



**JE JACOBS** ARUP

Forth Replacement Crossing  
**Engaging with Communities**

September 2008

**FORTHREPLACEMENTCROSSING**  
[www.forthreplacementcrossing.info](http://www.forthreplacementcrossing.info)



## **FORTH REPLACEMENT CROSSING: ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITIES**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Scottish Government and Transport Scotland are committed to encouraging interest and public involvement in the development of the proposals for the Forth Replacement Crossing. As work on the project progresses, statutory consultation will be required as part of the authorisation process. In the meantime Scottish Government and Transport Scotland will ensure that:

- arrangements for participation are inclusive, open and transparent;
- a wide range of participants are encouraged to get involved at the appropriate time;
- information is provided at key stages to allow for full consideration;
- communication is facilitated through a range of methods in a range of locations; and
- all representations will be fully considered and feedback provided.

Scottish Government and Transport Scotland are engaging with a wide range of stakeholders in the public sector (including local authorities, key government departments and agencies), the private sector (including business and industry interests and developers), the community and voluntary sector (including community councils, other community and voluntary groups) and environmental organisations.

The purpose of this document is to set out how we intend to engage with communities during the preparation process and how you will be able to take part.

### **2. BACKGROUND TO THE FORTH REPLACEMENT CROSSING PROJECT**

The existing Forth Road Bridge is showing signs of deterioration as a result of increased traffic and the influence of weather and climate in spite of constant maintenance throughout its 44 years of service. Transport Scotland (the Scottish Government's national transport agency) has undertaken a study into a replacement crossing as part of a strategic review of Scotland's transport network from 2012 to 2022 (the Strategic Transport Projects Review). The study concluded that a replacement crossing is required to maintain this crucial link for the economies of Fife, Edinburgh, the Lothians and the country at large.

On 19 December 2007 Scottish Ministers announced that following careful consideration of the studies outlined below, a cable-stayed bridge was the best performing option for the replacement crossing. The bridge will span the Forth from the northern shore, just west of the existing road bridge to a point west of South Queensferry. The bridge will be designed to cater for all types of traffic including freight, pedestrians and cyclists and will incorporate the facility for a

future multimodal public transport corridor which could be used by guided buses, light rail or trams in the future.

### **3. SUMMARY OF WORK TO DATE**

The Ministerial decision to build a bridge was informed by the following studies:

- Forth Replacement Crossing Study (FRCS) including an appraisal of options following Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG).
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the short-listed options identified from the FRCS.
- Appropriate Assessment of the SEA short-listed options. This considered the effects of the options on areas of the Firth of Forth designated for their European nature conservation value, at a strategic level.

The reports of these studies can all be accessed in electronic form on Transport Scotland's website at [www.forthreplacementcrossing.info](http://www.forthreplacementcrossing.info).

### **4. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND TIMETABLE**

Transport Scotland appointed the consultancy joint venture, Jacobs Arup, in January 2008 to develop the Forth Replacement Crossing (FRC) project. Work in progress includes:

- Land ownership searches
- Environmental surveys and assessments
- Traffic surveys
- Ground investigation and aerial surveys
- Developing and assessing road connection and bridge design options.
- Identifying appropriate procurement, finance and legislative options
- Consulting with stakeholders

The proposals are being developed following the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB). This is a three-stage process:

Stage 1 - scoping of environmental and other constraints;

Stage 2 – consideration of broad corridor options and identification of a preferred corridor for the bridge and its connections;

Stage 3 – identification of preferred alignment and assessment of the preferred scheme design including an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

At each stage of the process, a wide range of factors are considered including transport needs, engineering and the potential impacts on the environment.

An indicative timeline for the project is included in Table 1 below.

**Table 1 Indicative Timeline for the Project**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Project Stage</b>
Mid – Late 2008	Data collection
Early 2009	Complete outline design
End 2009 - 2010	Authorisation process
2010 - 2016	Tendering & Construction

## **5. ENGAGING WITH THE PUBLIC**

Scottish Government and Transport Scotland wish to build on previous public and stakeholder consultations undertaken for projects in the Forth bridgehead area and to inform, consult and involve the public in the development of the current proposals at appropriate stages and level of detail.

In Stage 1, consultation is focussing particularly on gathering information to gain a better understanding about the constraints and opportunities in the study area through briefing sessions to community groups and email and telephone correspondence with the FRC team. This early consultation will assist the design team in understanding the constraints in potential corridors for the bridge crossing and connecting road network to the north and south of the Forth.

