











A9 Dualling Luncarty to Pass of Birnam Meet the contractor

transport.gov.scot/project/a9-luncarty-pass-birnam

Welcome

The A9 Dualling Programme comprises of eleven projects including the completed Kincraig to Dalraddy project.

In September 2018, Transport Scotland named Balfour Beatty as principal contractor for the second section of the A9 Dualling Programme, to upgrade the route from Luncarty to the Pass of Birnam.

This public event provides an opportunity for the community to meet the team who will be delivering this section of the project, prior to construction starting in earnest in early 2019. This is the first in an ongoing programme of community engagement events.

Representatives from Balfour Beatty, our designer Atkins, Transport Scotland and Jacobs will be happy to assist you with any queries you may have.







Project overview

The existing 9.5km stretch of single carriageway will be widened to full dual carriageway standard, providing overtaking opportunities in both directions.

All junctions providing direct access to the A9 will be closed and replaced with two new junctions at Tullybelton/Stanley and Bankfoot which will provide access to and from the carriageway via sliproads. These are known as 'grade separated' junctions.

A number of new access roads and tracks will be constructed to provide properties with access to the local road network and the new grade separated junctions.

The project also includes:

- Two northbound laybys and one southbound, with 70m of parking
- New footways and cycleways, providing a pedestrian and cycle route between Luncarty and Bankfoot to promote active travel
- A drainage scheme developed in accordance with Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) guidance
- Four new overbridges will maintain local access across the A9, along with the widening of one existing underbridge and the construction of a new side road bridge. Other structures, such as retaining walls and culverts will also be required.









Tullybelton/Stanley Junction





Scheme objectives

The development of the A9 Luncarty to Pass of Birnam project will meet the following objectives:

- Improve operational performance and level of service by:
 - Ø Reducing journey times
 - Ø Improving journey time reliability
- Improve safety for motorised and non-motorised users by:
 - Ø Reducing accident severity
 - Ø Reducing driver stress
- Facilitate active travel e.g. walking and cycling around the A9
- Improve integration with public transport facilities
- Mitigate the environmental impact of the new works and, where possible, examine opportunities for enhancing the environment and improving sustainability in design and construction
- Achieve value for money for both tax payers and transport users







Bankfoot South Junction





Programme of works

The A9 Dualling: Luncarty to Pass of Birnam project is expected to be operational by Spring 2021.

The works will be broadly split over the following categories:

- **Earthworks** The excavation and movement of approximately 860,000m³ of material to create new cuttings and embankments enough to fill 344 Olympic size swimming pools!
- **Structures** The construction of four new over bridges (Pitlandie, Tullybelton, Coltrannie and Gelly), the extension of an existing underpass at Bankfoot and two culvert extensions at the Shochie and Ordie burns.
- **Roadworks** 9.5km of new A9 dual carriageway with associated side/link roads adjacent to new Tullybelton/Stanley Junction and existing Bankfoot Junctions.
- Accommodation Works Fencing, drainage works and the integration of existing properties and points of access to the newly constructed A9.

To facilitate the construction process, a number of temporary site accesses will be constructed along the existing A9 between Luncarty and Birnam. This is the first phase of the planned works and is currently underway. Materials will be transported within the site wherever possible. This ensures use of the existing road network will be strictly limited, reducing congestion and minimising impact on road users.

To see the locations of all of our site access points, please speak to a member of the team.







Bankfoot North Junction





Community benefits

Balfour Beatty is excited about the opportunity that the A9 Dualling Programme presents. This project allows us to demonstrate Scotland's significant depth of talent in modern, major infrastructure project delivery. The project provides a unique opportunity to demonstrate how sustainability resides at the very core of everything that we do.

The Community Benefits generated through our construction projects can be a powerful catalyst to improving the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the communities in which we live.

This project will enable the delivery of a diverse programme of events and activities aimed at delivering meaningful and measureable benefit to the surrounding area.



Volunteering at Fairview School, Perth



STEM workshops at Blairgowrie High School





Community benefits

- Educational Engagement We will work with local schools, colleges and universities to promote careers in engineering and to assist educators in delivering science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) based education opportunities. We will do this through Transport Scotland's well established Academy9 programme and through our continuing partnerships with local schools.
- **Charitable donations** We will work with the local community to identify projects that would benefit from both practical and financial support.
- **Volunteering** Our expert and specialist staff will support a diverse range of community based initiatives.



Academy9 archaeology workshop



Academy9 archaeology workshop





Community benefits

- Local Employment Opportunities We will guarantee interviews to candidates applying for advertised roles who live within 10 miles of the project. We will also work with employability services within Perth and the surrounding area to help break down barriers to employment.
- Local Spend We will aim to work with local businesses wherever possible to ensure that the economic benefits of the scheme are felt within the local community, stimulating economic growth.
- **Training** Opportunities will be provided for all project employees to allow them to develop their skills to meet the needs of an evolving industry.



