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# **Environmental Impact Assessment Record of Determination**

**M90 Fildie Burn to River Farg  
Bridge Southbound  
(Resurfacing)**

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## Project Details

### Description

Resurfacing works are required to maintain the safety and integrity of a section of the M90 carriageway (southbound) located north of Glenfarg, Perth and Kinross as the existing carriageway is displaying surface and structural issues.

The primary treatment will be surface treatment, with inlay resurfacing at various depths throughout the scheme extents.

The scheme is approximately 1.52 kilometres (km), with a total area of approximately 1.8 hectares (ha).

Construction activities and the associated plant and machinery required are as follows:

- Implementation of Traffic Management (TM) and marking out site (TM plant);
- Milling of existing surfacing to agreed depths (planer, miller, wagon);
- Resurfacing of carriageway using TS2010 aggregate, AC binder and AC base (paver, roller);
- Reinstatement of road markings, linings, and studs (lorries/wagons and plant);
- Removal of TM.

The construction is programmed to be undertaken and completed within the 2025-2026 financial year, proposed for January 2026. A contraflow system will in place 24/7, with works undertaken during night-time working hours for approximately two weeks.

### Location

This section of the M90 carriageway is a dual carriageway located north of Glenfarg, Perth and Kinross at the following National Grid References (NGRs) (Figure 1):

