

## Construction Team Makes Progress

The mid-way point has been reached on the £500 million Motorway Improvements Project. The start of construction in Spring 2014 seems a long time ago, but the work continues to progress to meet the scheduled completion date of Spring 2017.

Milestone after milestone was reached as favourable Autumn weather provided ideal ground conditions for building bridges, laying roads, completing drains and finalising pavements.

In September alone, almost 30,000 tonnes of asphalt, or black top as it is more commonly known, was laid on the new section of the M8 motorway between Shawhead and Baillieston. This was carried out using a large 'paver' which produces a 12-metre wide spread of hot asphalt to complete the new carriageway.

The machine's coverage is so wide it means no join is needed on the surface of the three lane motorway. This will ensure the smoothest of driving conditions for traffic.

Major traffic management is underway at Shawhead Junction, near Coatbridge, which will be upgraded.

When the scheme is completed, Shawhead will become Junction 7A of the new M8. Another area which has already undergone extensive traffic management alterations is further down the A725 at Raith, Junction 5 of the M74.

This major junction has witnessed constant activity for much of the last year, with some of the most noticeable improvements taking shape here, including the completion of the pavement, earthworks and drainage. When work is completed, the new three level junction will see the creation of a free flow underpass below the existing roundabout and the removal of Whistleberry Toll roundabout.

In North Lanarkshire, road users will have noticed a remarkable transformation of the landscape, as 200,000m<sup>3</sup> of earthworks were excavated and filled between Carnbroe and Newhouse.

Section Manager Hector Martin said: "Progress has been made on eight major structures, with three of them completed since the summer. In addition we have laid 31,000m<sup>2</sup> of new road including major progress from Shawhead to Carnbroe"



Construction Progress At Raith



Shawhead Junction

## Traffic Management Update

Major works and traffic restrictions have commenced on the A725 between Strathclyde Business Park and Shawhead. This involved the closure of North Road Bellshill to construct a new bridge at North Road and the link roads to the new Shawhead Junction. A temporary junction is in operation on North Road, with restricted access for LGV's for a period of 8 months. A free shuttle bus service will be in place during the closure.

The A8 eastbound on-slip at Chapelhall is closed for a period of two months from February and the A8 eastbound at Newhouse off-slip has been re-positioned. This is to allow the construction of a new A8 between Chapelhall and Newhouse. Signage will be in place advising road users of restrictions.

For the latest information regarding traffic management, please visit the Transport Scotland website.

## SRP Launches £15K Good Neighbour Fund

Scottish Roads Partnership (SRP), together with its main contractors Ferrovial Lagan and Amey, is launching The Good Neighbour Fund, a new funding initiative set up to give something back to local communities in close proximity to the £500m M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvement Project.

Through The Good Neighbour Fund, SRP has allocated £15,000 for 2016 / 2017 to support local groups, organisations and charities that meet the funding criteria and is now inviting applications for grants of up to £500.

Organisations eligible for funding should encourage education and skills development, support a local community initiative or charity, or have environmental benefits. All applications will be considered on an individual basis.

SRP General Manager, Gabriel Valtuena-Ramos, said:

"On completion, the M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project will help promote sustainable economic growth by improving access to facilities and employment areas."

"The Good Neighbour Fund allows us to create further opportunities while construction works are on going and we're really proud to engage with and support local communities as our works progress."

For an application form, please email: [info@scotroadspartnership.co.uk](mailto:info@scotroadspartnership.co.uk).



Pamela Ward of Ferrovial Lagan (centre) with Morag Smith and Harry Marsh of the Bothwell Horticultural Society

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### Stay informed:

#### Websites

[www.transport.gov.scot/m8m73m74](http://www.transport.gov.scot/m8m73m74)

[www.trafficscotland.org](http://www.trafficscotland.org)

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# Project update

Issue 6



## Project Boosts Scotland's Economy



Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities meets one local business benefitting from £500m infrastructure improvement project.

Page 2

### Project Sustainability



Page 4

### Construction Update



Page 5

Scottish Roads Partnership

ferrovial  
agroman Lagan



amey

cintra

meridiam  
infrastructure

Aberdeen  
Asset management

Scottish Roads Partnership



## Cabinet Secretary Visits Site as £144m Sub-Contracts Awarded

While the finalised scheme will bring significant economic benefits to Scotland, the impact of the £500 million project is already being felt in terms of job creation, training opportunities and improving the financial security of local enterprises.

Keith Brown Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities has welcomed the £144 million worth of sub-contracts already awarded as a result of the project.

Mr Brown visited the construction site on the stretch of the new M8 which will complete the country's busiest motorway from Glasgow to Edinburgh, he met with representatives of one local company to benefit from a contract to supply quarry materials to the project.

Mr Brown, said: "As one of the biggest transport infrastructure projects currently underway in Scotland, the M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project has attracted interest from specialist engineering firms all over the world, but equally, it's great to see a local enterprises providing a service and benefitting from this Scottish Government investment."

Speaking about Patersons' £5 million share of the work, he added: "This is just one example of how this £500 million investment in Central Scotland's motorway network is stimulating the local economy during the construction phase, not to mention the significant benefits to road users, businesses, communities and industry in the west of Scotland and beyond, upon completion."