It is anticipated that later this year the preferred corridors for these road connections will be known. At that stage Scottish Government and Transport Scotland wish to consult widely on how the preferred corridor can be developed to help inform the detailed proposals which will be taken forward to authorisation.

Table 2 sets out the methods, benefits, commitments and timing for public participation activities as part of the Forth Replacement Crossing. The anticipated key stages in public participation are listed below:

- February – June 2008: Early engagement with the public to gather information about the study area.
- Winter 2008/9: Public Exhibitions to gain public feedback on the developing proposals.
- Late 2008 – Mid 2009: Ongoing public consultation to develop the detailed design and appropriate mitigation within the preferred corridor.

**Table 2 Participation Methods, Benefits, Commitments and Timing.**

This table sets out the methods that will be used for public participation up to the appointment of a contractor. Transport Scotland will require the contractor to continue effective engagement with the local community and interested parties to minimise disruption during construction and deliver community benefits wherever possible. The exact nature of the public participation at that time will be clarified once the contract has been awarded.

Public Participation Method	Benefits	Commitment	Timing
Letters	Direct contact with statutory organisations and other groups/individuals/landowners/community /interest groups).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To introduce to the project.</li> <li>○ To invite stakeholders to meetings.</li> <li>○ To request information.</li> <li>○ To have direct communication with landowners.</li> <li>○ To ensure that information issued to stakeholders is copied to constituency and list MSPs, MPs, MEPs and elected local councillors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ongoing throughout the project.</li> </ul>
Email	Correspondence can be targeted to consultee groups/individuals. Faster and more cost effective than post. To allow the public to contact the FRC team.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To respond to email queries received through the project website.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ongoing throughout the project.</li> </ul>
Website	An important central resource for the public, media and all stakeholders to access up to date information. The website will feature a document archive, timeline, frequently asked questions (FAQs), feedback mechanism, information about events, news articles etc for the scheme. Information and drawings can be downloaded. Information will be updated on a regular basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To keep the website up-to-date.</li> <li>○ To use on-line feedback mechanism to gain public views on the preferred route corridor.</li> <li>○ To provide an email enquiry and response service.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ongoing throughout the project.</li> <li>○ Anticipated in Winter 2008/9.</li> <li>○ Ongoing throughout the project.</li> </ul>
Ezines	Dissemination of up to date information regularly to a targeted but large database of interested parties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To issue up to date information on project progress.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Two-monthly basis or to fit with news announcements as required.</li> </ul>

Public Participation Method	Benefits	Commitment	Timing
Newsletter/ Leaflets	Provides regular information and opportunities for individuals to feed back comments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To keep landowners informed using information leaflets with details of surveys and ground investigation works.</li> <li>○ To keep all affected parties and the general public informed about project development.</li> <li>○ To make this information accessible to a wide audience by distributing through libraries and other community facilities.</li> <li>○ To ensure that information issued to stakeholders is copied to constituency and list MSPs, MPs, MEPs and elected local councillors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ongoing throughout project as required.</li> <li>○ Ongoing throughout project as required.</li> </ul>
Local Media/ Press Releases	To provide information to as wide an audience as possible using the media and local newspapers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To keep the media updated on developments throughout the life of the project through news releases and interviews or briefings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ At appropriate stages in the project development.</li> </ul>
Briefing sessions	Information to members of representative stakeholder groups, including responding to questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To hold briefing sessions to introduce stakeholder representatives to the project team and set up a communication link with community groups.</li> <li>○ To ensure that constituency and list MSPs, MPs, MEPs and elected local councillors are invited to briefing sessions, or are provided with a separate briefing session on the topics being presented. To also give consideration to the location and timing of these briefing sessions and ensure that invitations are issued in good time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spring 2008 and as appropriate throughout the project development.</li> </ul>