- Scheme start: NO 14480 13723
- Scheme end: NO 14351 12237

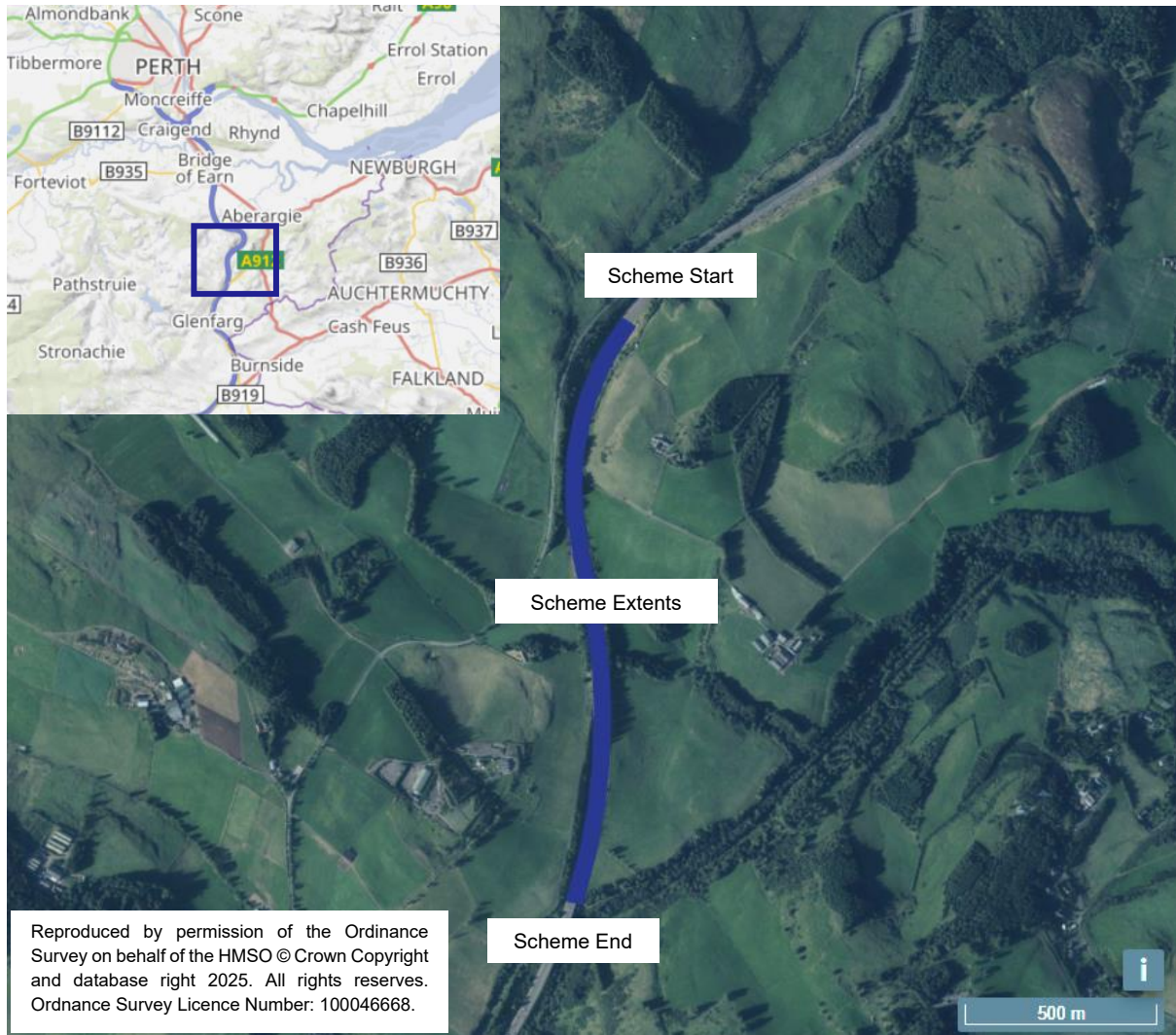


Figure 1. Scheme Location Map.

## Description of local environment

### Air quality

The scheme extents cover a largely rural stretch of the M90 carriageway, within Perth and Kinross. Baseline air quality is likely to be influenced primarily by traffic flow along the M90, with secondary sources from agricultural activities.

[Annual Average Daily Flow](#) (AADF) in 2024 along the M90, approximately 2.5km south of the scheme extents (site number: [20813](#)) was counted at 26,903 total vehicles, with 2,538 (9.4%) Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs).

Perth & Kinross Council have currently declared one [Air Quality Management Area](#) (AQMA), Perth City, for exceedances in nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and fine particulates (PM<sub>10</sub>). This AQMA is located over 8km from the scheme extents. There are no real-time air quality monitoring stations ([Air Quality in Scotland](#)) or any sites on the [Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory \(SPRI\)](#) located within 1km of the scheme extents.

There are two air quality-sensitive receptors located within 200m, both are residential receptors located 180m west and 195m east from the scheme extents. No community facilities are located within 200m of the scheme extents.

### Cultural heritage

A desktop study using [Historic Scotland Designations](#) and [PastMap](#) has been undertaken, where an asset has been listed more than once, its highest statutory designation has been recorded. This refers to designations including World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Battlefields and Listed Buildings.

No statutory cultural heritage features are located within the scheme footprint; however, one is located within 300m of the scheme:

- A Category B Listed Building, Ruins Of Old House Of Fordel And Outbuildings, Easter Fordel (LB569) located approximately 165m west at NO 14242 12535, comprising the remains of a late 16<sup>th</sup> to early 17<sup>th</sup> century tower house and associated outbuildings.

Historic Environment Records (HERs) and National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) provide local and national level information on Scotland's historic environment. There are four records listed on the HER and NRHE located within 200m, however, none are located within the scheme extents.

## Landscape and visual effects

### Landscape

The scheme lies within a predominantly rural setting, characterised by woodland and grazing and arable agricultural land.

There are no statutory or non-statutory landscape designations such as [Ancient Woodland Inventory](#) (AWI) sites or [Tree Preservation Orders](#) (TPOs) located within 200m of the scheme extents, or visible from the scheme.

The scheme falls within the Lowland Hill Ranges [Landscape Character Type](#) (LCT 382), defined by open, upland landscapes with volcanic ridges and glens, grass moorland and upland pasture, with sparse settlement and visible cultural heritage features like hill forts and historic field boundaries.

### Visual

There are no constant visual receptors of the scheme such as residential receptors. Transient visual receptors include road users (motorists, public transport users) travelling along the M90, who will experience brief and intermittent views of the scheme.

