

WINTER 2017/18

A737 Dalry Bypass

Project newsletter



Cover photo

Earthworks progress – from Hillend
looking north east towards Blair Road

FARRANS ROADBRIDGE



TRANSPORT
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Welcome



Farrans Roadbridge JV Project Manager Brian Snow

Welcome to the second issue of our regular newsletter providing a progress update and look ahead to the work we will be focusing on in the coming months on the A737 Dalry Bypass project.

Despite some challenging winter weather, work on the bypass has progressed well and the results of this are visible along the entire length of the route.

As contractor on the project, Farrans Roadbridge Joint Venture (JV) would like to take the opportunity to thank the community and road users for their continued patience, support and co-operation during construction.

**Brian Snow, Project Manager,
Farrans Construction Roadbridge JV**



Earthworks embankment construction – Glasgow-Ayr railway line to Blair Road

Progress update

EARTHWORKS



We continue to make good progress with earthworks, with a considerable amount of operations undertaken between Blair Road and the Glasgow-Ayr railway line. Almost 100,000m³ of material had been excavated by the end of last year – almost enough to fill London's Royal Albert Hall.

STRUCTURES

We have taken delivery of five beams which will carry Blair Road over the new stretch of A737. The beams were recently installed, representing a key milestone in the project and enabling us to forge ahead with the aim of opening Blair Road in spring.

We have also constructed piling platforms and progressed with the installation of test piles for the structure over the River Garnock. Testing of these piles is now complete and the permanent piling has now commenced. Once the piles are in place a pile cap will be constructed followed by the installation of the columns and abutment walls to support the bridge deck.

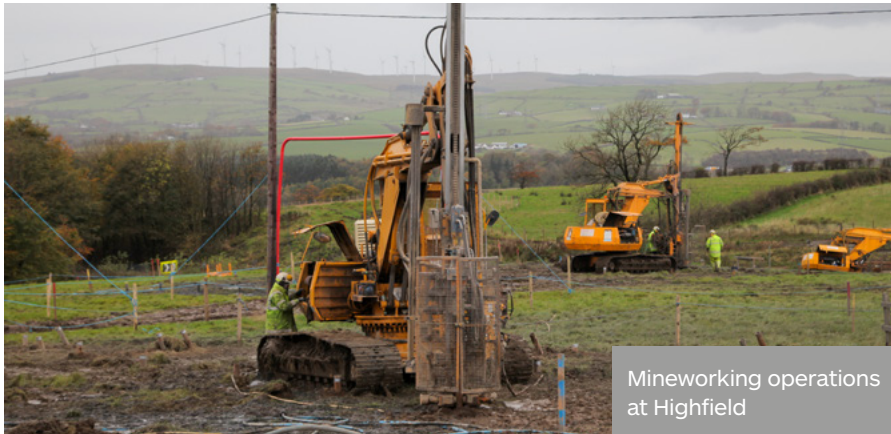


1 - 2. Construction of the abutment bases and walls for the Blair Road Bridge; **3.** Edge beam being lifted into position; **4.** Test Pile being installed at the River Garnock Viaduct



MINeworkINGS

Work has commenced on land adjacent to the A737 at Highfield to fill and grout the empty pockets left by the mineworkings. We have completed more than half of this work to date.



Mineworking operations at Highfield

Looking ahead

Work is moving forward and over the next few months the team will be focusing on the following activities:

- Diversion of public utilities
- Continuation of earthworks at Hillend where the outline of the proposed roundabout will be excavated, bulk earthworks from Blair Road to Highfield, and removal of peat at the eastern end of the project
- Completion of mineworkings in the Highfield area
- Construction of the Blair Road bridge deck and completion of the earthworks behind the structure to tie into the existing roads either side
- Continuation of construction for the viaduct traversing the River Garnock and Glasgow-Ayr railway line with permanent piling now underway. This is the first stage of the bridge construction prior to the columns and abutment walls being installed to support the steel beams for the bridge deck.

North Ayrshire foodbank support

During December, project staff were keen to be involved in supporting the **North Ayrshire Foodbank Initiative**, donating four boxes of food items which were delivered by Farrans Roadbridge JV Construction Manager **Tristram Browne**.

