

A737 Dalry Bypass

Project newsletter



Community welcomes bypass opening



Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity Michael Matheson meets members of the local community





Farrans Roadbridge JV Project Manager Brian Snow

Welcome

In July 2017, we commenced construction of the A737 Dalry Bypass. Although it has been a challenging two years, we successfully met our target of completing and opening the bypass in May 2019, almost seven months ahead of schedule.

We are very grateful to the local community of Dalry for their patience and support during the construction phase of the project. We hope that the bypass will provide a positive impact for road users and local residents.

Major challenges during the past two years included: construction of a 250m viaduct spanning the River Garnock and Ayr to Glasgow railway line, removal of surplus material from site which was utilised for land improvement, maintaining traffic flows and minimising the impact to road users.

All staff and contractors who participated in the construction of the bypass have worked extremely hard to overcome these challenges and to help achieve our targets ahead of schedule. I'd like to thank all the staff and contractors for their efforts, without which the project wouldn't have reached this successful conclusion.

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



Cabinet Secretary Michael Matheson officially opens the new road alongside members of the local community and construction project team

New bypass officially opens

On 30 May 2019, the new A737 Dalry Bypass was officially opened by the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity Michael Matheson.

This was a proud moment for Farrans Roadbridge joint venture, Transport Scotland and the surrounding communities.

Representing different generations of the local community, the first traffic to travel on the new road was led by long-term Dalry resident Mary McInnes, who celebrated her 100th birthday in April. Mary's car, one of the site's low emission vehicles, was closely followed by a mini-bus of local school children and teachers from Dalry Primary School and St Palladius Primary School.

Opening the road to traffic, Mr Matheson said:

"It has been just under two years since the first spade was put in the ground to mark the start of work and I welcome the opening of the road ahead of schedule.

"The new bypass has already delivered a number of benefits during construction with 32 of the 36 sub-contracts awarded to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) – as well as providing employment for 130 people at the peak of construction.

The opening of the road will deliver long-term benefits, including better journey time reliability for road users and public transport, as well as encouraging improved economic and employment opportunities.



Local resident Mary McInnes and local children meet Mr Matheson to celebrate the opening. Also pictured: Kenneth Gibson MSP, Councillor Robert Barr, Transport Scotland Project Manager Gavin Dyet, and Farrans Roadbridge Project Manager Brian Snow

"The Dalry community will also enjoy improved air quality and road safety, making the town centre a more pleasant place to live and work.

"I'm delighted this new road through North Ayrshire is now open and I would like to pass on my gratitude to the contractor for their timely work in constructing the new road. As we've seen today, it will serve every member of the community – from the youngest to the oldest – with a road fit for the 21st century."



The project welcomed students working with Tony Gee (Engineering) to the site to view the River Garnock viaduct in its construction phase



Students from the University of Strathclyde visited site and spoke with engineers about their experiences working on the project



Careers Event, Largs Academy – Farrans Roadbridge talked to pupils about careers in construction and engineering

LOCAL SUPPORT AND DONATIONS

The project has been able to assist 13 local groups and events, providing benefits for the community and leaving a lasting impression for visitors to the town.

Regular foodbank donations, topsoil donations for community and school gardens, assistance with events such as the Lynn Glen Fairy Trail and donations for the planters at Dalry train station, are a few examples of the community support the project team has provided.

8 Key facts

ABOUT THE PROJECT

IN NUMBERS

433,000m³ of material excavated (which could fill just over 173 Olympic-sized swimming pools)

658,000 tonnes of fill material laid (equivalent to 10 Queen Elizabeth aircraft carriers)

10.6km of road drainage pipes. Enough to complete 26.5 laps of an Olympic running track

7,340 tonnes of concrete (equivalent to nearly 18 Boeing 747 airplanes)

72,000m² of road surface (equivalent to 1.15 million sheets of A4 paper)

19.9km of road markings (further than the distance from Dalry to Troon as the crow flies)

Over **118,000** trees, shrubs and hedging plants planted

Team work pays off!
Over **450,000** hours worked (equivalent to one person working a 40-hour week non-stop for 216 years)

Working with the community

Throughout the duration of the project, Farrans Roadbridge has formed positive relationships throughout Dalry and the surrounding communities. Our aim has been to make a lasting difference in the area and to raise awareness of career opportunities in our industry.