## Biodiversity

### Protected areas

There are no local, national or European designated biodiversity sites located within 2km, however, there is potential for hydrological connectivity to the following European designated sites, over a course of approximately 14km through the River Farg, Fildie Burn and River Earn ([Sitelink](#)):

- River Tay Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (EU Site Code UK0030312);
- Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC (EU Site Code UK0030311);
- Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA) (EU Site Code UK9004121);
- Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary Ramsar (EU Site Code UK13018).

A Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) has been undertaken, concluding no likely significant effects on the designated sites as:

- The habitat area of the designated sites will not be reduced as a result of the scheme.
- There will be no long-term disturbance to key species as a result of the scheme.
- No habitat or species fragmentation will occur as a result of the scheme.
- There will be no reduction in species density as a result of the scheme.
- There will be no change in the key indicators of conservation value.
- The scheme works will not reduce the ability of the designated sites to cope with climate change.

## Field survey

An ecological field survey has been scoped out by a qualified ecologist due to the transient nature of the works and their containment within the trunk road boundary, indicating a low likelihood of significant ecological impact.

## Invasive plants

Transport Scotland's Asset Management Performance System (AMPS) has not recorded any records of invasive non-native species (INNS) within 500m of the scheme extents. Rosebay willowherb (*Chamerion angustifolium*) and common ragwort (*Jacobea vulgaris*), injurious weeds and Transport Scotland target species are recorded along the southbound verge, adjacent to the scheme extents. NBN Atlas has not recorded INNS or injurious weeds within 500m of the scheme extents.

## Geology and soils

### Geology

There are no Geological Conservation Review Sites (GCRS), or geological SSSIs located within 300m ([Sitelink](#)).

Bedrock geology comprises ([British Geological Survey Geology Viewer](#)) igneous basaltic-andesite from the Ochil Volcanic Formation during the Devonian period (approximately 419.2 to 393.3 Mya).

Superficial deposits consist of sedimentary deposits of Devensian till (Diamicton) formed during the Quaternary period (approximately 116 and 11.8 thousand years ago).



## Soils

The local soil type within scheme extents is recorded as brown earths ([Scotland's Soils](#)).

All works are contained to the engineered layers of the existing carriageway, resulting in limited potential for disturbance to geology and soils. As such, geology and soils has been scoped out of requiring further assessment in line with DMRB Guidance document LA 109: Geology and Soils.

## Material assets and waste

### Materials

Resurfacing will use Transport Scotland's TS2010 hot-mix asphalt (HMA) specification with AC binder and base layers. Warm-mix asphalt (WMA) is not proposed as TS2010 performance requirements are based on hot-mix production, ensuring suitable construction performance within Scotland's cold and wet climate. While WMA provides energy and emissions benefits, HMA provides long-term durability, extending the design life of the carriageway and reducing the frequency of future resurfacing interventions. Refer to the Climate impacts and mitigation section for further details.

Other materials required will include road marking materials, road studs, vehicle fuel and oil.

Materials will be obtained from recycled, secondary, or re-used origin as far as practicable within the design specifications to reduce natural resource depletion and associated emissions. For example, the binder and base courses used for resurfacing will contain a percentage of recycled material.

### Wastes

Wastes are anticipated to be carriageway planings which will primarily be recycled at a licenced facility, thereby reducing the amount sent to landfill and promoting circular economy practices.

Coring investigations have not identified the presence of coal tar within treatment depths within the scheme extents.

A Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP) will be prepared prior to the works which will detail how resource use and waste arising from the works will be managed throughout the scheme. This is required due to the scheme exceeding £350,000 in

value and will help control and reduce the amount of waste produced, resulting in less landfilled waste.

## Noise and vibration

The scheme is located in a predominantly rural area, where baseline noise levels are primarily influenced by traffic on the M90, with secondary sources from agricultural activity. For AADF details, please refer to the Air Quality section above.

Modelled day-evening-night ( $L_{den}$ ) noise levels along the scheme range between >75 to 80dB, and night noise levels ( $L_{night}$ ) for the period 23:00-07:00 range from >65B to 75dB. At the closest receptor, located 180m west, baseline noise levels are recorded below 55dB ([Scotland's Noise Map](#)).

