

Constructionarium students take learning to new heights

Engineering students from Glasgow Kelvin College got the chance to hone their skills with a hands-on field trip on the M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project this summer.

Scottish Roads Partnership invited 19 students to attend the week long Constructionarium programme.

Participants are tasked with putting academic theory into practice, working with contractors and consultants on a live project to build scaled down versions of iconic bridges, buildings, dams and civil engineering projects from around the world.

Students recreate iconic structures

The Glasgow Kelvin students, led by construction contractors Ferrovial Lagan Joint Venture (FLJV) senior staff and graduate engineers, chose to recreate their own versions of the celebrated Barcelona Telecommunications Tower and the Kingsgate Footbridge in Durham, England.

Commenting after the successful week, Constructionarium Director Dale Lyon, said: "FLJV set a high standard of professionalism which is echoed in the student feedback.

"The overall management of the week was made all the more enjoyable by the way in which FLJV engaged with the programme and brought the reality of a live construction project to the Constructionarium programme.

"The site engineers and skilled workmen all complemented each other while creating a unique learning environment for the students. Getting the students to participate in organising the site safety audit further enhanced the experience."

Darren Fitzpatrick, utilities manager for Ferrovial Lagan JV, acted as project manager for the students.



The Students' mini Kingsgate Footbridge

He said: "This field trip provides vital experience, enabling students to appreciate real life construction projects while also giving us an insight into the engineering talent of the future."

Summer Placement Positions Offered

FLJV were so impressed with the way the students tackled the challenges of the project, three students were offered summer placement positions to allow them to further develop their skills.

Student Victoria Campbell, 21, studying an HND in civil engineering at Glasgow Kelvin College, was thrilled to be offered a two month placement.

Victoria joined the construction team at Raith Junction where she added invaluable work experience to her CV.

She said: "Both Constructionarium and my placement on the project have been instrumental in allowing me to gain a better understanding of what is required in an engineering role."

Good Neighbour Fund

CHILDREN across North Lanarkshire can learn from the great outdoors thanks to a £1,000 cash award to the Muddy Adventures Community Group from the M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Scheme's Good Neighbour Fund.

The activity group, which currently runs outdoor forest school sessions for 60 youngsters in Strathclyde Park, was chosen to receive the £1,000 Summer Bonus.

It comes as Scottish Roads Partnership, Ferrovial Lagan Joint Venture and Amey, the team delivering the £500 million project to upgrade Central Scotland's motorway network, announce the launch of a new £1,000 Christmas Bonus.

Muddy Adventures, a non-profit community group based in Motherwell, hopes to be able to double their current numbers, plus buy vital equipment including childproof cameras and art supplies. Spokeswoman Malissa Bell said: "This is fantastic news. This money will go far and the children will love it."

SRP made a further £500 award to 3rd Blantyre Scout Group to purchase two outdoor shelters to help with their conservation project activities in Redless Urban Fringe Park.

A total of £15,000 has been set aside to offer payments of up to £500 to local groups and organisations through the

Good Neighbour Fund, with recent recipients including: the Celtic Boys 2002 Youth Football Team in North Lanarkshire and the Community Learning & Development Partnership Friday Night Project in Coatbridge.

Gabriel Valtueña-Ramos, General Manager for SRP, said: "The

Good Neighbour Fund was set up to help build relationships with those communities affected by the M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project. We are delighted these grants will leave a positive legacy long after the project is completed."

The Good Neighbour Fund £1,000 Christmas Bonus is now open for applications, offering community groups within close proximity to the project the opportunity to double the £500 grant available under the initiative.

Applicants must meet one of the following criteria: provide education and skills development; support a community initiative, group or charitable organisation; or benefit the local environment. Each application will be assessed by the Good Neighbour Fund panel.

Applications for the Good Neighbour Fund £1,000 Christmas Bonus must be received no later than 30 November, 2016. Applications received after that date will still be considered for grants of up to £500.



Muddy Adventures will be able to double their numbers thanks to £1,000 grant from the Project

Contact the SRP team:

Scottish Roads Partnership
Hermiston House, Unit B,
M8 Central Business Park
Greenside Road, Newhouse
Motherwell, ML1 5FL



Tel: 0800 042 0188
Email: info@scotroadspartnership.co.uk

Stay informed:

Websites

www.transport.gov.scot/m8m73m74
www.trafficscotland.org

Twitter

@transportscotland
@trafficscotland

Project update

Issue 8



Final Bridge Demolition To Close M74



Bothwellpark Road Bridge demolition set to close M74 Junction 4 to 5 from 18 - 21 November. Full story on Page 3.

Construction Progress



Page 2

Humza Yousaf



Page 4

Scottish Roads Partnership

Scottish Roads Partnership

ferrovial
agroman Lagan



Construction Progress

The M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project is set to celebrate some major milestones in the coming months as the £500m project heads towards completion in spring 2017.

Works at Swinton, Daldowie, Shawhead Junction and the challenging Raith Junction are all nearing completion, as the project enters its final phase.

