

## Project Completion Programme

Name Task	Start	2016	2017				2018				2019		
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
1 Construction Start	Sep-16												
2 Earthworks/ Roads	Nov-16												
3 A9 Over Bridge	Jan-17												
4 A9 Culvert	Mar-17												
5 Lade Culvert	Dec-16												
6 River Bridge	Mar-17												
7 Foot Bridge	Apr-17												
8 Crematorium Road	Nov-17												
9 Ruthvenfield to Bertha	Jan-17												
10 Project completion	Mar-19												

## Doors Open Day 2018

On the 29th of September, the project once more opened its doors to members of the public as part of Perth and Kinross Doors Open Day 2018. Doors Open Days is Scotland's largest free festival that celebrates heritage and the built environment. This annual event gives local residents and visitors of all ages the opportunity to visit historic, civic and interesting buildings that are not usually open or accessible to the public; all for free!

This year, attendees were given a project overview presentation covering the works and some of the community benefits delivered. Also on offer were site tours and the opportunity to build bat and bird boxes from recycled wood.



Dr Gavin Lindsay, Co-ordinator stated "It's been a pleasure to work with the enthusiastic team from Balfour Beatty & PKC over the past two years to bring free public access to the Perth Transport Futures Project Phase 1 works and raise awareness of what it takes to deliver a £35m road construction project whilst keeping traffic flowing."



## National Social Value Awards

The Perth Transport Futures Project's contribution to the Perth community has been recognised in the National Social Value Awards.

Judged by an independent expert panel, the awards recognise projects that have delivered significant additional social value to the communities surrounding them.

The success of the project in these awards reflects the work done throughout to ensure local job opportunities were provided, money was spent locally, staff received training and meaningful engagement with schools and local community groups was delivered.



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## Environment

### Bird Nesting Season

The 'Bird Nesting Season' is officially from February until August and where practicable the project removes vegetation or undertakes site clearance outside of the nesting season. However, in reality the nesting period may start before this and extend beyond it in some cases. The busiest time for nesting birds is from 1st March until 31st July depending on the species present.

Bird nesting was monitored throughout the construction of the project and species identified were protected through buffer / exclusion zones, the size of which depends upon the species identified. Sand martins were found to be nesting within the Mineral Extraction Area (MEA) at Bertha Park and were protected with a 15m buffer / exclusion zone. The birds were monitored throughout the summer and in late September were found to have left the nesting area. In agreement with SNH



Sand martins nesting colony

the restoration of the MEA was undertaken.

Sand Martins depart British Isles from late July to September. Most are thought to winter in the Sahel, the zone south of Sahara, where they feed in damp places that offer plentiful supplies of flying insects

### Silt Mitigation

Increased rainfall through the autumn and winter months poses the greatest risk to the project and can cause the release of silt from un-vegetated embankments that can enter the water courses such as the Perth Lade and River Almond. Sensitive aquatic life such as freshwater fish may be affected by suspended silt where it can block their gills.



Silt mitigation techniques

As contractors Balfour Beatty must aim to avoid impacting on aquatic environments and prevent silt entering water courses. Throughout September the ground was prepared and seeded with a mix of amenity grasses and wildflower seed. Vegetation will bind the soils on embankments and stop the release of sediments. Once established wildflowers will vastly increase the habitat for invertebrates including bees who's populations have steeply declined in recent years.

Silt fencing has been used to provide a barrier to any water runoff further trapping silt and preventing it entering the water courses.

### Contact Us

#### Perth Transport Futures Project

Site Office  
Crieff Road  
Perth  
PH1 3JJ

#### Office opening times

Monday to Thursday 9.00am  
- 5.00pm  
Friday 9.00am - 3.00pm



01738 783340 | @PTFutures1 | www.perthtransportfutures.co.uk

Balfour Beatty

Scape Procure  
Civil Engineering & Infrastructure

NEWSLETTER

## Perth Transport Futures Project Phase 1 - A9/A85 Junction Improvement and Link Road to Bertha Park

Autumn/Winter 2018



Welcome to our Autumn/Winter newsletter for the A9/A85 project. Over the last several months, works have been progressing well and remain on programme. Significant milestones have been achieved in the period, with many of these being obvious to the travelling public.

The new pedestrian footbridge across the A9 was installed during a full closure of the A9 in mid-August. Work on the approach ramps and the footbridge is now open to the public. A ceremony took place with pupils from nearby Ruthvenfield Primary School to officially mark the opening of this new structure.

Works to the new West Connector Road and the Northbound Merge were completed and these are now being used as the Northbound access to the A9 from the A85. The existing slip road has been closed off and this area will now be landscaped.

The new Southbound Merge Slip Road construction has progressed well and involved a 2 week closure of the existing Southbound Slip Road to allow the construction of the tie in. The new slip road

is now open. This is a considerable change for the travelling public as access to the slip road is no longer from the roundabout at McDiarmid Park but is instead along the new section of road in front of the Crematorium.

