

A737 Dalry Bypass

Project newsletter



River Garnock Viaduct



Farrans Roadbridge JV Project Manager Brian Snow

Welcome

Welcome to the fourth issue of our regular A737 Dalry Bypass project progress update newsletter.

We have enjoyed a period of warm weather, which has helped the construction team continue to make good progress over the summer and early autumn months.

In September, a major milestone in the delivery of the project was successfully completed, as we launched the viaduct which will carry

the new road across the River Garnock and the Ayr to Glasgow railway line.

We have started laying the road surfaces in several locations along the route of the new bypass.

We thank the local community for their continued patience and co-operation as we construct this key project.

Brian Snow, Project Manager
Farrans Roadbridge JV



River Garnock Viaduct launch complete (further details on page 2)

EARTHWORKS

During the summer, we excavated 130,000m³ of clay material, bringing the total material excavated to 320,000m³, with 270,000m³ reused to construct the road and bund embankments.

We have installed 113 manholes and over 6,000 metres of road drainage, which will capture any water that will run off from the road surface and channel it into a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDs) pond.

STRUCTURES

A major project milestone was reached as the steel structure for the viaduct over the River Garnock and Ayr to Glasgow railway was secured into position during the summer. The delicate engineering operation was captured in time-lapse footage that can be viewed on the project website: transport.gov.scot/projects/a737-dalry-bypass

The works will now continue over the winter months including installation of the deck panels, safety barrier and kerbing.

SURFACING

The construction of the main carriageway has commenced, with over 900 metres of blacktop already installed. As the earthworks operations near completion, the surfacing works are expected to increase during the winter months.



1. Viaduct in place prior to second launch; 2. Mainline road construction at Highfield; 3. A737 located east of Highfield; 4. Mainline surfacing works looking towards the Ayr to Glasgow railway line

Progress update

COMPLETED WORK

We have completed three areas of permanent road, which are now open to the public. These include Blair Road, the B707/C99 at Highfield and the Eastern tie-in to join the existing A737 to a new section of the bypass.

At Highfield, a new roundabout will give access from the A737 to Dalry, the B707 and the C99 Roads. In May 2018, the B707 and C99 roads were closed to facilitate the construction of the new roundabout and realignment of the approach roads. These works were carried out over a period of nine weeks.

A major challenge was joining the eastern section between the existing A737 and the new A737 at the Birkentop area of Dalry. During investigation, peat depths of up to five metres were identified. After close consultation with stakeholders, it was agreed that the safest way to complete this work was to temporarily close the A737. The work was completed successfully and we are grateful to road users for their patience during this time.

Around 20,000m³ of peat was excavated and replaced with 25,000m³ of suitable fill material to form the road embankment.

‘World of Work’ week

As part of the Farrans Roadbridge JV Schools Programme, Health and Safety Advisor Ryan Gaw was pleased to visit St Bridget’s Primary School in Kilbirnie as part of their ‘World of Work’ week. Ryan gave a short presentation about his career in Health and Safety and his experience working on the Dalry Bypass project.

Principal teacher Mr Mitchell said: “It was great to have Ryan take part in our school ‘World of Work’ week. He was an excellent addition to the various speakers throughout the week. He professionally represented Farrans Roadbridge and was able to highlight various skills and qualities required for working. His talk was both engaging and relevant, and resulted in some insightful discussion and questions from pupils across the school.”



Ryan Gaw speaking to children about his career in Health & Safety

Engineering students visit site

At the end of July, Farrans Roadbridge JV was pleased to facilitate a site visit for nine civil engineering students and apprentices from Tony Gee and Partners, Glasgow.

The students and apprentices, visited various areas of construction across the project.



Students and apprentices from Tony Gee find out about the challenges of building a structure over the River Garnock and the Ayr to Glasgow railway line

Looking ahead

Over the winter months, the team will focus on the following activities:

- Installation of viaduct bridge deck.
- Construction of the new roundabout at Hillend.
- Continuation of earthworks, road drainage and surfacing on the main carriageway.

