

Community Newsletter



Realigned A9 Opens Ahead of Schedule

The new realigned A9 was successfully opened on the 3rd August, three weeks ahead of the original programme. As well as restoring the A9 back to four lanes by removing the recent temporary traffic management system, the completed works represent a significant milestone within the Cross Tay Link Road project and the Perth Transport Futures Strategy.

William Diver, BAM Nuttall Project Director, commented, "The completion of the realigned dual carriageway is a critical step in the CTLR project as this will link the bridge crossing to the A9, diverting traffic from, and reducing emissions in, Perth city centre.

"Whilst we completed much of the new realigned road off-line – rather than on the live carriageway – we appreciate that the contraflow has been frustrating for the travelling public. I would like to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation and assure drivers that traffic management on this main stretch of road is now complete."

As well as completion of the major works for the new realigned road, extensive landscaping has also taken place. Drivers will see an improved environment as well as a clearer view of the city and surrounding areas coming from north to south. In addition, a new precast beam overbridge, spanning the new A9, has been constructed as part of the Cross Tay Link Road project.

Next steps in the project include completing the new A9 overbridge, slip roads, junctions and roundabouts servicing the flow of traffic to and from the A9 onto the new bridge on its opening. Work will also commence on the development of the sustainable urban drainage systems, ensuring that these will enhance the ecosystem, wildlife and biodiversity surrounding the road network.

Councillor Grant Laing commented, "One of Perth's key strengths as an area is its location and well-connected road network. The new realigned section of the A9 brings us one step closer to the vision held within the Perth Transport Futures Strategy, ensuring the long-term economic success of the region, and a cleaner, more sustainable city centre. It is a major achievement of which everyone can be proud."

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Community Doors Open Day



Thursday 12th October 2023 | 10am to 4pm

Join us for a day packed full of family fun, community updates and opportunities to learn more about Perth's exciting infrastructure project.

Family Fun

Our family-friendly area will include a disco, arts & crafts, birdbox painting, and a tower building competition. Climb aboard our construction vehicles and machinery for a fun #CTRLSelfie.

A charity raffle and silent auction will run in aid of the Lighthouse Perth.

Information Zones

Learn more about Perth's largest ever infrastructure project in a series of videos and talks with the project team.

- Presentation on the bridge
- Fly-through of the CTRL
- Engineers talks
- Archaeology talk including news on 'The Souterrain'.
- Community Art Project info

Food & Drink

A range of food and drink will be available on the day from homemade treats to local favourites:

- Fresh, wood-fired pizzas
- Cupcakes
- Ice cream van
- Hot and cold drinks



Book Your Space Now!

This is a free event but we require you to book a timeslot on Eventbrite using the link to the left. Your ticket offers one free entry to our Charity Raffle for Lighthouse Perth. Additional entries can be purchased on the day from their information stand.

Find Out More At :
PerthTransportFutures.co.uk



CTLR in the Heart of the Community

We Need You

The Cross Tay Link Road Project is committed to leaving a lasting, positive legacy for the communities of Perth and Kinross. First and foremost, this nationally important infrastructure upgrade will improve the local environment by reducing air pollution in Perth city centre, and by facilitating active travel through improved path networks and better civic spaces.

In addition to this, the connectivity to wider Scotland will ensure economic benefits and prosperity for all who live and work here.

But the work of the project doesn't stop there. Using the ethos embedded in the Perth and Kinross Offer, the project team has been working with communities to deliver education, employment, and social, cultural, and environmental benefits for all.

Which is where the people of Perth and Kinross come in; we require feedback, input and ideas from local residents and workers to ensure that the Cross Tay Link Road project provides a meaningful legacy that will benefit communities for years to come.

Our ambitious plan requires your input. We would like to hear from community groups, individuals and organisations who have ideas and projects focused on enhancing the lives of the people around them and bringing social value to our local area.

This could be a small project, such as the Perthshire Scout Group Visit (page 14), or a large community-wide project such as Rewilding Denmarkfield forest, orchard and allotments (page 6).

Get Involved by Joining a Meeting:

We hold quarterly meetings in Luncarty and Scone and would love to see you there. These meetings offer updates and give you the chance to speak to our engineers and community benefits team. The next meetings will take place on:

- 26th Sept - East Community Meeting at CTLR Stormontfield project office
- 27th Sept - West community group meeting at luncarty church centre

To book, please visit PerthTransportFutures.co.uk and navigate to Community Benefits.