Throughout the construction period both Balfour Beatty and Perth and Kinross Council have endeavoured to minimise disruption to the public and will continue to do so until contract completion. We would like to thank everyone for their patience while these significant works have been carried out.

We hope that this newsletter gives you a good insight into how the works are progressing as well as letting you see some of the other things that the project team deliver. We are happy to receive any comments or feedback using the contact details on the back of this newsletter.

Andy Gardner

Andy Gardner,  
Balfour Beatty Project Manager,  
A9/A85 Project

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## Work Experience

Throughout the duration of the project, the team have offered a multitude of work experience placements to local people of all backgrounds; from school pupils to unemployed people to individuals with a background of offending.

Using the Social Value Portal, we have calculated that an additional £117,440 of social value has been added through our work experience initiatives alone.

To read more about our work experience programmes, head over to the website and read our newest case studies.

49

weeks of work experience provided

## Business Star Awards

The team at the Perth Transport Futures Project are delighted to announce that we have been shortlisted for two awards at this years Chamber of Commerce "Business Star Awards".

Liam Boyle, one of our civil engineering apprentices working on the project, has been shortlisted for the Perth College UHI "Apprentice of the Year Award" and our partnership with Perth Academy, built around the DEC! programme, has made it to the final stage of the "DYW School Partnership Award".

Speaking about his shortlisting, Liam said "I am delighted to have made it to this stage of such an important competition."

The award ceremony takes place on the 23rd of November at Crieff Hydro where Liam and the team will find out if they have been successful.

Wish us luck!



Liam at Blairgowrie High School



DEC! Class with John Swinney

## SPS Partnership - Benches

The project continues to work closely with the Scottish Prison Service to deliver opportunities aimed at rehabilitating offenders and providing access to the skills and opportunities required to have a second chance at life and to have a positive impact on the local community.

Using wood recycled from site and cut and prepared at a local sawmill, inmates at HMP Perth and HMP Saughton have worked to build benches which will be placed around the project at the River Almond and the Crematorium.



## Inveralmond Skywalk Opened

On the 29th of October, pupils from Ruthvenfield Primary School came to site to open up the new footbridge over the A9.

The bridge, named the Skywalk by Ruthvenfield Primary pupil Nathan Roger – now a student at Perth Grammar, will significantly improve public safety at this location. Previously, the community were forced to physically cross the A9, dodging fast moving traffic. Now they will be able to safely cross over the road on a fully accessible structure and also make use of the new surfaced NMU path along the lade.



## Recent Works

- The west connector road and North Bound slip road have completed and opened to traffic
- Resoiling of slopes and verges has continued as the weather has permitted
- Within the redundant section of the A85, new parking spaces have been created
- Erection of signage and street lighting
- Landscaping and seeding works to the North Bound slip road

Public Utility	Diversions or protections
British Telecom	5 of 6 completed
SSE Power & Communications	Complete
Scottish Gas Networks	Complete
Scottish Water	Complete
Virgin Media	Complete
SSET	Complete

## Current Works

- The west connector road between Ruthvenfield roundabout and the new A9 over bridge is being surfaced along with verge and landscaping works
- Traffic islands at the A85 West cross roads are currently under construction along with remaining surfacing works around this junction
- Surfacing and kerbing to the East A85 junction
- Installation of boundary fencing
- Preparation and installation of remaining traffic signage, traffic signals and CCTV camera infrastructure
- Ongoing landscaping works across the project

## Working Hours

Our normal working hours remain:

**Monday – Friday: 07:00 - 19:00hrs**  
**Saturday: 07:00 - 13:00hrs**

There are some remaining elements of the project where work is required outwith these times, typically to avoid disruption to traffic flows, key tasks being;

**Installation of CCTV camera infrastructure**

## From the team at PKC

We are fast approaching the completion of the construction works with the link road (between the A9 and Ruthvenfield Road) and the bridge over the A9 being the only two new sections of road left to be opened to road users.

In recent months a lot of the detailed works, such as landscaping, erection of traffic traffic signs and lighting columns, ducting works for traffic signals, have been carried out and have included a general 'tidy up' of the whole site.

It is important to the Council and Balfour Beatty that the residents and visitors to Perth are pleased with the new road infrastructure and are able to make use of the benefits that come with it.

One of the best moments for the project team was the grand opening of the much needed new footbridge over the A9. The pupils from Ruthvenfield Primary School had a great morning and we felt it was only appropriate that they were able to share this key milestone for the project given that the project has opened up and improved pedestrian and cycle links in the area.

Once again I would like to thank the travelling public and residents for their continued patience whilst the works have been ongoing.

*Jillian Fergusson*

Jillian Fergusson  
Roads Infrastructure Manager  
Perth and Kinross Council

**For updates on works throughout the construction of the scheme, please use the project website, follow the projects Twitter feed, @PTFutures1 or feel free to call us at anytime on 01738 783 340**