STEM Ambassadors visit St Palladius Primary School

Our STEM Ambassadors visited St Palladius Primary School in Dalry, as part of the school's Science Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM) activity week.

The Ambassadors led activities with over 30 pupils working together building structure concepts from polyhedron bridge sets.

Before leaving, the team set the pupils some homework to build more complex structures with their newly acquired knowledge.



STEM Ambassador Leigh-Anne McLean works with the pupils at St Palladius

Future engineers at work

Keen to encourage and assist the next generation of future engineers, we were pleased to offer two university students 12-week placements within the site team.

Alice Butler, from Glasgow University, and Connor McCourt, from Belfast's Queens University, enhanced their skills and gained valuable work experience.

Project staff were sad to say goodbye to the students at the end of their placements. However, we asked Connor a few questions about his time working on the project before he departed.

What did you get out of your time here?

I was fortunate to gain valuable on-site experience. In particular, the process and relationship of working with subcontractors.

What are your career aspirations now?

My placement on the A737 Dalry Bypass project has reinforced my desire to continue working as a civil engineer and to gain further work experience.

Why did you choose civil engineering?

Ever since I was young, I have had an interest in finding out how things are made and I thought engineering would be interesting and challenging.

How has working on the A737 Dalry Bypass project inspired you?

Working on a large project like this has inspired me to work even harder at



Connor McCourt

university this year. Undertaking this placement has reinforced how much I am looking forward to graduating so that I can get back out to work in the engineering industry.

Farrans Roadbridge JV plan to continue to offer placements for students, and has already welcomed civil engineering student Michael Bennett to the team.



Alice Butler



Alice Butler and Michael Bennett



The site after improvement

Community garden project

We supplied topsoil to Beith Orr Park Neighbourhood Watch for their community garden. The site of the community garden, which is located in Mitchell Street in Beith, was a derelict site for many years.

The Beith Orr Park Neighbourhood Watch decided it would be great to improve the appearance of this area of the town and were pleased when it was agreed that it could be used for a community garden.

A number of companies assisted in getting the garden up and running, providing support with plants and materials and we were delighted to be able to supply the topsoil.

The small group of volunteers have



The site before the community garden

developed the community garden into a place where anyone can relax and enjoy the peaceful ambiance. As well as having flowers and shrubs planted, there are now some fruit, vegetable and herb planters, plus a bench and planter installed in memory of local people.

North Ayrshire Foodbank donation

Farrans Roadbridge JV has continued to support the Ardrossan-based North Ayrshire Foodbank.

Project staff donated over 65kg of tinned food and provisions to assist the foodbank during a particularly busy time over the school summer holidays.

Construction Manager Tristram Browne and Community Liaison Officer Angela Newlands were delighted to be given a tour of the foodbank by North Ayrshire Foodbank Co-ordinator Craig Crosthwaite to see how the centre operates.

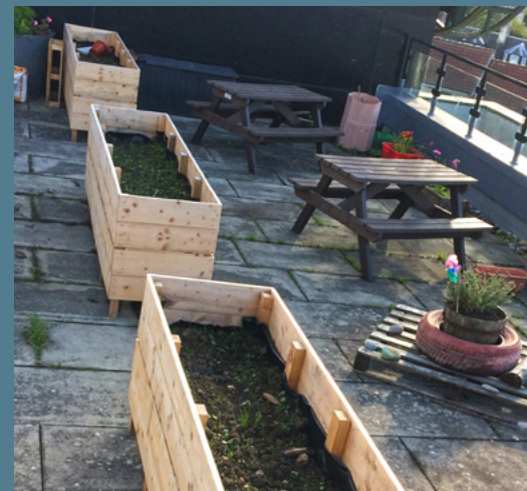


Construction Manager Tristram Browne and Community Liaison Officer Angela Newlands receive a certificate of donation on behalf of Farrans Roadbridge JV from a representative of the North Ayrshire Foodbank

In brief

GROWING EDUCATION

We recently donated some soil to Dalry Primary School to help expand their outdoor education experience. This helped the school to build and create small garden plots where pupils will be involved in cultivating a variety of flowers and vegetables.



Topsoil in the planters for the children to add flowers

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



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