There are five noise-sensitive receptors (NSRs) located within 300m, all of which are residential properties and agricultural holdings.

The works are not located within a Candidate Noise Management Area (CNMA) as defined by the [Transportation Noise Action Plan](#) (Road Maps) (TNAP).

## Population and human health

There are five residential and agricultural receptors located within 300m, the closest is located 180m west from the scheme extents at NO 14223 12874. No community facilities (recreational, educational, religious or medical) are located within 300m.

The works will be fully contained within the carriageway boundary, requiring no land take from residential, agricultural, business, or community land, and furthermore will not impact access or egress to any such land.

There are no [Core Paths](#) within or visible from the scheme extents, and no provision for walkers, cyclists, or horse-riders (WCH) due to the motorway setting.

No laybys, lighting points or bus stops are located along the scheme extents.

## Road drainage and the water environment

### Surface water

Road drainage along the scheme extents comprises filter drains and gullies.

The River Farg (ID: 6701), a statutory surface watercourse designated under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) ([SEPA Water Classification Hub](#)) is located approximately 65m southeast of the scheme extents. It exhibits a moderate overall status under SEPA's 2023 water classification data.

Fildie Burn, a non-statutory watercourse flows beneath the carriageway through a small culvert within the scheme extents at NO 14338 13355.

## Groundwater

The scheme lies within the Glenfarg groundwater body (ID: 150527) which was classified as having a good overall condition under the WFD in 2023 ([SEPA Water Classification Hub](#)).

The scheme is not located within a Scottish Government [Nitrate Vulnerable Zone](#) (NVZ).

## Flood risk

The scheme is not located within areas identified at risk of fluvial or pluvial flooding ([SEPA's Flood Map](#)), or within a 2028-2034 potentially vulnerable area (PVA) ([Potentially Vulnerable Areas \(PVAs\) 2028-2034](#)).

## Climate

### Carbon Goals

The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, as amended by the [Scottish Carbon Budgets Amendment Regulations 2025](#) sets out the statutory framework for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Scotland. The prior annual and interim targets have been replaced by five-year carbon budgets, which sets limits on the amount of GHGs that can be emitted in Scotland.

The proposed carbon budgets are aligned with advice from the UK Climate Change Committee (CCC) and calculated in accordance with the 2009 Act. The 2025 Regulations define the baseline years for emissions reductions as 1990 for greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, and 1995 for others such as hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulphur hexafluoride (as set out in Section 11 of the Act). The budgets are as follows:

- 2026 - 2030: Average emissions to be 57% lower than baseline.
- 2031 - 2035: Average emissions to be 69% lower than baseline.

- 2036 - 2040: Average emissions to be 80% lower than baseline
- 2041 - 2045: Average emissions to be 94% lower than baseline.

These budgets are legally binding and will be supported by a new Climate Change Plan, which will outline the specific policies and actions required to meet the targets.

Transport Scotland remains committed to reducing carbon across Scotland's transport network, this commitment is being enacted through the Mission Zero for Transport. Transport is the largest contributor to harmful climate emissions in Scotland, and Transport Scotland are committed to reducing their emissions by 75% by 2030 and to a legally binding target of net-zero by 2045.

Amey's Company Wide Carbon Goal is to achieve Scope 1 and 2 net-zero carbon emissions, with a minimum of 80% absolute reduction on our emissions by 2035. Amey is aiming to be fully net-zero, including Scope 3 emissions, by 2040.

Amey are working towards a contractual commitment to have carbon neutral depots on the North East Network Management Contract (NE NMC) network by 2028. Amey have set carbon goals for the NE NMC contract as a whole to be net-zero carbon by 2032.

## **Policies and Plans**

This Record of Determination (RoD) has been undertaken in accordance with Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (RSA EIA Regulations) along with Transport Scotland's Environmental Impact Assessment Guidance ([Guidance – Environmental Impact Assessments for road projects \(transport.gov.scot\)](#)). Relevant guidance, policies and plans accompanied with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges ([Design Manual for Roads and Bridges \(DMRB\)](#)) LA 101 and LA 104 were used to form this assessment.