Demonstrating 3D technology to local school pupils



Civilian Transition Partnership Veteran Careers Day





Traffic Management

The A9 Dualling: Luncarty to Pass of Birnam project has a direct interface with the existing A9 and its users. Balfour Beatty, in consultation with Perth and Kinross Council, BEAR Scotland, Transport Scotland, Jacobs and the emergency services, will plan and co-ordinate the traffic management deployed on the road to ensure the safety of road users and operatives.

BEAR Scotland remain responsible for routine maintenance of the existing A9 and we will work closely with them to minimise disruption to traffic during the works.

To view detailed Traffic Management phasing proposals, please speak to a member of the team.









Traffic management

To allow the construction of this major road project, traffic management will be required.

Balfour Beatty will work closely with Transport Scotland to minimise disruption to traffic during the works. One lane in each direction will be maintained throughout the works, however, road users should expect to allow additional time for their journeys during the construction period.

Traffic management will include:

- A 40 mph temporary speed restriction
- Average speed safety cameras
- Narrow lanes & safety barriers to create safe zones in close proximity to traffic

On occasion it may be necessary to implement two-way traffic signals and road closures. These measures will only be employed when there is no other safe alternative to allow the works to progress e.g. the installation of bridge beams.

Advance notice will be provided via the local media, Traffic Scotland and Transport Scotland's website prior to works proceeding.

Balfour Beatty will adopt a traffic management strategy which aims to keep the A9 flowing and minimise the impact on road users.





Environmental considerations

The land surrounding Luncarty and Pass of Birnam includes a number of unique environmental sensitivities.

These include:

- Designated sites such as the River Tay, Special Area of Conservation, Cairnleith Moss Site of Special Scientific Interest and Mill Dam Site of Special Scientific Interest
- Cultural heritage including listed buildings, archaeological sites and historic landscapes
- Protected species such as otters, Atlantic salmon and lamprey
- Woodlands including Gelly Wood and Murthly Estate
- Low-lying agricultural farmland, undulated hillsides, watercourses and heathland landscapes
- Properties in Luncarty, Bankfoot and in isolated rural areas



Culverts designed to enable safe passage for salmon



Continuous bat surveys throughout project







Mitigation

The project passes through a rural area with some environmentally sensitive and protected areas, and is in close proximity to several communities.

To address this, a variety of mitigation methods will be used to minimise impact:

- New and re-routed access tracks and footpaths and new community links, including a cycleway and footway linking Bankfoot and Luncarty
- Construction of the Gelly Overbridge/Wildlife Overbridge to support the movement of species across the new A9, with a widened green verge to stimulate biodiversity
- Installation of mammal tunnels alongside culverts to support the movement of otter and other species underneath the A9



Mammal underpass example



Balfour Beatty



Bat boxes

Mitigation

- Installation of bat boxes in areas of existing woodland
- Landscape planting to replace loss of habitat, screen views and integrate the new A9 with its surroundings
- Construction measures including pollution control and timing of work to avoid sensitive periods
- Incorporating low noise road surfacing and noise barriers into the design to mitigate any noise impacts
- Management and control of invasive species



Timber acoustic barrier



SuDS pond under construction







Gelly overbridge/Wildlife overbridge







Landowners, residents and businesses

Throughout the construction phase, Balfour Beatty will be in regular contact with residents, landowners and businesses who may be affected by the works, via our dedicated Community Liaison Team.

The Community Liaison Team will be the first point of contact for all project related enquiries and will use a variety of methods to keep you up to date with the project and will work closely with our construction team to minimise disruption during construction.

Balfour Beatty understands the needs of local families, communities, businesses, the farming community and road users and will work closely to develop positive relationships with each of our stakeholders based on respect and cooperation.

The team will be in contact with landowners directly affected by the project over the coming weeks to consult on Accommodation Works and to discuss any specific requirements.

The Community Liaison Team can be contacted 24/7 via: Tel: 0800 193 7313 or by email: A9L2B@balfourbeatty.com



Project communications

The project team will provide regular updates on the project. These updates will be designed to keep the community up-to-date with project progress, significant works, upcoming traffic management and to share project news and milestones.

We will also actively engage with community representatives such as Community Councils, schools and local businesses, so that we understand local priorities, concerns and issues and address these in our communications.

Communication methods will include:

- Regular newsletters
- Local noticeboards
- Twitter updates
- Letters to residents, landowners and key stakeholders
- Press releases
- Community drop-in sessions
- Website updates: transport.gov.scot/project/a9-luncarty-pass-birnam
- 24/7 project enquiries line: 0800 193 7313
- Enquiries email address: A9L2B@balfourbeatty.com

If you would like to receive the project newsletter direct to your email or via post, please fill out the registration form available from any team member at this exhibition.



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