More Ways to Get Involved

Book a Site Visit for Your Group:

Do you run a local group or organisation that would like a site visit? We've welcomed in school groups, engineering degree students, Scouts groups, Perth Autism Support, local councillors, and many more. Let us know why you think your group would benefit and we will endeavour to arrange a visit for you. Email: innes.mackintosh@bam.com

Gain Assistance for Your Project:

Assistance for your project may be offered as services in kind, or via the provision of goods. We also look to support smaller projects via the Perth & Kinross Community Benefits Wish List. We do not issue direct pots of money.

Join the CTRL Community Art Trail

Following community consultation meetings held in May 2023 Nichol Wheatley, the artist / curator for the CTRL, recently presented his Artwork Plan to Perth & Kinross Council.

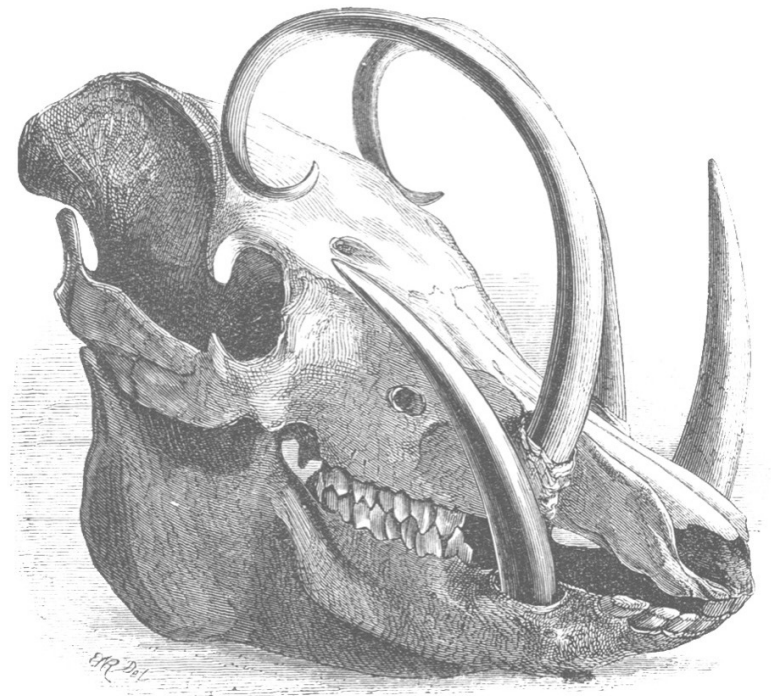
The plan has identified nine possible sites for new sculptures and legacy artworks throughout the site of the new road and associated active travel network.

There will now be a period of internal consultation, after which the Artwork Plan will be made public with opportunities for community involvement opened to all.

Sign Up to the Newsletter Now:

Sign up to our digital newsletter and receive monthly updates and news on how the project build is progressing and where our community benefits programme is making a difference. We'll also share dates of meetings and any significant news on works in your area.

Visit PerthTransportFutures.co.uk and navigate to Community Benefits, where you will find a link to register your interest in attending our meetings and a short newsletter sign-up form.



We Are Looking For Artists to Contribute

If you are a local artist who would like to make a bid to create one of these artworks, then please contact Nichol directly to find out more.

nichol@nicholwheatley.com

The images on this page are precedent examples of previous work by Nichol Wheatley. Artists of any discipline are welcome to contact us.

Pete Wishart MP Joins Local Councillors for Site Tour

With works now well underway, across all areas of the project, BAM Nuttall and Perth & Kinross Council have been conducting a series of visits for elected members, senior Council officials, and officers. In May 2023, an invitation was extended to Pete Wishart MP, who joined a group of eight local councillors for a progress tour of the site.

Mr Wishart commented, "It was fantastic to see the progress being made on the Cross Tay Link Road. This is the single biggest infrastructure project ever undertaken by Perth & Kinross Council and it will play a vital role in the future of our local economy.

"I was hearing how it is predicted to leverage £966 million of private sector investment in housing and employment and reduce carbon emissions each year by diverting traffic away from the most congested parts of the city. This will greatly enhance the opportunities for active travel across the area and will help with the regeneration of our city centre."

Major developments at the time of visiting included the contraflow works on the A9 which commenced in mid-April, the surfacing of the new realigned A9, and the landing of the precast beam at the ST01 A9 overbridge. In other locations, the tour group witnessed the Link Road at the A93 junction with traffic flowing on the completed first phase of the new roundabout works, and pier piling and foundation (pile cap) works complete for the new bridge over the River Tay.

As well as progressing with construction, BAM Nuttall and the Council also impressed the group with the significant benefits made to local communities and charities through a series of works-in-kind, gifts and donations, educational visits, and skills development opportunities.