## **Description of main environmental impacts and proposed mitigation**

### **Air quality**

Construction activities may temporarily affect local air quality due to dust and particulate emissions, particularly during milling of the carriageway surface. Increased HGV and construction plant presence may also contribute to short-term emissions. TM will likely cause congestion and elevated traffic-related emissions during the works.

However, there are no changes to traffic flow characteristics post-construction (composition, speed or flows) and any air quality impacts will be short-term.

Mitigation measures will follow best practice guidance from the Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM), from the [‘assessment of dust from demolition and construction \(January 2024\)’](#) including:

- Site layout will be planned (including plant and vehicles) so that machinery and dust causing activities are located away from receptors, as far as reasonably practicable;
- Materials that have a potential to produce dust, such as planings will be removed from site as soon as possible, unless being re-used on site (cover or fence stockpiles to prevent wind whipping);
- Drop heights from conveyors and other loading or handling equipment will be minimised;
- Vehicles entering and leaving the work area will be covered/sheeted to prevent escape of materials during transport;
- Equipment will be readily available on site to clean any dry spillages and clean up spillages as soon as reasonably practicable after the event using wet cleaning methods.

The following additional mitigation measures will be implemented:

- When not in use, plant and vehicles will be switched off and there will be no idling vehicles.
- All plant and fuel-requiring equipment used during construction will be well maintained to minimise emissions.

No significant air quality effects are anticipated. Therefore, in line with DMRB Guidance document LA 105: Air Quality no further assessment is required.

## Cultural heritage

There are no designated or non-designated cultural heritage features within the scheme extents, and no land acquisition is required. All works are confined to the existing carriageway surface, and no significant vibration effects are anticipated due to the nature and scale of the works. Therefore, there is no anticipated impact to the identified listed building located 165m from the scheme extents.

The original construction of the M90 and associated infrastructure likely removed any archaeological remains, and the potential for unknown archaeology is considered low.

The following mitigation measures will be in place:

- Plant and machinery will be stored within the carriageway boundary where practicable.
- Any access beyond the carriageway will be minimised and ideally limited to foot access.

No significant effects are anticipated to cultural heritage. Therefore, in line with DMRB Guidance document LA 106: Cultural Heritage, no further assessment is required.

## **Landscape and visual effects**

Short-term impacts on landscape character and visual amenity are anticipated during construction due to the presence of TM, construction plant, vehicles and artificial lighting. However, these effects will be limited as all activities will be restricted to made ground on the M90 carriageway; no constant visual receptors are present and the works are scheduled to occur overnight for approximately two weeks, further reducing visibility and disruption.

No residual landscape or visual impacts are anticipated post-construction, with the improved road surface being the only visible change.

The following mitigation measures will be in place:

- The site will be kept clean and tidy throughout all stages of the works, with appropriate storage of materials, equipment, plant and waste.
- Works will avoid encroaching on land and areas where work is not required or not permitted, including for storage and parking.

No significant effects are anticipated upon the landscape and visual effects. Therefore, in line with DMRB Guidance document LA 107: Landscape and Visual Effects no further assessment is required.

## **Biodiversity**

Construction activities have the potential to cause temporary adverse impacts on biodiversity due to vehicle presence, noise and artificial site lighting during the night-time works. These may disturb protected species within the scheme surroundings.

No invasive non-native species (INNS) have been recorded within the scheme extents. Although injurious weeds such as rosebay willowherb and common ragwort have been recorded along the M90 roadside verges, the absence of land-take, site clearance, or topsoil import significantly reduces the risk of their spread or introduction.

The watercourses and culvert located within the scheme extents pose a potential pathway to pollute aquatic habitats, particularly during milling operations and periods of heavy rainfall (see Road Drainage and the Water Environment section for further details).

