

The AWPR/B-T Project



North Kingswells Junction Underbridge

The AWPR/B-T project is the longest roads construction project currently underway in the UK. It will significantly improve travel in and around Aberdeen and the North East of Scotland.

It consists of four sections:

- Balmedie to Tipperty: 12km from Blackdog to Tipperty.
- Northern Leg: 16.1km from North Kingswells to Blackdog.
- Southern Leg: 18.7km from Charleston to North Kingswells.
- Fastlink: 11.5km from Stonehaven to Cleanhill.

The new roads will bring substantial benefits to the whole of the North East of Scotland by reducing congestion, improving journey times, lowering pollution in Aberdeen city centre, boosting the economy, improving road safety and enhancing public transport.

The AWPR/B-T is expected to be open to traffic in Winter 2017 with the Craibstone and Dyce junctions scheduled to open by Autumn 2016 and the Balmedie to Tipperty section by Spring 2017.

When complete, the new road is expected to carry more than 43,000 vehicles each day through its busiest sections.

SUSTAINABILITY IN CONSTRUCTION



Gregory Smolko, Graduate Site Engineer, based at Milltimber

Sustainability in the construction industry is a vast and complex responsibility that must be considered from the earliest stages of all projects. On the AWPR/B-T project, our priority is to plan ahead to meet the highest standard of social, environmental and economic needs.

Our approach to ensuring a sustainable project includes:

- **Effective management of materials**
By implementing a Material Management Plan, up to 100% of excavated material will be reused on site. Storage and location of materials has been designed to avoid environmental risks and minimise transportation movements on site.
- **Effective waste management and minimisation**
By following a Site Waste Management Plan, 63% of waste has already been recycled. We are also now working with a waste services provider which transfers any waste that can't be recycled to a refuse derived fuel facility, which means there is no waste being diverted to landfill.
- **Responsible sourcing of materials**
The project plans set out key guidance in relation to purchasing materials. For example, all timber based products are purchased from sustainably managed forests and all other materials are responsibly sourced. To reduce energy usage and material waste, the main elements of construction, such as precast beams, are prefabricated off-site.
- **Community**
We are always looking for opportunities to support the local community. Many of our employees take part in charity events throughout the area, and we support charitable organisations such as Aberdeen Cyrenians.
- **Communication**
Our experienced and dedicated Community Liaison Team aims to keep the local community informed of key construction activities. Information about the project can also be obtained by calling the 24-hour enquiries line (0800 058 8350) and/or visiting the Contact and Education Space at the Stonehaven project office.

Road safety warning for North East drivers

Police Scotland remind road users to adhere to speed restrictions



Police Scotland and Aberdeen Roads Limited are reminding drivers to obey the various traffic restrictions and speed limits in place along the project's 58km route.

In order to ensure the safety of all road users, and help protect the workers within the site, there are a number of temporary speed restrictions and prohibitions on driving.

Officers from both the North East Divisional Road Policing Unit and the Trunk Road Patrol Group have given regular attention to the area and carried out a number of speed checks, particularly near site exits and entrances.

Malcolm Findlay, General Manager, Aberdeen Roads Limited, said: "Every day our operatives and sub-contractors are working on the construction of the AWPR/B-T project and, as part of these works, the existing road network. We need road users to respect the temporary speed limits and traffic signals in place, for their own safety as well as that of our workforce."

"Whilst we appreciate it can sometimes be frustrating when there appears to be no obvious works in the immediate vicinity of some of the restrictions, they have been put in place as a safety measure."

Inspector Jon Barron of the Divisional Road Policing Unit said: "I would urge motorists to show patience and consideration for those working in close proximity to the road. Those carrying out the works are extremely vulnerable. Given the size and scale of the entire operation as it continues into the coming weeks and months, it is vital that everyone plays their part."

Environment Matters



We take environmental issues seriously and have a dedicated environmental team comprising an Environmental Advisor and an Environmental Engineer for each of the sections covering the North (River Don to Tipperty), Central (River Don to River Dee) and South (River Dee to Stonehaven and the Southern Leg to Charleston).

The environmental team works with the construction teams every day to monitor and maintain environmental construction management across all phases of the works. We have implemented an internal environmental campaign across the project highlighting the 'Golden Rules' for environmental management:

- surface water from the site should not go directly into watercourses
- waste may only be given to licensed operators
- animals and certain plants should not be disturbed or harmed
- noise, dust, vibration and mud on the road should be kept to a minimum.

Contact Us

Should you wish to know more about the project please visit our project website at www.transport.gov.scot/awpr-bt, where you can sign up for the Ezine, Route Ahead, as well as project-related alerts. Alternatively, call us on 0800 058 8350 or email enquiries@aberdeenroads.com.



Message from Aberdeen Roads Limited



Malcolm Findlay,
General Manager,
Aberdeen Roads Limited

One of the key objectives of the AWPR/B-T project is to improve road safety over a wide area, through traffic reduction on the local road network.

As we move further into spring, you will see increased construction activity at what will become the major junctions along the route. The works at some of these locations may involve working near to or on the existing public road network.