Jillian Ferguson, Roads Infrastructure Manager for Perth & Kinross Council, commented, "We understand construction can be a disruptive process, and fully appreciate the patience of our local communities during our ongoing works. Ensuring the project impacts positively on residents and provides a meaningful legacy is hugely important to us and I am pleased to report we are progressing as successfully with these projects as we are with construction."



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Pete Wishart, MP

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Rewilding Denmarkfield

Working in partnership with Rewilding Denmarkfield, the community group focused on delivering a 90-acre rewilding project just north of Perth, BAM Nuttall and Perth & Kinross Council have delivered a new community woodland, a community fruit orchard, and a community allotment.

The first ground was broken onsite in December 2022, by a 27-strong group of BAM Nuttall employees, the Friends of Denmarkfield community group, and the Denmarkfield Rewilding Project staff. Since then, there have been four site visits from Luncarty Primary School to plant trees and gain knowledge around the rewilding scheme.

The children and volunteers have planted more than 2,000 trees throughout these events and in addition to this, BAM Nuttall's landscaping contractor GB Landscapes has planted a further 4,200 trees across the rewilding project site.

As well as supplying the trees themselves, BAM Nuttall also prepared the ground, supplied and fitted tree protectors, and provided and installed deer fencing on the site.

BAM Nuttall Project Director, William Diver, commented, "All trees have been sourced through Scottish suppliers and are indigenous to this region, so once established they will be sympathetic to vegetation in the surrounding area. This is a major rewilding project and a great example of our commitment to providing additional value to local communities as part of the Cross Tay Link Road project."

The careful planning and design of the woodlands, community orchard and species-rich grassland, has also resulted in the creation of a 1km-long pollinator corridor. This connects the new woodland to the semi-ancient oak woodland which runs along the River Tay Special Area of Conservation.

Rich in diverse forms of pollen and nectar from native flowering trees, shrubs, and herbs, this will provide habitat and food for a wide variety of pollinators and other wildlife. The Denmarkfield pollinator corridor lies within one of Buglife's priority B-Line areas, a national project aimed at creating pollinator-friendly corridors throughout the UK.



Izzy Jones of Rewilding Denmarkfield commented, "Since our work with the Cross Tay Link Road project began, we have seen a 317% increase in bee recordings, and a 124% increase in butterflies throughout the whole site. We have also recently recorded pine martens on the site for the first time, and there have been 81 different bird species recorded onsite, 21 of which are of conservation concern."

Ellie Corsie, Rewilding Denmarkfield Project Manager, said, "We are very grateful to the Cross Tay Link Road project for supporting our rewilding project. With the trees and fencing they have provided we are able to implement our ambitious and unique woodland creation project which will benefit biodiversity and the climate. We can't wait to get enthusiastic plot holders in to grow fruit and vegetables, and hopefully build up a knowledge-sharing community."

Perth & Kinross Council's Roads Infrastructure Manager, Jillian Ferguson, commented, "The new woodland, orchard and allotment at Denmarkfield are just three of the many community benefits associated with the wider construction project.

Ultimately, this project is about improving air quality by reducing vehicle emissions caused by traffic congestion, so it is a great bonus to be having positive carbon outcomes through new forestation as well."

Community Woodland

The community woodland covers 43,000m² and is a broadleaf woodland with a mixture of oak, birch, rowan, hazel, aspen, holly, wild cherry, crab apple, dog rose, blackthorn and hawthorn.

A series of community events generated much in the way of support from over 30 local volunteers, and school visits from Luncarty Primary School. This was then supplemented by GB Landscapes who completed the planting across the area.

Moving forward, BAM Nuttall will work with Friends of Denmarkfield to maintain the planted areas for at least five years to facilitate tree establishment, and to ensure ongoing community involvement at key times such as the removal of tree guards and stakes once trees are established. The new woodland will then be managed long-term by the Rewilding Denmarkfield team.

Community Orchard

With 180 fruit trees now in place, GB Landscapes' planting of the community orchard was completed in April 2023. Featuring apples, plums, pears, medlars, damsons and greengages sourced from two local businesses – Plants and Apples in Blackhaugh, and the Community Farm at Spittalfield – the orchard should provide its first harvest in two to three years.

BAM Nuttall will cover annual professional pruning costs for years two to five and will assist in supporting community involvement in maintenance and harvesting. As part of this, a series of tree planting events for local people and schools will take place over the 2023/24 planting season.

Community Allotments

Working closely with the Denmarkfield Rewilding team, BAM Nuttall and Perth & Kinross Council have created 49 allotment plots of various sizes, as well as arranging a shipping container to be donated by Greenwell Containers.

The plots have been built on a cycle path to encourage active travel (cycling or walking) and ease of use for all, and the ask is that all plots are cultivated organically. Currently, the allotments are available to residents from the Luncarty and Redgorton area.