Jose Maria Bartolome, manager for Swinton, Daldowie, M73 & M74, described the progress being made in his section. This includes the completion of works at Swinton to improve links from the A8 and A89 at Baillieston to the motorway network.

He said: "The good news is that the works at Swinton will be finished by Christmas, with only traffic signals to be installed.

"The installation of the gantries on the M74 and M73 is progressing well. This is a very challenging area of work for us due to the complex traffic management involved, but we are pleased with how it is going."

The excavation of the new underpass at Raith is almost complete, which will create a free flow link between the A725 Bellshill Bypass and the East Kilbride Expressway,

Raith Manager, Julio Sancho said: "We are reaching all of our targets for the underpass and it is progressing well.

"The next big milestone we will achieve is to complete all of the anchors, which stops the underpass rising with the water levels from the Clyde nearby.

"The public will begin to notice a difference in the traffic due to all the traffic lights now being in their permanent location and when the underpass opens the improvement, in terms of traffic congestion, will be considerable.

"The greatest achievement for us in the last few months has been the progress of the underpass, and that the whole of the Raith roundabout is now in its final layout.

"I am looking forward to completing the excavation of the underpass, which we hope to do by November. It was a great moment for me, personally, during the excavation when I was able to see daylight all the way through for the first time."



Progress at Shawhead Junction

Raith footbridges take shape

The most prominent landmarks at Raith will be the iconic footbridges, which will allow pedestrians and cyclists access from Bothwell and Hamilton areas directly to Strathclyde Park. The first footbridge is partially installed and will be completed in November. The second, near to the entrance to Strathclyde Park, was installed at the end of October.

Julio added: "Hand rails and paving have to be installed to make it safe for use by pedestrians and cyclists. The footbridges and footpaths will be open to the public when the Raith Junction is completed next year.

"The most challenging aspect of upgrading the junction has been having to manage the traffic levels and keep all roads operational during the works."

North Road bridges to open

Milestones are being reached in other areas of the project too - including Shawhead Junction, where bridge widening works are ongoing. A major milestone was the opening of the new M8 westbound link to the southbound A725 in October, and the opening of the North Road link and two bridges over the new M8, reconnecting Bellshill to Coatbridge, at the end of November.

Dario Saavedra, Section manager for this area of works said: "In the past few months we have completed the vast majority of works.

"All the structures in and around the Shawhead Junction, apart from the footbridges, are complete, including the North Calder Bridge - the largest bridge on the whole project.

"The traffic at Shawhead will be in its final alignment before the end of the year.

"The new section of A8 all-purpose road connecting the existing A8 with the A89 at the new Bargeddie roundabout should also be completed in the coming months. Finishing works are currently ongoing."



Swinton nears completion

Old Bothwellpark Road Bridge Demolition Closes M74

The final structure demolition as part of the £500m M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project will be undertaken in November.

The complex operation to remove the old Bothwellpark Road Bridge will require the complete closure of the M74 in both directions between J4, Maryville, and J5, Raith, from 8pm Friday 18 November to 6am Monday 21 November.

In addition Bothwell Services will also be closed for the weekend.

Major delays are expected on the diversion routes and road users are advised to AVOID the area and the surrounding roads where possible or use an alternative mode of transport.

The works are required to mechanically demolish the bridge over the M74 motorway near J5, Raith.

The existing 11m high, three span road bridge is taller than a normal motorway bridge making the demolition a challenge. It does not have a central pier, which means the bridge cannot be removed in two halves to allow the M74 to remain open with a contraflow in operation.

Jose Maria Bartolome, manager for this section of the works, explained the process, saying: "The bridge will be taken down mechanically. Firstly, two special platforms 5m high each side of the bridge will be built, plus a 2m high platform in the centre to protect the road.

"Two Komatsu high reach machines, normally used for the demolition of tall buildings, will be used to 'peck' the central span of the bridge down in small pieces.

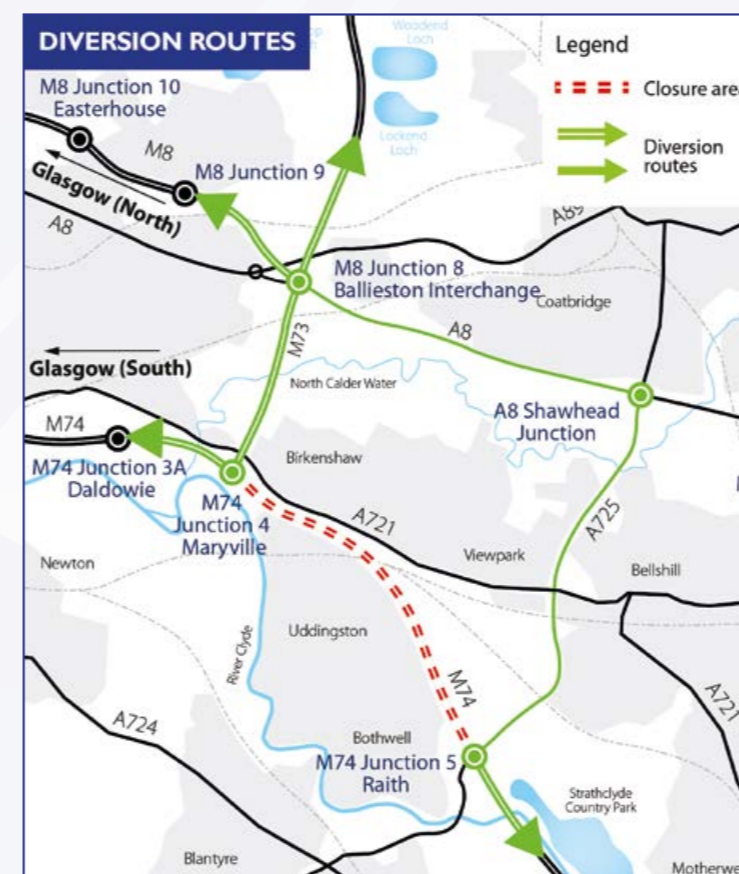
"Once this is completed, eight smaller excavators will begin the demolition of the outer spans down to the level of the platforms.