The following mitigation measures will be in place:

- A 'soft start' procedure with regard to plant, machinery and vehicles will be implemented daily to gradually increase noise levels and minimise disturbance.
- Directional site lighting will be used, aimed away from sensitive ecological features such as woodland and watercourses.
- Plant, vehicles and materials will be contained to areas of engineered ground and not stored on grass verges as far as reasonably practicable. Any damaged areas will be reinstated post-works.
- If a protected species is encountered, works will be paused and advice sought from Amey's Environmental Team.
- Additional pollution prevention measures are detailed in the Road Drainage and the Water Environment section.
- As part of the Network Management Contract, Amey, on behalf of Transport Scotland, has been asked to keep a record of various target species, including rosebay willowherb and common ragwort. Works will not cause the spread of these species, if a possibility arises wherein works are likely to result in the spread of these species through disturbance, the appropriate Amey landscaping team will be consulted.

With these mitigation measures in place, no significant effects are predicted for biodiversity. Therefore, in line with DMRB Guidance document LA 108: Biodiversity no further assessment is required.

## **Material assets and waste**

There is potential for resource depletion through the use and transportation of primary materials such as aggregates. However, the use of recycled content in the binder and base courses, and the application of TS2010 surfacing which offers enhanced durability and therefore reducing the frequency of future interventions (compared with other stone mastic asphalt (SMA) products) helps mitigate long-term resource use.

Potential impacts related to pollution from materials and waste may result if these are not appropriately managed during construction. Therefore, the following regulatory requirements will be adhered to:

- A SWMP will be prepared prior to the works which will detail how resource use and waste will be managed. This will help control and reduce the amount of waste produced, resulting in less landfilled waste.
- The Contractor is responsible for the management and disposal of road planings arising from the works. All waste will be managed in accordance with the [Environmental Authorisations \(Scotland\) Regulations 2025](#), under the relevant SEPA waste authorisation for recovery, reuse or disposal. For example, road planings will be prioritised for recovery or reuse, through recycling into new asphalt, in line with the waste hierarchy. Landfill disposal will only be considered where recovery or reuse options are not practicable.
- Waste will be transferred to SEPA-authorized facilities by carriers with valid waste carrier registration. A waste transfer note (WTN) will be completed for removal of waste from site and retained for two years, in line with statutory Duty of Care requirements.

The following mitigation measures will be implemented:

- Waste will be stored in suitable, covered containers, and segregated at the source where possible.
- The waste hierarchy (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Dispose) will be employed throughout the construction works.
- Good materials management methods (e.g., 'just-in-time' delivery) will be used to minimise and prevent the disposal of unused materials.
- Containment measures will be in place to prevent debris or pollutants from entering the surrounding environment.

With best practice mitigation measures in place, no significant effects are predicted for materials and wastes. Therefore, in line with DMRB Guidance document LA 110: Material Assets and Waste no further assessment is required.

## Noise and vibration

Construction activities, particularly milling and the use of machinery such as planers and construction vehicles may cause temporary noise and vibration impacts. These are not expected to significantly exceed ambient levels or result in notable disturbance to surrounding NSRs, in particular due to the high baseline noise levels. TM may also contribute to short-term increases in noise due to congestion.

Post-construction, no adverse noise or vibration impacts are anticipated. The improved road surface will not change the traffic speed or flows, and ambient noise levels are expected to return to pre-construction conditions.



Mitigation measures follow Best Practicable Means as outlined in British Standard (BS) 5228:2009+A1:2014. The standard provides specific detail on suitable measures for noise control in respect to construction operations; for example:

- Quiet working methods will be employed, including use of the most suitable plant, reasonable hours of working for noisy operations, and economy and speed of operations.
- Effects from noise will be kept to a minimum through the use of appropriate mufflers and silencers fitted to machinery. All exhaust silencers will be checked at regular intervals to ensure efficiency.
- Operations will be sequenced to minimise simultaneous use of high-noise equipment, and a 'soft start' to works will be in place, whereby plant, machinery and vehicles are started sequentially as opposed to simultaneously.
- Plant and machinery will be regularly maintained to prevent excessive noise from worn parts or inefficient operation.
- On-site construction tasks will be programmed to be as efficient as possible, with a view to limiting noise disruption to local sensitive receptors. Where night-works are to be undertaken, the noisiest works will be undertaken before 23:00 where possible.