About the Buglife B-Line Project

Our bees, butterflies and hoverflies have suffered badly over the last fifty or so years, due to changes in land use reducing pollen and nectar sources and leading to a decline in wildlife depending on wildflower-rich habitat.

B-Lines are an imaginative solution to the problem; by creating a series of 'insect pathways' running throughout the UK's countryside and towns, the aim is to restore a series of wildflower-rich habitat steppingstones. These will link existing wildlife areas together and will also provide large areas of new habitat to benefit bees, butterflies and other wildlife.

The Benefits of B-Lines

B-Lines bring a range of benefits to wildlife, people and agriculture, including:

- Helping conserve our native pollinators and a range of other wildlife and contributing towards biodiversity targets
- Helping our wildlife respond to climate change by making it easier for them to move around
- Increasing the number of insect pollinators and the benefits these bring to our farming sector (pollination being an important 'ecosystem service')
- Bringing nature to people
- Giving opportunities for everyone to play their part

IMAGE OPPOSITE: In January and February 2023, 60 pupils from Luncarty Primary School, 5 parents, 2 teachers and CTLR project staff played their part in planting broadleaf trees within the community woodland.

Led by Ellie Corsie and Izzy Jones from Rewilding Denmarkfield, the children were given guidance and instructions to ensure a successful day of planting.

Our thanks to Docherty's Midland Coaches who provided bus transport for the children and adults, to and from the school.

Contractor Focus: GB Landscapes

Following the Phase 1 earthworks for the Cross Tay Link Road, GB Landscapes was appointed by BAM Nuttall as the landscaping partner for the project. A well-established working relationship, BAM Nuttall and GB Landscapes have many successful road scheme projects under their belt, delivering on time and on budget for a range of joint clients.

The partnership is unsurprising; GB Landscapes is one of the largest landscaping firms in the UK specialising in construction works, commercial hard and soft landscaping, and public authority landscaping. Since its launch in 1997, the firm has grown in size, reputation and expertise, advising on the design, construction, plant and maintenance of large-scale projects.

Working with BAM Nuttall on the Cross Tay Link Road project, GB Landscapes has a focus on delivering all landscaping using locally sourced plants and trees, and environmentally sound methodologies. This fits into GB Landscapes' environmental policy which promises only UK-based suppliers.

GB Landscapes is approved by the National Highways Sector Scheme, and members of Constructionline, the association of Landscape Contractors Ireland, and the Construction Trading Board Ireland.



GB Landscapes Working in the Community

By its very nature, GB Landscapes is a company that gives back to the community. Experts in ensuring the traditionally harmful task of construction can bring long-term environmental benefits and enjoyment for residents and visitors to an area, their advice and input has been utilised in all areas of the works.

As with all sub-contractors, GB Landscapes was invited to participate in the extensive community benefits and social value programme as laid out by Perth & Kinross Council as a major

component of the Cross Tay Link Road project.



Landscaping goes far further than adding colour and beauty to a road project.



To date, GB Landscapes has been instrumental in ensuring the success of the Rewilding Denmarkfield project, providing 8,526 trees, plants and shrubs (see left).

Sourcing these from local Perthshire and Scottish nurseries, the aim has been to ensure we go further than environmental and social benefits by providing economic gains for the wider community.

Landscaping on The Cross Tay Link Road Project

Gary Baird (Managing Director) oversees the landscaping for the Cross Tay Link Road project, employing 30 personnel.

He explained, "BAM Nuttall and Amery completed the Phase 1 earthworks quicker than expected which allowed us to start the advance tree planting early, in the November 2022 to March 2023 season. This is significant; typically, in a job like this, planting will be left to the last year so not only are we ahead of time, but it also means that the trees will have an extra two years to mature.

"During this time, we focused on replacing the trees at Bertha Woods. As the first phase of the green regeneration, these small trees and transplants outnumbered those we had felled by over 100% and will start to mature in the next few years."

GB Landscapes has planted 45,000 trees to date, which is almost 50% of the intended landscaping quota. In addition to tree planting, GB Landscapes will undertake grassland seeding across the project and the Green Bridge at Highfield and will create five new bug and bee-friendly wildflower meadows across the site. On completion, there will be approximately 6,000 linear metres of hedgerows, which translates to 36,000 individual plants and over 8,000 individual plug plants and pond oxygenators will be planted across several planted wetlands.

Gary explained the bigger picture benefits of landscaping within the project. "Landscaping goes far further than adding colour and beauty to a road project. Planting trees and shrubs helps absorb water and slows the runoff which reduces soil erosion and controls flooding. The wetlands play a big part in this process, helping to purify the water by catching silt and providing drainage.

