

A92/A96 Haudagain Improvement Project newsletter



Farrans Construction regularly engaged with education providers throughout the project.

Haudagain improvement opens to traffic

Minister for Transport, Jenny Gilruth, meets members of the local community.



Welcome

In May of 2022, we celebrated the achievement of a significant and key milestone of the Haudagain Improvement project.

We hosted an opening event for the newly constructed link road, attended by Minister for Transport, Jenny Gilruth, who cut the ribbon and opened the road.

The project team hosted the special event within The Middlefield Community Project, The Hub.

We have worked with them closely and they have been incredibly supportive throughout the project, as have local residents, the wider community, and businesses within the local area.

This has been a challenging project with several obstacles to overcome. Despite this, we have delivered the new link road to alleviate the traffic bottleneck at the Haudagain roundabout, improving traffic flow and journey time reliability. We are enormously grateful to the residents and local community who have showed us great patience and support over the course of this project. We hope our improvements will bring positive benefits for road users and residents.

This would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our site team and subcontractors who have delivered their work and services professionally and safely throughout.

We will maintain a presence within the area over the next few weeks to complete the final phase of our snagging and finishing work.

**Alan McKillop, Project Manager,
Farrans Construction**



Members of the project team with Minister for Transport, Jenny Gilruth at the opening event.

New dual carriageway officially opened

The A92/A96 Haudagain Improvement project opened to traffic on 16 May 2022, delivering 500 metres of new dual carriageway link road which allows road users in Aberdeen to bypass an area well known for causing significant queues and delays for traffic.

The new dual carriageway link road will take traffic between the A92 North Anderson Drive and A96 Auchmill Road and improve traffic flow, alleviate congestion in the area and improve journey time reliability.

Prior to cutting the ribbon to mark the road opening, Minister for Transport, Jenny Gilruth MSP visited the Middlefield Community Project to hear more about some of the community benefits that the contractor, Farrans Construction, has delivered during the construction period.

Ms Gilruth was then accompanied on a short walk to the new road by Farrans Construction staff Carol Fleming and Jack Patton, whose work on the project enabled them to gain qualifications as well as a wealth of experience working on a major

infrastructure project.

Minister for Transport Jenny Gilruth said: "It has been just over three years since construction work began on this key improvement for Aberdeen and later today the public will be able to travel along it for the first time.

"The new dual carriageway will help tackle the congestion caused by the traffic bottleneck at the Haudagain roundabout and deliver significant benefits including improving journey time for road users and public transport.

"I know there have been delays to the completion of this project, which has been understandably frustrating for the local community. The contractors did suffer from staff shortages due to the impact of the Omicron variant at the turn of the year and I am hopeful the community will now welcome the project's completion.

"I was delighted to cut the ribbon to open this new road, allowing the local community and road users of Aberdeen to start enjoying the benefits that it will bring to the north-east."



Overview of the new dual carriageway link road.

Community benefits delivered during the project

Engagement with schools



Safety Sam visited a number of local primary schools to give the children an insight into what's behind the fence of a construction site and teach them about the dangers. Safety Sam's motto is 'Play Safe, Stay Safe'.



As part of Maths Week, Community Liaison Officer, Angela Newlands, visited Manor Park Primary School and talked to the pupils about civil engineering and the practical application of maths in work. The students completed tasks including programming robots to encourage counting, listening, teamwork and logic.



Farrans built a playhouse for a local nursery based at the Hub on Manor Avenue. The work was completed at a weekend to surprise the children on the Monday morning.

Supporting the community



As we were unable to provide face-to-face engagement with schools and community groups for a while due to Covid-19 restrictions, we worked hard to offer remote engagement using digital tools and provide a virtual platform for learning.



Donated refurbished laptops to Middlefield Community Hub to help the community and encourage items to be reused and recycled when finished with. The laptop helped the Connect Community group by giving opportunity for people to stay in touch with friends and family and become more IT competent.



Provided funding and materials to the Middlefield Community Project to help with art projects. Project leader, artist and youth worker Kane Jansen, sculpted some giant mushrooms out of recycled wood.



Supported Aberdeen Foyer, a charitable organisation which supports more than 1,600 local people a year towards independent living, learning and work, since the project started. Offered work experience placements and donated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) so people could start work without the need to buy the necessary protective equipment required.



Farrans Construction supported Northfield Foodbank with donations a number of times throughout the project. Also worked with local offices and companies to encourage donations as well.

Environmental



We take our environmental and sustainability responsibilities very seriously and regularly monitor our carbon footprint and implement mitigation measures to help reduce this wherever possible. In 2020, we dedicated an area where we discovered a variety of wildflowers growing onsite as a temporary pollinator friendly area and spotted some honeybees, and some beautiful butterflies.



In spring 2020, Steven Pollock from Home Energy Scotland visited and gave a presentation on energy saving and the benefits of using electric vehicles. The site had two fully electric vehicles and a hybrid vehicle.

Moving forward

As construction work comes to an end, the project site compound is downsizing and will be removed. Farrans Construction will maintain a reduced site presence for a period of time.

In the coming months, responsibility for the roads will change. Once all remaining works are completed, Transport Scotland will become responsible for the new A92/A96 Haudagain Improvement link road until next spring, when responsibility will be transferred to Aberdeen City Council. All side roads will also become the responsibility of Aberdeen City Council.



Minister for Transport, Jenny Gilruth cuts the ribbon to officially open the new dual carriageway.

Considerate Constructors

In February 2022, the team delivering the A92/A96 Haudagain Improvement project received full marks in every section on the latest Considerate Constructors Scheme audit report.

The summary said: “The support for the community has been well received throughout the project and credit must go to the company’s community liaison policy which has been effectively applied. Environmental awareness

is of the highest degree and of note was the previous registration where an innovation was awarded for control of the site water run-off. Attention to such things as a wildflower garden only enhances the reputation of the company. Welfare and safety also have good robust policies in place together with good monitoring and encouragement of the workforce to participate has resulted in the success of the project.”

Huge well done to all involved in the project for their help with this fantastic achievement!



The site team with the Considerate Constructors banner on site.

FURTHER PROJECT INFORMATION

If you have any matters you wish to raise concerning the A92/A96 Haudagain Improvement project, please contact Angela Newlands, Community Liaison Officer, at: haudagain@farrans.com or on 0800 783 0024