To complete this work, a number of roads around the North East will be subject to temporary speed restrictions and traffic lights. These restrictions are in place for the safety of motorists and pedestrians, as well as our workforce within the site.

Please bear in mind that the safety of all concerned is not only dependent on us, but also upon the responsible driving of road users. We, therefore, politely ask you to observe traffic restrictions at all times.

We are doing everything possible to ensure this project is constructed as safely as possible and are committed to providing an environment where we can all expect to go home at the end of the day safe and uninjured. Safety is at the heart of everything we do.

We would like to thank you for your ongoing co-operation and support.



CHARLESTON JUNCTION

Works at A90 Charleston/A956 Wellington Road Junction

Works are now underway on a significant part of the new AWPR – the new Charleston Junction.

Charleston Junction, along with Stonehaven Junction, provides access to the AWPR from the A90 south of Aberdeen. It also links the AWPR to the important Altens residential and employment areas. The substantial works required to build this junction will include the construction of a new bridge over the A90 and demolition of the existing bridge, the construction of the realigned A956 and A90 slip roads, and the creation of new signalised junctions. In order to ensure the smooth operation of this junction, the A90 between Charleston Junction and Findon Junction will be widened to three lanes.

There will be three key phases to the works in this area:

- Phase 1** Utility diversions and initial construction works to widen the A90 and construct new slip roads at Charleston Junction and the realigned A956. There will be some blasting required at this location to remove hard rock around the new junction.
- Phase 2** Construction of the new bridge which will eventually carry the AWPR over the existing A90.
- Phase 3** Demolition of the existing bridge at Charleston, completion and tie in of the new slip roads, installation of the signalised junction and landscaping of the new junction.

Adjacent to these major works, construction of the new Lochton to Schoolhill link road is well underway.

The new junction is scheduled to open to traffic in Winter 2017.

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- Sustainability and Environmental Matters
- Community Liaison and Engagement
- Progress Overview
- Road Safety Message



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The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

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WORKS AT A90 CHARLESTON/A956 WELLINGTON ROAD JUNCTION



We are working, alongside Transport Scotland, the local authorities and Police Scotland, to reduce the impact on motorists during the construction of this important junction. In order to achieve this, we will be operating with periodic overnight (from 8pm to 6am) and weekend works (Friday 8pm to Monday 6am). This is also the safest option for the workforce and will allow the works to be completed with the least impact on road users on the A90 and A956.

Further details and information on the traffic management measures to be implemented over the period January 2016 to Winter 2017 are provided in the Charleston Junction flyer which can be found at the project website: www.transport.gov.scot/awpr-bt.

Any questions about this, or any other part of the project, can be raised by calling the project enquiries line on **0800 058 8350** or emailing enquiries@aberdeenroads.com.

PROGRESS OVERVIEW



Piling works at the River Dee crossing

Works to construct two new bridges over the new A944 South Kingswells Junction roundabout are now well underway. To keep inconvenience to road users to a minimum, as much of the roundabout as possible will be constructed away from the existing road. In summer 2016, the temporary bridge over the A944 will be removed to allow final utility works and surfacing to be completed. By autumn 2016, traffic will be diverted onto the new junction. The bridge supports will then be backfilled to allow the AWPR to cross over the A944.

Three structures are also being constructed to carry the new A947 across the AWPR, north of the River Don. Earthworks on this stretch of the project are scheduled to begin during summer 2016 and will include the movement of 146,000m³ of fill (which is the equivalent of filling 390, 25m swimming pools) and 80,000m³ of landscaping fill. This new section of the A947 will be 1,450m long and will cross the Mill Lade, Goyal Burn, the Formartine and Buchan Way and the Northern Leg of the AWPR. Once these works are completed, traffic will be diverted on to this new alignment allowing construction to continue on the carriageway below.

Other works include:

- Piling works at River Dee Bridge
- Progressing Balmedie, Blackdog and Goyal junctions, including adjoining side roads
- Start of works to create supports (bridge piers and abutments) for:
 - River Dee Bridge
 - Milltimber Brae Bridge
 - A93 Bridge
 - Milltimber Junction Bridge
 - Contlaw Road Bridge
 - River Don Bridge
- Temporary diversion of Contlaw Road
- Stonehaven Junction works including:
 - Utility diversions
 - Carriageway construction
 - Enabling works for bridge demolition/reconstruction
 - Installation of a temporary bridge over the B979

Educational Engagement Opportunities



4th Year Harlaw Academy Students with Kirstie Golightly, Community Liaison Officer AWPR

The Community Liaison Team launched its Educational Engagement Programme in December 2015. It aims to highlight the opportunities that the AWPR/B-T project can offer to pupils, while still at school, and for school leavers in secondary schools in the North East.

Twelve of the 29 secondary schools in the region have received a presentation intended to raise awareness of the project and the construction industry at large. To date, we have engaged with 3,587 pupils informing them of work experience placements that they can undertake as part of their national curriculum.