"We're only four to five months into the wetlands programme and already we can see ducks coming back, and beetles, flies and other insects being attracted to the algae in the reeds."



Extruded Kerbing: Paving the way for the Cross Tay Link Road

Ensuring the long-term sustainability of all works conducted across the Cross Tay Link Road project is a key objective for both BAM Nuttall and Perth & Kinross Council.

While it is accepted that construction is a carbon-intensive process, a joint commitment to reducing carbon as much as possible has resulted in an eco-focused approach to all elements of the design and build. One of the key considerations in the process, therefore, is the ongoing maintenance and lifespan of individual components. By building right first-time round, the need for future replacement and ongoing maintenance is reduced – or in some cases, eliminated altogether.

One such element of the Cross Tay Link Road project is the kerbing, 7.15kms of which is required across the entire project. This is a rigorous process that traditionally demands much in the way of materials, energy, and human resources.

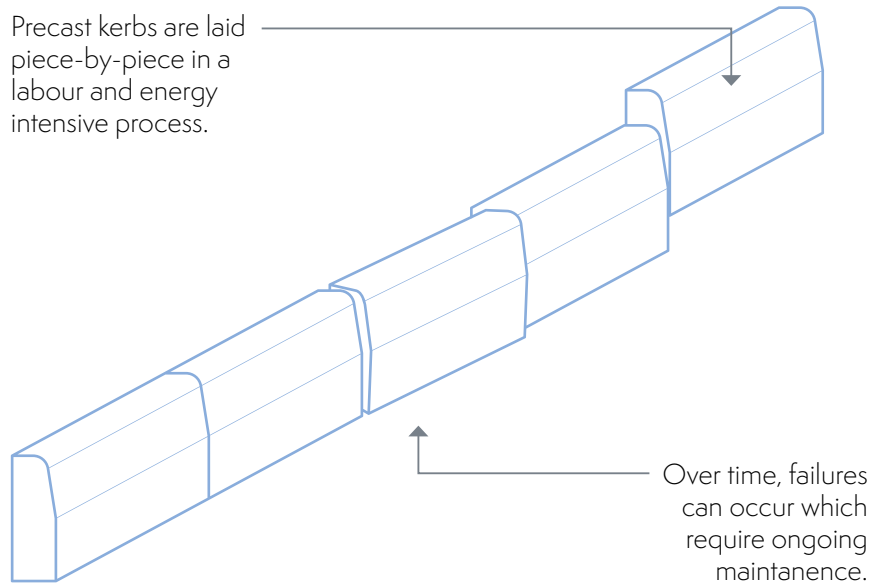
Although viewed by many as a commonplace design element of urban development, kerbing is in fact integral to the fabric of road construction. At its basic purpose it serves as a barrier between roads and paths or green space, but it is also used for enhancing drainage, and improving durability against weather and other environmental factors.

Brian Hosey (Foreman), a BAM employee since 2006, is leading the charge on the kerbing for the Cross Tay Link Road. He commented:

“Once earthworks are complete, kerbing is one of the next construction elements of any road construction job. Traditional precast kerbing methods are not only labour intensive and time consuming, but are prone to popping

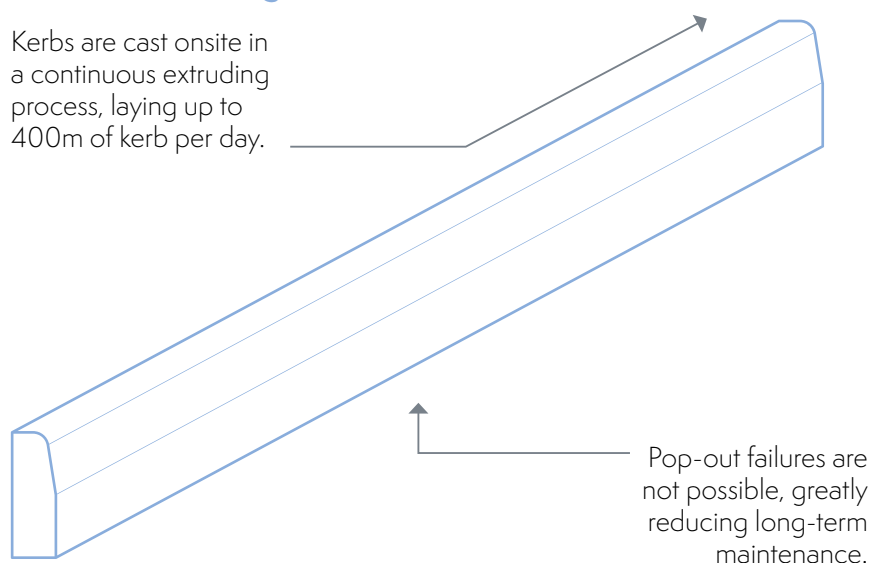
Traditional Kerbing

Precast kerbs are laid piece-by-piece in a labour and energy intensive process.