The following further mitigation measures related to noise and vibration will be in place:

- Amey's Noise and Vibration environmental briefing will be delivered to all site operatives before works start.
- Perth and Kinross Council Environmental Health Team have been notified of the works due to night-time programming.
- A letter drop will be delivered to NSRs as a pre-construction notification of the works and programming schedule.
- Engagement and pre-notification of the works through social media will be undertaken prior to commencement of the works to make road users and local residents aware of the upcoming works.

With best practice mitigation measures in place, no significant effects on noise and vibration are predicted. Therefore, in line with DMRB Guidance document LA 111: Noise and Vibration no further assessment is required.

## **Population and human health**

Construction activities may cause temporary disruption to road users due to TM, noise, and delays.

Local residents and road users will be informed of the working schedule, in particular the times and durations of the works through a letter drop and pre-construction notice of the works which include journey planning via social media; and signage on approach to scheme extents.

Perth and Kinross Council's Environmental Health Team have been notified of the works.

Please refer to the Landscape and Visual Effects section above for an assessment of the visual impacts to visual receptors.

With best practice mitigation measures in place, no significant effects on population and human health are anticipated. Therefore, in accordance with DMRB Guidance document LA 112: Population and Human Health, no further assessment is required.

## **Road drainage and the water environment**

Construction activities may pose a risk of pollution to the water environment from spills of fuels, oils, chemicals, and road planings entering surface runoff, drainage systems and surface watercourses.

Fildie Burn flows beneath the carriageway within the scheme extents, which could act as a pathway for pollutants. However, as it is a contained culvert beneath the carriageway, with no in-water works, abstraction or transfers of water from, or discharges to a waterbody, the potential for a direct pollution incident within a waterbody is unlikely.

The works will not increase flood risk as they are limited to the existing impermeable carriageway surface, with no alteration to drainage infrastructure or surface water runoff patterns. No other post construction impacts are anticipated.

The following best practice and pollution prevention and control measures will be in place:

- All operatives will be aware of [SEPA's Guidance for Pollution Prevention](#) (GPP) documents.
- All debris which has the potential to be suspended in surface water and wash into the local water environment will be cleaned from the site both during and following the works.
- All site operatives will be made aware of site spillage response procedures and in the event of a spill all works associated with the spill will stop, and the incident reported. Spill kits will also be available within all site vehicles and spill kits will be replenished onsite when required.

- The Amey control room will be contacted if any pollution incidences occur (24 hours, 7 days a week).
- In the event of a pollution incident, SEPA will be notified without delay.
- Weather reports will be monitored prior to and during the works with all construction activities temporarily halting in the event of adverse weather or a flooding event. The works will only continue when it is deemed safe to do so and runoff/ drainage can be adequately controlled to prevent pollution.
- All storage areas (fuels, machinery, plant, materials) where required will be located/stored:
  - Away (>10m) from surface water drainage systems; and
  - Away from areas that see high vehicular movement (as far as reasonably practicable) to prevent damage by collision or extremes of weather.
- Fuels stored within a drip tray, bund or other form of secondary containment with at least 110% of the maximum volume of a single container
- Amey's Water Pollution Prevention environmental briefing will be delivered to all site operatives before works start.

With mitigation measures in place, no significant effects are anticipated on the water environment. Therefore, in line with DMRB Guidance document LA 113: Road drainage and the water environment no further assessment is required.

## Climate

The use of HMA supports a longer design life compared to other SMA materials, resulting in reduced whole-life carbon impacts as there is a reduced need for repeat resurfacing, minimised material use, transport emissions and construction waste over the road asset's lifecycle.

Construction activities may result in GHG emissions from vehicles, machinery, material use and production, and transportation. However, given the nature of the scheme, the volume of materials required to be imported on site is low, reducing the overall impact.

The following mitigation measures will be in place:

- Where possible, materials and suppliers will be sourced locally to reduce GHG emissions associated with travel distance.
- Waste disposal will be directed to local licensed facilities.
- Plant, machinery and vehicles will not be left idling when not in use.