"Once the demolition is completed and the material removed from site, the M74 will be reopened.

"It is one of the biggest challenges we have faced on the job, because we have never completely closed the M74 before. But after much consideration it was agreed by all the stakeholders that this was the best method.



The bridge prior to November demolition



- Diversion Routes**
1. M74 N/B - VIA A725 N/B, A8 W/B AND M73 S/B
 2. M74 S/B - VIA M73 N/B, A8 E/B AND A725 S/B
 3. M73 S/B TRAVELLING TO M74 S/B - VIA A8 E/B AND A725 S/B
 4. M8 E/B TRAVELLING TO M74 S/B - VIA A8 E/B AND A725 S/B
 5. DRIVERS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE M74 S/B AT J5 RAITH
 6. DRIVERS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE M74 N/B AT J4 MARYVILL AND J3A, DALDOWIE

"Once this bridge has been taken down safely it will be another step closer to the works being completed on the M74."

As part of the M74 upgrade, a new replacement bridge, which stands to the south of the existing bridge, has already been constructed and will be in operation before the demolition.

The weekend closure of the M74 will result in significant disruption to north and southbound traffic on the M74 on approach to the closure, as well as on the surrounding local roads.

As a result of this South Lanarkshire Council has promoted a temporary 'No Waiting Restriction' on a small section of Main Street, Bothwell, for the duration of the works. Parking will NOT be permitted where the appropriate signs are displayed.

Traffic flows are expected to be significantly higher than normal as road users seek alternative routes to the M74 other than the designated diversion routes.

For the latest information, please visit the Transport Scotland website: www.transport.gov.scot/m74closure

For live traffic updates, please visit the Traffic Scotland website at: www.trafficscotland.org

Transport Minister Visits Project As M8 'Missing Link' Revealed



Transport Minister Humza Yousaf meets project construction team

MINISTER for Transport and the Islands Humza Yousaf paid a visit to see the progress of the M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project as a spectacular aerial video showing the new M8 'missing link' was unveiled in August.

The exclusive drone footage revealed for the first time the advanced progress of a 5km section of the new M8 which will run between Shawhead Junction and Baillieston Interchange.

When complete this newly constructed section of the M8 motorway will see three lanes of traffic travelling in each direction, in addition to the two lanes in each direction available on the existing A8. It is expected this separation of strategic and local traffic will ease current traffic volumes by up to 25 per cent on the new M8 Motorway and shave almost 20 minutes off the daily commute between Glasgow and Edinburgh at peak times.

Mr Yousaf met with senior representatives of Transport Scotland, Scottish Roads Partnership and construction contractors Ferrovia Lagan Joint Venture as well as some of the construction team currently employed on site.

Minister Urges Patience

Mr Yousaf said: "This drone footage provides the public with a unique perspective of these major construction works that are currently underway to improve the connection between Glasgow and Edinburgh, but are largely out of sight to road users on the existing A8.

"The significant progress achieved is clear to see, and as we enter the final phase of works along the A8 corridor, I hope the public can be reassured that once complete, the benefits will far outweigh the current disruption. I'd like to thank road users for

their patience to date and would ask that they bear with us during this final push to complete the M8 missing link."

Cyclists and Pedestrians will reap Benefits

The footage also shows 5km of new pedestrian and cycle routes which run parallel to the new motorway. This is part of 16km of new and improved routes which are being created to link with existing walking and cycling paths; improving the connections between many of the local communities, businesses and areas of employment in North and South Lanarkshire and Glasgow.

This section of the new M8 is scheduled to open in spring 2017.

Scottish Roads Partnership (SRP), with its main contractors Ferrovia Lagan and Amey, is the company responsible for delivering the £500m investment project in Scotland's trunk road network for Transport Scotland.

It aims to tackle congestion problems on the A8/M8, M73 and M74, and at key junctions, including Raith (M74/A725) and Shawhead (A725/A8).

Gabriel Valtueña-Ramos, SRP General Manager, said: "As the construction heads into its final stages, road users will continue to see the new benefits as each major milestone is completed."

Watch drone footage at: www.transport.gov.scot/m8m73m74



Humza Yousaf visits new M8