Extruded Kerbing

Kerbs are cast onsite in a continuous extruding process, laying up to 400m of kerb per day.



out, making maintenance an ongoing issue. This makes them more expensive to lay and to maintain, and also comes with great environmental impacts across the lifespan of the project."

Throughout all areas of the Cross Tay Link Road, BAM Nuttall have opted to use extruded kerbing. This modern approach to kerbing provides a stronger finish, is extremely durable and comes with no or low maintenance.

Robert Bruce, Perth and Kinross Council, commented, "BAM in Ireland have been using extruded kerbing for several years now, but we do not see it so much in Scotland. It was important to the Council when appointing a contractor that we find the most cost-effective, environmentally sound solutions throughout, so it is positive for the project that this type of kerbing is being used.

"BAM can lay up to 400 metres of extruded kerbing in a day with only three people. It is difficult even to compare that to traditional methods because there are so many stages involved – and the end result is not as strong."

BAM use a Power Kerber Super B machine for extruded kerbing, which is staffed by only three operatives throughout the entire process.

Brian continued, "As with all kerbing jobs, the engineers go ahead of us and set the levels that we work to. From here, our machine follows the pins and stringline set-up, to ensure everything is in the exact position.

"The first operative is the driver; they will feed the concrete to the grade level set out by the pins. Next up is the bottle-operator; they control the concrete truck coming in and the consistency of the concrete mix. This is crucial to the integrity of work because if it is too wet the kerb will collapse, and if too dry it will crack. Once this is done, the concrete finisher will address the aesthetics and give it the finish essential to the job.

"All of our concrete onsite is being supplied by Breedon. They are well known for quality materials that last well and give a great finish."

Brian and the team have progressed well in phase two and have now laid 2.75kms of the extruded kerbing including half of the A93, and splitter islands and roundabouts at the A94, Highfield and Stormontfield.

They have also commenced kerbing at the footways at Highfield and the bus stop kerbs at each junction which will facilitate the long-term active travel component of the project.

"It has been a challenge at times, working around the traffic on busy roads such as the A93, but it was important to everyone that we make this happen with minimum disruption to drivers. We are on target to complete kerbing during the summer months."



Reducing Emissions Through CBGM

CBGM – or Cement Bound Granular Material – is defined as a granular material or soil, mixed with cement, and compacted by external vibration. Its main applications are in paving construction, but it is successfully used as a mass foundation material across the industry.

In layperson’s terms, it takes stones and blended aggregates, and mixes them with cement and water to produce a material that can be used as an alternative to traditional methods when building heavily trafficked roads that require strong, layered foundations.

This is hugely beneficial as CBGM is more cost effective, quicker to lay, and produces fewer carbon emissions over the lifespan of a project.

Conor Fitzsimmons is a Senior Agent with BAM Nuttall, and is responsible for the pavement construction onsite, including the production of CBGM.

“We are currently working on the new aligned A9 where we have used CBGM to strengthen the foundations and to produce the base pavement layers. Once these layers have cured, we come in and add the conventional bituminous layer.

“During the initial site investigation and earthworks phases we identified a large supply of suitable materials onsite which we have been processing to produce CBGM. This means that we have required far less in the way of virgin aggregates from quarries.”

The biggest difference between virgin and site-sourced aggregate is the impact on the environment. Virgin material needs to be mined, and this requires drilling, blasting, hauling, crushing, screening, loading, and transporting to site. All of this uses valuable natural resources and consumes a significant amount of energy.

Since site-won aggregates come from an existing product, they do not need to be mined for use. This has allowed BAM Nuttall and Perth & Kinross Council to conserve natural resources and has also eliminated the need for waste aggregate to be transported to landfill. In addition to this, without the need to transport materials from quarry to site, the project has saved on fuel and reduced the number of trucks on the road.

Conor continued, “The A9 has taken approximately 40,000 tonnes of CBGM which translates to around 4,000 truck movements removed from the job and the road network. Overall, by using this environmentally optimised construction method, we’ve achieved a potential saving of more than 900 tonnes of CO2 emissions.”

Jillian Ferguson, Roads and Infrastructure Manager for Perth & Kinross Council, commented, “It is a priority of Perth & Kinross Council to reduce carbon emissions wherever possible, and as the largest infrastructure project ever undertaken by the Council, all areas of the Cross Tay Link Road development have been scrutinised to ensure we are delivering in line with the promises made in the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan adopted by the Council in December 2021.

