

## Stirling Alloa Kincardine Railway and Linked Improvements Project – Construction work steams ahead

The Stirling - Alloa - Kincardine route reopening project is one of the most important railway infrastructure projects Scotland has seen for decades.

### Work to re-build the former rail route now underway

Construction work to re-connect passenger rail services between Alloa, Stirling and Glasgow is now in full swing, after the removal of old disused track along the line.

The project will generate widespread economic benefits, and will once again allow the transport of freight by rail to Kincardine as well as renewing passenger services to Alloa. It is due for completion in Summer 2007.

Transport Minister Tavish Scott officially launched construction at a ceremony in October.

Work is progressing well and on programme, with contractors removing the original track and grouting up the old disused mine-workings, before they begin relaying 21km of fresh line.



Work has also begun on several bridges as well as the new Alloa Eastern Link Road, which will take traffic away from Alloa town centre and allow the closure of Hilton Road to through traffic.

## Stirling Alloa Kincardine railway project steps in to fill construction employment gap

A new employment initiative set up to boost Clackmannanshire's construction industry has teamed up with the Stirling Alloa Kincardine railway project.

Clackmannanshire Council has given the green light to work with the Construction Brokerage – a new project set up to address skill shortages within the local construction industry.

The project works with and supports unemployed local residents and people currently working in Clackmannanshire. It aims to plan and support

the development of the local construction workforce by addressing training needs and finding employment providers.

First Nuttall has become one of the first construction firms to utilise the employment project.

Ten individuals have graduated from the employment scheme to become full-time employees on the SAK Railway project thanks to the training received at New Approaches – the council's employment intermediary and host agency for the project.

## Project receives recognition

The SAK Railway project was short-listed for a top accolade at the 2005 Scottish Transport Awards in November.

Clackmannanshire Council was nominated in the Most Innovative Transport Project in Scotland for the Stirling-Alloa-Kincardine rail initiative at the event. The council narrowly missed out on the top award.

However, the legal team behind the rail bill won a top honour at the 2006 Scottish Legal Awards after working closely with Clackmannanshire Council to get the Bill passed by the Scottish Executive.



Grouting underway to remove old mine workings

Anderson Strathearn won the Specialist Client Team of the Year award after judges recognised their use of multi-disciplinary teams of lawyers that were brought together in order to address the council's needs on the large scale project.

## Safety measures still in force

The entire rail corridor along the route is currently being fenced off to ensure work can be carried out safely.

Richard Hudson, Senior Project Manager for tie limited said: "The construction works pose a serious potential safety risk to anyone straying onto the site, so it's vital that people respect the fences, for their own and our workers' safety.

"Before the line re-opens the project team will also work closely with Network Rail, the British Transport Police and local schools to try to educate children about the dangers of playing on or near a railway line."



Further information can be found at [www.sakrailway.co.uk](http://www.sakrailway.co.uk), or please leave a message on the project phonenumber – 0845 270 0023.