- Further actions and considerations for this scheme are detailed in the above Material Assets and Waste section.

With best practice mitigation measures in place, no significant effects are anticipated on Climate. Therefore, in line with DMRB Guidance document LA 114: Climate, no further assessment is required.

## Vulnerability of the project to risks

Construction activities are confined to the carriageway boundary, reducing the risk of major accidents or environmental disasters. Furthermore, TM will be designed in line with existing guidance. TM will comprise of a convoy system, with no full road closure or diversion routes required.

Considering the above, the vulnerability of the project to of major accidents and disasters is considered to be low.

## Assessment cumulative effects

[Perth & Kinross Planning Portal](#) has not identified any extant planning applications surrounding the scheme extents that would result in any in-combination effects.

The [Scottish Road Works Commissioner's Interactive Map](#) has not highlighted any works during the proposed timescale at the location of the works.

Amey's current [programme of works](#) has not identified any other works on the M90 that will be undertaken in conjunction with the scheme. Any future schemes will be programmed to consider already programmed works, and as such any effect (such as from TM arrangements and potential construction noise) will be limited.

During construction, activities associated with the works may have minor temporary disturbances such as changes to noise and vibration and air quality, and potential disturbance to local wildlife.

The scheme is not anticipated to have significant environmental effects having regard to its nature, scale and location. The residual impacts arising from the works can be appropriately mitigated and thus no cumulative or in-combination effects are anticipated.

## Assessments of the environmental effects

As detailed in the Description of Main Environmental Impacts and Proposed Mitigation section within this Record of Determination, there are no significant effects anticipated on any environmental receptors as a result of the works.

## Statement of case in support of a Determination that a statutory EIA is not required

This is a relevant project in terms of section 55A(16) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 as it is a project for the improvement of a road and the completed works (together with any area occupied by apparatus, equipment, machinery, materials, plant, spoil heaps, or other such facilities or stores required during the period of construction) exceed 1 hectare in area.

The project has been subject to screening using the Annex III criteria to determine whether a formal Environmental Impact Assessment is required under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (as amended by The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017). Screening using Annex III criteria, reference to consultations undertaken and review of available information has not identified the need for a statutory EIA.

The project will not have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as:

### Characteristics of the scheme:

- Works are not expected to result in significant disturbance to protected species that may be present in the wider area.
- The risk of major accidents or disasters is considered to be low.
- Any potential impacts of the works are expected to be temporary, short-term, non-significant, and limited to the construction phase.
- No impacts on the environment are expected during the operational phase as a result of works, with positive impacts on road users and surrounding NSRs during the operational phase.
- No in combination effects have been identified.

## **Location of the scheme:**

- The scheme has the potential for hydrological connectivity to six designated sites. A HRA has been undertaken concluding no significant impacts.
- Works are not located within an area designated for its specific landscape character or quality.
- The scheme is not situated in whole, or in part in a sensitive area.
- The scheme will be contained to the existing M90 carriageway surface and as such, no land take or vegetation clearance will be required. In addition, the scheme will not alter any local land uses or habitats.

## **Characteristics of potential impacts of the scheme:**

- Measures will be in place to ensure appropriate removal and disposal of waste.
- Containment measures of the working area will be in place to prevent debris or pollutants from entering the surrounding environment.
- Measures to minimise the potential disturbance to protected species will be implemented.
- Any potential impacts of the works are expected to be temporary, non-significant, and limited to the construction phase.
- No in combination effects have been identified.

## Annex A

“sensitive area” means any of the following:

- land notified under sections 3(1) or 5(1) (sites of special scientific interest) of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
- land in respect of which an order has been made under section 23 (nature conservation orders) of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
- a European site within the meaning of regulation 10 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994
- a property appearing in the World Heritage List kept under article 11(2) of the 1972 UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- a scheduled monument within the meaning of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- a National Scenic Area as designated by a direction made by the Scottish Ministers under section 263A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
- an area designated as a National Park by a designation order made by the Scottish Ministers under section 6(1) of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000.



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Published by Transport Scotland, January 2026

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