“BAM Nuttall’s experience in producing and working with CBGM within large-scale infrastructure projects has allowed us to save carbon emissions, contributing to the overall aim to reduce carbon as much as possible.”



Project News



BAM Nuttall Teams Working Together

Over the first weekend in June, the BAM Nuttall team at Cross Tay Link Road worked with colleagues at the Kinardochy Substation site to ensure the safe arrival of a Synchronous Compensator Transformer, the largest component of the station's plant.

Since early 2022 Siemens BAM has been working with SSEN Transmission as the Principal Contractor constructing a new 275/400kV electricity substation just outside Tummel Bridge.

Following the arrival of the Synchronous Compensator Transformer, all necessary plant and equipment has now been successfully delivered, allowing the team to move to the next phase in the build.

Weighing 195 tonnes – it is 100m long including the trucks carrying it – the transformer was delivered on a 24-axle trailer, and required meticulous planning including a single road closure on sections of the B846 and the C447 in Strathtay.

Arriving under Police Scotland escort, the transformer followed the route from the A9 and subsequently the B846, via the C447, to the Kinardochy Substation site. The challenge when passing through Perth was exacerbated due to the contraflow works on the new section of A9 for the Cross Tay Link Road project.

William Diver, BAM Nuttall Project Director for the CTRL commented, "The teams involved in moving this sizeable piece of kit must be commended for their efforts. Together with Perth & Kinross Council, we will always work to accommodate large haulage requirements, it just happens this first major event has been within our own company."

A specialised plan saw the temporary widening of the contraflow late at night to minimise disruption to motorists. Once through, the transformer carried on towards Strathtay. There, the transformer was moved to a 12-axle trailer for a final two-day journey to the Kinardochy Substation site.

CTRL Health and Wellbeing Day

The Cross Tay Link Road project team from both BAM Nuttall and Perth & Kinross Council enjoyed a Health and Wellbeing Day with the award-winning 7Futures team.

The health, safety and wellbeing of staff being a primary priority for the project, it is recognised that often in the construction industry, people tend to work longer hours with early starts combined with working outside in all weathers. Therefore, it is important that wellbeing is carefully considered with regard to the health and safety of the workforce.

The day focused on helping participants boost their health and fitness, and build resilience, through topics including the importance of exercise and nutrition. As well as this, the day offered interactive health measures and advice including blood pressure monitoring, body composition analysis and grip strength.

The 7Futures team includes Mark Davies, the founder, Nathan Douglas, a double Olympian and performance coach, and Hannah Rankin, a professional boxer and classical musician. Organisational psychology, behaviour coaching, and mindfulness are also amongst the team's skillsets.



Inspiring the Next Generation

As laid out in the Project Charter for the Cross Tay Link Road project, BAM Nuttall and Perth & Kinross Council are committed to benefiting the lives of all people living and working in their communities.

Ross Fletcher, Senior Engineer for Perth & Kinross Council, commented, "Inspiring the next generation is a key component of our work, carrying significant weight within the project's community benefits strategy. It is our aim to ensure that children of all abilities, and from all backgrounds, can engage with engineers, and other construction industry team members."

Perth Autism Support Apprenticeship Showcase

Perth Autism Support was founded in November 2011 to support gaps identified in the support of autistic children and young people, and their families, in the Perth and Kinross area.

Its apprenticeship showcase brings together a network of employers from across Perth and Kinross and aims to raise awareness of the autistic workforce's strengths as well as increasing future work opportunities for autistic individuals.

Innes Mackintosh, Stakeholder and Communications Manager for the Cross Tay Link Road project, attended the showcase where he discussed the apprenticeship and employment opportunities offered at BAM Nuttall.



Innes commented, "The evening was a great success with lots of questions from the young people visiting the stall. We have plans to return, to chat with those who couldn't make it, and I look forward to building on this great partnership and doing all we can to support everyone's transition into the world of work."

As a result of the showcase, Zak (aged 15), a Perth Autism Support user, requested a site visit and spent a day observing the activities of our construction site.

Zak commented, "I had a great day onsite and it was really interesting to see all the different jobs people did. I didn't realise how many different jobs there are within construction. It was also really exciting to see the bridge being made."



Perthshire Scout Group Visit

The 10th Perthshire Scout Group was established in 1909 and is still going strong today, welcoming girls and boys aged between 6 and 19 years old. The group is led by a hardworking team of volunteers that support the young people in their physical, mental, and spiritual development.