## Local business benefits

It has been revealed that 112 local small to medium enterprises (SMEs) have shared £56 million worth of contracts. It's anticipated that a large proportion of the £88 million worth of contracts still to be awarded will go to local sub contractors and suppliers.

Willie Paterson, Chairman of Patersons Quarries Group, said: "The contract to supply quarry materials to the project has been extremely beneficial to the company in terms of revenue and increased output."

Scotland's public bodies spend around £10.4 billion each year on procurement. Mr Brown, added: "Very few EU countries have a higher level of spending in their Small-Medium Enterprises sector than Scotland. Scottish SMEs successfully compete for public contracts, representing 37% of the economy, and getting a 46% slice of the £10 billion public procurement spend every year."

The major infrastructure project which will upgrade Central Scotland's motorway network is now two years into construction. As well as the completion of the M8 between Edinburgh and Glasgow, it also includes improvements to the M73 and M74 and associated roads.

## Employment opportunities

To date, a total of 30 job starts have been employed as a result of the project, with a further 33 young people benefitting from apprenticeship training on site.

The project also provides training opportunities for recently qualified graduates from a wide range of disciplines, with 27 graduates employed on site, eight of whom are registered for professional body training schemes.

The contract, which includes the operation and maintenance of the project roads for 30 years by Amey, was awarded to Scottish Roads Partnership, a consortium with a construction joint venture of Ferrovia Agroman and Lagan Construction, in February 2014.

## Improved journey times

When complete, the new motorway network will significantly improve journey times between Edinburgh and Glasgow, saving 20 minutes on the daily commute on the M8 at peak periods and a 15 minute benefit for road users travelling via Raith Junction.

Additional benefits include cutting congestion on the existing routes, improving road safety and opening up new opportunities for businesses and inward investment in the West of Scotland and beyond.



Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities

## SRP Road Safety Poster Competition

Two budding artists from primary school in North and South Lanarkshire have lifted a top prize of £250 for their school in a recent competition to design a road safety poster.

The competition, run by Scottish Roads Partnership (SRP), challenged local primary school children to design an eye-catching poster to mark National Road Safety Week (23 – 29 Nov).

In the Primary 4 and under category, the winning poster was created by Neve McAllister (age 7) of Victoria Primary School in Airdrie, who created a colourful design highlighting the potential dangers near pedestrian crossings. In the Primary 5 and over category, William Walker (age 11) from St. John the Baptist Primary in Uddingston, also won £250 for his school with his design highlighting the dangers of drinking and driving.

Both winning entries will be displayed within SRP's project office and will also be used on suitable sites in the local area.



William Walker (age 11)



Neve McAllister (age 7)



Pamela Ward from Ferrovia Lagan and Neve McAllister

## Environment & Sustainability

The team is always looking for innovative ways to deliver the project with additional benefits to communities and the environment.

Since June 2014 almost 91.5% of all waste generated, on site has been diverted from landfill. Of a total 2500 tonnes of waste generated, only 213 tonnes has been sent to landfill. The majority of this landfilled waste, 190 tonnes, was soil contaminated with Japanese knotweed, an invasive fast growing plant which can destroy homes, structures and roads.

From the outset, the environmental team has played a crucial role in preparing the way for the main works. The team has been conducting various ecological surveys which aim to help preserve as much of the natural environment for wildlife and plants as possible.

Artificial badger setts have been constructed to provide our little nocturnal neighbours with alternative accommodation and mammal crossings, known as culverts, have been constructed under the motorway, to allow a variety of species to pass safely from one side to another.

As the project enters its third year of construction, the team has been set a target of sending zero waste to landfill by the end of 2016. The majority of soil excavated from site will be reused as infill for embankments.



Excavated earth has been reused at Eurocentral



Badgers happy with new setts

## Project Team Digs Deep For STV Appeal

Lorraine Kelly admitted her legs stopped working mid-way through a 24-hour ceilidh marathon, while weatherman Sean Batty took part in a coast-to-coast cycle to raise money for impoverished children as part of the STV appeal.

The STV Appeal has raised a staggering £3 million for children living in poverty in Scotland thanks to efforts of the SRP team. The limbs of our brave employees were seriously sore after they took part in a 55-mile cycle ride all the way from Glasgow Green to Murrayfield in Edinburgh for the same cause.

The Classic Pedal for Scotland ride is now in its 18th year and attracted 7,500 participants in September. Some of the brave souls who took part were Peter Higgins and David Jones of Ferrovia Lagan JV and

Arthur Richards, Tracy Sutherland and Christopher Weir from our partners at Amey.

As a result of their strength-sapping efforts, the five cyclists raised £360. David Jones, from the environmental team, said of the trip: "On the day, the weather was pretty kind, with a slight northerly breeze, it was really hard going but I was pleased to have taken part in such a great day."

STV viewers were treated to a special documentary, which included footage of the bike ride, broadcast in October. David Jones explained his motivation for taking part. He said: "I have two kids of my own and we live a comfortable life but, I know there are many children in Scotland who are not so privileged. If we can make a difference through a good afternoon pedal, then why not?"