Over the last two years, we have been proud to work with local schools and community groups, including Dalry Community Council, Blair Tenants and Residents Association, Dalry Business Group and Beith Community Council, to provide support and regular updates on construction work.

EDUCATION

Over 1000 school children engaged in school events including:

- 3 careers events
- 4 safety events
- 4 engineering STEM events
- 20 Code Club technology STEM events
- 2 student class visits.



(Above) Student site placements – Two of the site placements at Dalry where students learned and developed their skills to get them ready for work at the end of their studies

(Below) Dalry Primary School – Farrans Roadbridge delivered a STEM bridge building activity and engineering presentation



North Ayrshire Foodbank – Regular donations from project staff were made throughout the project including toys for children at Christmas



Dalry Station Garden Group – A donation was made to provide three wood planters at the station, giving a lovely colourful impression to those both living and visiting Dalry



(Above) St Bridget's Primary School, Kilbirnie – Pupils learned about kinetic and potential energy by building and racing balloon powered vehicles
(Left) 'Safety Sam' packs to school pupils to reinforce the safety message given by the 'Safety Sam' presentation and video



Lynn Glen Fairy Group – Donations of wood enabled construction of bird and bat boxes to encourage nature to the Glen



Parklives – Children enjoying the activities to which a donation was made to the running of the scheme

Moving forward

As ongoing construction work comes to an end, the project site compound is downsizing. Farrans Roadbridge will maintain a reduced site presence, while we undertake minor snagging works, and will also be back in late autumn to finish planting works once the planting season recommences.

In the coming months, responsibility for the roads will be changing. Transport Scotland will become responsible for the new A737 Dalry Bypass and will continue to look after the old A737 route until April 2020, when it will be transferred across to North Ayrshire Council. Transport Scotland and their operating company,

Scotland Transerv, will undertake repair and upgrade work to the old A737 route in the coming months in preparation for its handover to North Ayrshire Council.

The old A737 route will be renumbered as the B714. The renumbering will take place in the coming months and will be updated on maps and road signs once this has happened. All side roads will become the responsibility of North Ayrshire Council.

If you have any queries regarding the roads, you should now contact Scotland Transerv or North Ayrshire Council to report them.

Their contact details are:

Scotland Transerv

(old and new A737 routes)

Web: scotlandtranserv.co.uk

Telephone: +44 (0)141 218 3800

Email:

customer.care@scotlandtranserv.co.uk

North Ayrshire Council (Local Roads)

Web: north-ayrshire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/roads-and-travel.aspx

Telephone: 01294 310000

Email:

contactus@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Considerate constructors

Throughout construction, the project has scored highly with the Considerate Constructors Scheme, with a Certificate of Excellence being awarded at the final audit.

To achieve this, a project must abide by the Code of Considerate Practice and score highly in five audited categories: Care about Appearance, Respect the Community, Protect the Environment, Secure Everyone's Safety, and Value their Workforce.



Members of the Farrans Roadbridge project team

Tom Lawson, CCS Scheme Monitor said: "The Farrans Roadbridge joint venture responsible for the Dalry Bypass achieved extremely high standards against the Considerate Constructors Scheme's Code and Checklist.

"The works were constantly clean and tidy, despite adverse weather for many months during the project. There was



a genuine and ongoing commitment to minimise the impact of the works on locals and much was done to engage with the community. Indeed, there is a strong sense that the team will be missed by the locals which speaks volumes for the efforts they have made to minimise the

impact of what they are doing.

"The level of protection of the environment was second to none. Re-use of materials, protection of watercourses and the extensive ecological works ensured the minimum of harm to wildlife. Safety

was continually at the fore with many good practices evident at each visit to the site over the two-year construction programme. The workforce was very well cared for, with excellent facilities provided on site and a wealth of training provided, as well as extensive information on health and wellbeing.

"There was considerable commitment

to achieving the Scheme's aspirations from the very start and this remained evident throughout the project. It remains one of the best managed highways projects I have seen in recent times."

You can find out more about the scheme here: www.ccscheme.org.uk/ccs-ltd/code-of-considerate-practice-2

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