A group of 26 Scouts and leaders visited the Stormontfield office where they were given a presentation and safety briefing by Construction Manager, John Slaven. They were then taken by bus, which was supplied by Docherty Midland Coaches, for a site tour that included the east pier where Site Engineer, Calum Flett, gave an overview of the piling works.

A highlight of the day had to be the opportunity to sit in plant supplied by BAM Nuttall's subcontractor, James Penman Plant Hire Ltd, to add to the experience.

Chris Kirk, Scout Leader, commented, "The day gave the group a real insight into the construction industry and a chance to see first-hand the work going into the Cross Tay Link Road project."

Kinross High School STEM Students Visit

A group of five pupils from Kinross High School, all interested in careers in the construction industry, were offered the opportunity to enjoy a site visit.

Calum Flett and Innes Mackintosh, together with Billy O'Donoghue, the General Foreman, met the students at the west pier where they were offered insights into the piling works for the River Tay Crossing on both east and west sides, and the new A9 overbridge works. They were also given a breakdown of all other works completed to date.

Finally, they were transported to the green bridge on the Link Road where Calum Flett offered a short update on this important section of the build.

Derek Walsh, Project Manager, commented, "There is an industry-wide shortage of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics skills within construction and the CTRLR project team strongly believes that workplace visits promote potential career opportunities and jobs that may be of interest to young people. It certainly worked in this instance, with two pupils making the decision to pursue a career in civil engineering as a direct result of their visit."



Meet The Team



Liam Boyle, Section Engineer

Joined: September 2022

Overseeing the A9 section of the Cross Tay Link Road project, Liam is responsible for the smooth day-to-day running of the job including the management of sub-contractors and the guidance of junior engineers.

On joining in September 2022, Liam became a key member of the team tasked with completing the bulk fill of the initial earthworks, and since then he has been leading on the pavement works and the construction of the overbridge beams.

Most recently, his team were instrumental in ensuring necessary works were completed for the smooth switch of traffic onto the new A9 on 26th June.

"This section of road is just over 2km of duelled carriageway and has included CBGM works on the northbound carriageway and surfacing the main carriageway of road, so day-to-day I'm dealing with the senior management team at BAM Nuttall, our client Perth & Kinross Council, and all associated sub-contractors, agents, and project managers.

"Landing the overbridge beam in early May was a big milestone for our team and signified a real step forward in the process. It's so visible.

"It's the same when surfacing is complete. As one of the final stages this brings the job together. You're no longer looking at earthworks and the end is in sight!"

Before joining BAM Nuttall in September, Liam worked with Balfour Beatty on dualling the A9 Luncarty - Birnam and the first phase of the Perth Transport Futures project.

"Living in Dundee, I know this road well and for me, the best part of the job is seeing these new sections grow from a blank canvas into complete, finished roads. It's a real buzz driving it when it's done!"

Project Developments

Milestones April to August 2023

Link Road

Work is well underway constructing the Green Bridge which will allow access across the new road to Highfield Plantation for active travel users and wildlife, thus maintaining connectivity. The bridge is of a precast concrete design assembled in 32 separate pieces. Access paths leading up to the Green Bridge have also commenced and landscaping will begin in November 2023.

The new roundabout construction at Stormontfield and the A94 is progressing well, and it is anticipated that these will both be completed in the coming months.

Construction of the combined pedestrian and cycleway track is also well underway.

Tay Crossing Bridge

The west abutment piling has commenced and the west pier foundation, located between the River Tay and the Highland Railway line, has been cast. Pier construction will commence in the next period. A significant milestone has been reached with the east pier stem completed on the River Tay bridge.

This now facilitates the construction of the hammerhead which forms the first part of the deck superstructure. Construction of the initial deck segment of reinforced steel, high-strength concrete, and post-tensioning cables will commence in September.

A careful construction sequence will ensure segments are completed on east and west piers alternately, to maintain a perfect balance.

A9

A critical milestone has been achieved recently with the completion for the new realigned A9 to the west of the old A9. This was achieved in 18 months with the recent tie-in works completed under the planned phase 2 contraflow traffic management.

The contraflow has now been removed, allowing motorists onto the newly realigned dual carriageway.

The A9 overbridge superstructure is also complete with finishing works to continue in the next period. The remaining off-line works will continue with minimal impact on road users.

Get in Touch

For specific questions about the Community Benefits Programme, contact BAM Nuttall's Stakeholder and Communications Manager, Innes Mackintosh on innes.mackintosh@bam.com

If you have any questions about the CTRL, please contact roadsinfrastructure@pkc.gov.uk or crosstaylinkroad@bam.com or call **0330 332 5400**

Further information and updates around the CTRL project can be found at perthtransportfutures.co.uk

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