Craig Crosthwaite, the centre co-ordinator thanked the project for their donation. He said: "We could not help the 6,000 people we assisted last year if it was not for the combined generosity and compassion of so many wonderful people, organisations and businesses. This winter we will issue **165 special Christmas hampers** to assist some



Tristram Browne delivering donations to Sandra, a volunteer at the North Ayrshire Foodbank Initiative

people in crisis to have as close to a Christmas meal as is generally expected these days."

Raising awareness of the White Ribbon campaign

In December, Police Scotland Ayrshire Division met with workers from Farrans Roadbridge JV at the site of the new A737 Dalry Bypass, to discuss the aims of the **White Ribbon campaign** and to encourage workers to sign the campaign pledge 'never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women'.

Sgt. Murdoch and PC Prout highlighted the rise in violence against both men and women and asked the team to support them in getting the message out that violence of any kind is unacceptable.

At the time, Sgt. Murdoch said: "We are delighted to have had the opportunity to come and speak with the team here, who took time out of their busy schedule to support the White Ribbon campaign."

Farrans Roadbridge JV Construction Manager Tristram Browne added: "We were pleased to be asked to support such a worthy campaign and would like to thank Police



Sgt. Murdoch pictured with members of the Farrans Roadbridge JV construction team

Scotland for the informative session they presented to us."

Farrans Roadbridge JV were one of a number of audiences who the Police Scotland Ayrshire Division have liaised with including players at Beith Juniors Football Club and staff and patrons of a Kilbirnie supermarket.



Aileen Hamilton from Science Connects, with the newly signed up Farrans Roadbridge JV STEM Ambassadors

KILWINNING ACADEMY CAREERS DAY

Putting his STEM Ambassador training into practice, Consultation Manager Andy Linton was pleased to be invited to attend a careers event at Kilwinning Academy. Andy

welcomed the opportunity to speak to over 120 potential young STEM enthusiasts and informed the young students of the merits of a career in construction. Farrans Roadbridge JV hope to attend more of these events in the coming months and may see some of these bright young people join their ranks in the future!



Andy Linton, Consultation Manager attending the Careers Event at Kilwinning Academy

CONSIDERATE CONSTRUCTORS

To demonstrate our ongoing commitment to the Community, Farrans Roadbridge JV are registered with the Considerate Constructors Scheme for the A737 Dalry Bypass site. The scheme requires contractors to abide by the Considerate Constructors code of practice which involves caring about appearance, respecting the community, protecting the environment, securing everyone's safety and valuing their workforce.

FURTHER PROJECT INFORMATION

If you have any matters you wish to raise concerning the project, please contact: Angela Newlands, Community Liaison Officer by email on dalrybypass@farrans.com or telephone **02890 394089**.

For more information on the project please visit:

transport.gov.scot/projects/a737-dalry-bypass

FARRANS ROADBRIDGE

Engaging with education

STEM AMBASSADORS

Eight of our project staff recently signed up to become **STEM Ambassadors**, committed to engaging with young people to inform and encourage them into careers in science, technology, education and mathematics by sharing their own skills, experience and interests in these areas.

David Jones who completed the STEM Ambassador training said: "I am honoured to be involved in the STEM Ambassador programme. This initiative is a great opportunity for young people to gain valuable insight into what it takes to enter into a career in STEM subjects. I look forward to my first event and hope that I can help inspire the future generation of technical leaders."

Local elected members visit site

In December, we welcomed **Kenneth Gibson MSP and local councillor Joy Brahim** to the site of the A737 Dalry Bypass.

Farrans Roadbridge JV Project Manager Brian Snow, Transport Scotland Project Manager Gavin Dyet, and Farrans Roadbridge JV Community Liaison Officer Angela Newlands accompanied the guests on the visit which took in all of the construction activities underway, including those at Blair Road and the River Garnock.

At the time of the visit, construction of the abutment walls for the **overbridge at Blair Road** was ongoing and almost **100,000m³** of clay had been excavated and placed in the road embankment on the approach to the viaduct over the River Garnock and Glasgow-Ayr railway line. Work was also



Mr Gibson MSP and Cllr Brahim with the project team during the visit to the site

in preparation to commence permanent piling under the abutments of this structure. Cllr Brahim said at the time: "The decrease of traffic congestion and pollution levels on New Street and Townend Street will lead to a much safer and healthier Dalry, and perhaps even encourage people to walk more.

"I am grateful to the team for taking the time to show us around and for taking such a proactive and informative role interacting with the local community."