Public Participation Method	Benefits	Commitment	Timing
Public Exhibitions	Opportunity for the public to feedback views through contact with Transport Scotland and the FRC project team.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To hold public exhibitions/ road shows to present information and gain public feedback on the preferred route corridor</li> <li>○ To provide an opportunity for feedback</li> <li>○ To ensure that constituency and list MSPs, MPs, MEPs and elected local councillors are made aware of public exhibitions and are invited to attend.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Anticipated in Winter 2008/9.</li> </ul>
Community Council, Residents Association and Landowner Meetings	Involving local people, key stakeholders and community groups to establish key issues and solutions. The format can be modified to suit the audience including formalised presentation, small group discussions and feedback.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To engage effectively with community representatives and affected parties.</li> <li>○ To follow up on the briefing sessions and to provide opportunity for discussion on project development, mitigation and required accommodation works.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ongoing throughout project as required.</li> <li>○ Late 2008 – Mid 2009 (approximately).</li> </ul>
Reference/ Focus Groups	Structured group process where peoples' views on specific issues can be sought. Can be directed to a particular group with an interest in the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To benefit from the knowledge and expertise of particular groups to benefit the project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ongoing throughout project as required but likely to be used most in early 2009.</li> </ul>
One-to-one Stakeholder Meetings	One-to-one meetings with stakeholders most affected by the proposals. Opportunity to resolve potential issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To meet specific stakeholders to discuss issues related to the project, develop specific mitigation, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ongoing throughout project as required or requested.</li> </ul>



Feedback from all consultation events will be recorded including how the information provided has been taken into account in the development of the project. A report summarising feedback from public exhibitions will be produced and made available on the project website and in paper format on request to the FRC team (see Section 7 below for contact details). Additionally, a summary of all consultation activities and feedback during the project will be collated.

## **6. PERIODS OF STATUTORY CONSULTATION**

As part of the authorisation process for the project, periods of statutory consultation will be required. At present authorisation processes are not yet fully defined. Therefore the consultation periods for all authorisation processes will be advertised at the appropriate time.

## **7. FURTHER INFORMATION**

If you would like further information on the project or would like to express your views please use one of the following:

- Visit the Forth Replacement Crossing webpage: [www.forthreplacementcrossing.org](http://www.forthreplacementcrossing.org) (this site also includes information on the earlier studies which informed the decision to build a bridge and you can also sign up here for the ezine)
- Email the Forth Replacement Crossing Team: [frcenquiries@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:frcenquiries@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk)
- Speak to a member of the Forth Replacement Crossing Team: phone the enquiry line on 0141 272 7578
- Write to:

Forth Replacement Crossing Team  
Transport Scotland  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor Buchanan House  
58 Port Dundas Road  
Glasgow  
G4 0HF

Further copies of this document are available, on request, in audio and large print formats and in community languages, please contact:

[info@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk) or phone 0141 272 7100

اس دستاویز کی مزید کاپیاں آڈیو کیسیٹ پر اور بڑے حروف کی چھپائی میں اور کمیونٹی کی زبانوں میں طلب کیے جانے پر دستیاب ہیں، برائے مہربانی اس پتے پر رابطہ کریں:

এই ডকুমেন্ট-এর (দলিল) অতিরিক্ত কপি, অডিও এবং বড়ো ছাপার অক্ষর আকারে এবং সম্প্রদায়গুলোর ভাষায় অনুরোধের মাধ্যমে পাওয়া যাবে, অনুগ্রহ করে যোগাযোগ করুন:

**Gheibhear lethbhreacan a bharrachd ann an cruth ris an èistear, ann an clò mòr agus ann an cànan coimhearsnachd. Cuir fios gu:**

इस दस्तावेज़/कागज़ात की और प्रतियाँ, माँगे जाने पर, ऑडियो टैप पर और बड़े अक्षरों में तथा कम्प्यूनिटी भाषाओं में मिल सकती हैं, कृपया संपर्क करें:

ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼/ਕਾਗਜ਼ਾਤ ਦੀਆਂ ਹੋਰ ਕਾਪੀਆਂ, ਮੰਗੇ ਜਾਣ 'ਤੇ, ਆੱਡਿਓ ਟੇਪ ਉੱਪਰ ਅਤੇ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਅਤੇ ਕੰਮਿਊਨਿਟੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਦੇ ਵਿਚ ਮਿਲ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ, ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ:

此文件有更多備份，如果需要，語音版本和大字體版本及少數種族語言版本也可提供，請聯絡：

يمكن أن تطلب للنسخ الأخرى من هذا المستند كالتسجيل الصوتي والخط الكبير ونسخ بلغات أخرى، يرجى الإتصال على:



For more information about the Forth Replacement Crossing please contact the Transport Scotland Forth Replacement Crossing team on:

phone: **0141 272 7578**

email: **[frcenquiries@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:frcenquiries@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk)**

web: **[www.forthreplacementcrossing.info](http://www.forthreplacementcrossing.info)**



**TRANSPORT  
SCOTLAND**

# **FORTHREPLACEMENTCROSSING**

**[www.forthreplacementcrossing.info](http://www.forthreplacementcrossing.info)**