrace
	Station Road

\* Excludes C39E High Street (one way section to east of A941 Roundabout)

\*\* Excludes C39E South College Street (to west of Greyfriars Street Roundabout)

Note: Transport Scotland manages the Trunk Roads for The Scottish Government.

**District Distributor Roads:** provide for traffic movements within the residential, industrial and principal business districts of the town. They form the link between the primary network and the roads within specific land use areas. They carry medium distance traffic to the primary network, public transport services and all types of traffic between different parts of the urban area including the residential, industrial, commercial and business districts of the town and between different parts of the rural area.

The District Distributor Roads in Elgin are listed below: These links are all currently designated in the Roads Maintenance Management hierarchy as category 2 Main Distributor and provide the connection between inter-strategic routes.

Ashgrove Road (U171E)	Pansport Road (C22E)
Birnie Road (C2E)	Reiket Lane (C40E)
Edgar Road (Part) (U171E) ****	Sandy Road (U171E)
Glen Moray Drive (U171E)	South Street (Part) (C30E) ***
Lesmurdie Road (C22E)	Springfield Road (Part) U171E) *****
Linkwood Road (C20E)	The Wards (U171E)
Maisondieu Road (C22E)	Thornhill Road (C40E)
Morrison Road (B9012)	Wards Road (C22E)
Morrison Road (U171E)	Wittet Drive (C22E)
Newmill Road (C22E)	

\*\*\* C30E South Street (from A941 roundabout to A96 roundabout)

\*\*\*\* U171E Edgar Road (east of Glen Moray Drive junction)

\*\*\*\*\* U171E Springfield Road (from Sandy Road junction to Glen Moray Drive junction)

A plan showing the Elgin primary Distributor and District Distributor Roads is available.