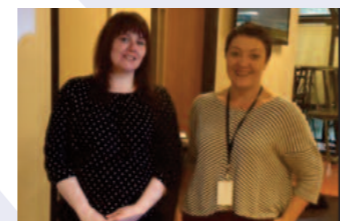
All the schools visited so far have been positive about the presentation and Janice Duncan, Deputy Head from St Machar Academy, Aberdeen, said: "Just to say a huge thank you to Kirstie and Duncan from the Community Liaison Team for coming in to school today to speak with our senior pupils. It's such a fantastic opportunity that you are offering our young people and I am sure that a considerable number will apply. I look forward to liaising with you in the New Year and furthering our working relationship".

Passionate and committed to offering apprenticeships, taster sessions and opportunities for young people, we are working with local schools to help develop confidence, motivation and personal development for each pupil in advance of their transition into the world of work.

A number of pupils have already submitted applications for apprenticeships, with others noting their interest in undertaking work experience on the project.

Throughout the project, we will continue with our programme of school engagement and the Community Liaison Team would be delighted to schedule presentations around school timetables.

Anyone looking for further information on, or wishing to take part in the Educational Engagement Programme, should email enquiries@aberdeenroads.com.



Emma Jane Whitehead, Guidance Teacher Mintlaw Academy and Kirstie Golightly, Community Liaison Officer AWPR



Northfield pupils with Neil Hendry, Head Teacher Northfield Academy (right) and Steve Petrie, Sustainability Director, AWPR CJV (left)

Apprentice Profile

Thomas Smith and Liam Davidson are two apprentices who have a longer association with the project than some may think.

During the summer of 2013, Liam was successful in securing a place on the Balfour Beatty Scholarship Programme. In 2014, Thomas secured the same prestigious place. During the four weeks on this scholarship, Thomas and Liam spent time learning about civil engineering and construction. The programme, which is run every year in conjunction with Aberdeen City Council, is designed to give pupils an in-depth understanding of the diverse choice of careers available to young people in construction.

Thomas and Liam spent time on site at a building project and at the Third Don Crossing, a project funded by Aberdeen City Council. During this time, both Thomas and Liam showed a real ability in the competencies and attitude needed to make a good civil engineer.

As part of their own development, the teachers at Northfield Academy encouraged them to apply for an apprenticeship on the AWPR/B-T project.

In 2015, Thomas, Liam and several other pupils secured an SVQ apprenticeship as part of Aberdeen Roads Limited's first apprenticeship intake.

Liam commented: "I always wanted to be an engineer as my father and grandfather were both in the profession. The scholarship and Aberdeen Roads Limited has allowed me to follow in my family's footsteps and being involved in the AWPR/B-T project is giving me very good experience in civil engineering."

Throughout the project, we will be continuing to help young people from schools across the North East to consider a career in construction. Interested parties should contact the AWPR CJV on enquires@aberdeenroads.com for further details.

AWPR/B-T OPEN DAYS



The AWPR/B-T Community Liaison Team

Aberdeen Roads Limited held a series of successful open days earlier this year to provide the local community, businesses and road users with an opportunity to ask questions about the construction of the AWPR/B-T project.

Over 800 people attended the open days, which took place in 10 locations across the North East.

Various large scale design drawings, which showed the major roadwork junctions being constructed along the route, were on display and a full copy of the Environmental Statement for the project was available for the visitors to read. Multimedia displays included the Virtual Reality Model flyover video, which gives an impression of what the new road will look like, and aerial photography showing construction progress. Information leaflets such as traffic management flyers were also available to take away.

Representatives from across the AWPR/B-T project attended the open days, including members from the Community Liaison team, Section Engineers, Aberdeen Roads Limited, the Managing Agent and Transport Scotland, enabling comprehensive answers to be provided to visitor enquiries, where possible. Visitors included people from the local community, MSPs, Councillors, Community Councillors and the media.

Contact and Education Space (CES)

The project's CES is based at the main Project Office at Mains of Ury and is open six days a week, Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm and Saturday 10am to 4pm.

The CES provides an opportunity for people to come in, see the information available and ask any questions they have with the people leading on the delivery of this critical infrastructure project.

As well as the resources outlined above (made available at the recent Open Days), the CES also has on display two models of the cantilever bridges that will be constructed over the River Dee and River Don.

If you would like to arrange for a group visit to the project Contact and Education Space or would like more information, please email us at enquiries@aberdeenroads.com or telephone us on 0800 058 8350.

Working with the Community

Since construction works began, the Community Liaison Team (CLT) has been working hard to keep the local community informed of construction progress and to answer any questions they may have.

The team also acts as a liaison between the local community and the construction teams to address concerns, where possible.

The five strong team managed nearly 1,400 items of correspondence during 2015.

So far, over 86% of these enquiries have subsequently been closed following the good work of the team.

In addition, the team participated in 16 presentations to elected representatives, community councils and businesses, which have by and large been well-received.

Charity is very important to the AWPR/B-T project and the CLT has been integral in leading our charity programme. Last year alone, members of the project team participated in many charity events, raising £4,173 and committing 144 volunteer hours.