

A9 Dualling

Tomatin to Moy

Project Newsletter #1

Spring 2025



Image: Temporary project offices at Dalmagarry Farm

Welcome

A9 Dualling: Tomatin to Moy project

Welcome to the first project newsletter for the A9 Dualling: Tomatin to Moy project.

These quarterly newsletters will provide you with updates on progress and details of upcoming works, as well as information about the benefits the project will deliver. We hope you find these newsletters useful and, if you have any questions about the project, contact details for the community liaison team can be found on the back page of this and all future newsletters.

About Balfour Beatty

Balfour Beatty was awarded the third section of the A9 Dualling Programme, to dual the A9 between Tomatin and Moy in July 2024. Since then, the project team has been busy on site finalising the detailed design, completing site clearance works and putting in place the required preparations to start major construction work.

Balfour Beatty is the largest civil engineering contractor in the UK and has been operating for over 115 years, with our first ever project being the extension of the tram lines in Dunfermline. Ever since, we have been involved in shaping key infrastructure across Scotland with a strong track record for delivering complex projects on time, and on budget.

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Balfour Beatty



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

(About Balfour Beatty cont.)

A core part of our approach is ensuring that we deliver a lasting legacy within the communities in which we operate. This means delivering local economic growth through the use of local supply chains and creating jobs and training opportunities, supporting communities to thrive by working with community projects and offering volunteering support and donation of skills and materials and inspiring the next generation of construction professionals through engagement with education - from nursery through to Higher and Further Education establishments.

We successfully delivered the Luncarty to Pass of Birnam section of the A9 Dualling for Transport Scotland, opening the new dual carriageway to traffic in August 2021.

About the project

The A9 Dualling: Tomatin to Moy project will involve the upgrade of 9.6km of single carriageway to dual carriageway between the villages of Tomatin and Moy. Upon completion of the project, there will be approximately 33km (20 miles) of continuous dual carriageway between Inverness and Slochd.

The work will also include improvements to connectivity to public transport and delivery of approximately 10km of improvements to active travel routes, promoting walking and cycling in the local area.

The project is expected to open to traffic in Spring 2028



Meet the Team

The construction of the A9 Dualling: Tomatin to Moy project will involve hundreds of skilled construction professionals over the construction phase. We will feature some of these individuals in future issues of this newsletter. For now, we would like to introduce you to a few key individuals from the Balfour Beatty team.



David Taylor Contractor's Site Agent

David started working in the construction sector in 1985 as an Assistant Engineer working at Dounreay nuclear establishment and has been involved in major civil engineering infrastructure projects across the UK ever since. David has delivered many major roads projects including A1 Tranent to Haddington, M80 Steps to Hags, Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route and most recently has been a Project Director on the High Speed 2 Project.

David leads the site team delivering the A9 Dualling: Tomatin to Moy project and has oversight of the project from an operational standpoint. Born in Inverness, David is enjoying the opportunity to be back near his old stomping ground and making a positive impact on the A9 for local communities and road users.



Mark Elliot

Senior Site Agent - Traffic Safety Control Officer and Utilities Lead

Mark has worked for Balfour Beatty for over 24 years on projects including the Perth Transport Futures Project, City Centre West-East Link Active Travel Scheme in Edinburgh, and the A9 Dualling: Luncarty to Pass of Birnam project.

Mark's role as Traffic Safety Control Officer involves working closely with a large number of stakeholders to plan, design and co-ordinate delivery of traffic management measures that keep road users and our workforce safe during the construction phase. Mark leads engagement with Transport Scotland, public transport operators, BEAR Scotland, the emergency services and the Highland Council as part of this process. In addition he also works with utility providers such as BT OpenReach, Scottish Water and Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks to coordinate their interface with the site and arrange any required utility diversions.

Mark is also a talented photographer, having been Highly Commended in the 2021 and 2024 Scottish Landscape Photographer of the Year Awards– expect to see some of his images in future newsletters!



Duncan Gardner

Community Liaison Officer

As Community Liaison Officer (CLO) Duncan's job is to manage all communications with the public throughout the delivery of the project and to be the main point of contact for the project. He started working in construction as an engineer's assistant on the M77/Glasgow Southern Orbital more than 20 years ago and, since becoming a CLO ten years ago, he has served as CLO and delivered community benefits for several major infrastructure projects, including the A9 Dualling: Luncarty to Pass of Birnam project.

Duncan is passionate about the positive impact that can be delivered for surrounding communities through investment in major infrastructure projects and works closely with local stakeholders to create robust and relevant engagement plans that make a difference.

Keep up to date

To receive project updates direct to your email inbox, use the link below or scan the QR code to sign up!

<https://shorturl.at/dlnYr>



Meet the contractor events

At Balfour Beatty, we understand that this significant project will impact local people and communities in a variety of ways.

During November 2024, the project team delivered meet the contractor events in Tomatin and Inverness to meet with members of the local community, sharing information about the project and speaking to residents and businesses to better understand their needs during the construction phase.

Held on 14th and 19th November, the events attracted over 130 local attendees. Further 'Meet the Contractor: Online' sessions were held in February and March 2025 to provide an opportunity for those unable to attend in person to speak to the team.

In addition to general interest in the project, the community showed a strong interest in discussing traffic management, access, environmental factors, and the creation of new non-motorised user paths. The exhibition materials from these events are available on Transport Scotland's dedicated A9 Dualling website: www.a9dualling.scot

These events are part of an extensive community engagement program which will continue throughout the construction phase of the project.



Image: Meet the Contractor, Inverness



Image: Meet the Contractor, Tomatin

This program will include providing support to Transport Scotland's educational initiative, Academy9 and their events; offering school, college and university site visits; delivering presentations to Community Councils; and future events that bring project information to local communities.

If you represent a community organisation and would like to learn more about the project, please get in touch with the Community Liaison Team: A9T2M@balfourbeatty.com



Image: Site clearance works alongside traffic management

Progress Update

Since commencing on site, the project team have been working hard behind the scenes to put in place all the necessary preparations ahead of commencing major construction work.

The construction of the new dual carriageway will require our team to work in close proximity to live traffic on the A9. Ensuring the safety of both our workforce and thousands of road users who use the road is our top priority. To undertake construction works, temporary traffic management is necessary to help keep road users and our workforce safe. We always aim to minimise disruption to road users and local communities as much as possible.

Preparatory work commenced in October 2024 to set the stage for the first major phase of traffic management. These preparations included removing trees to clear the site, moving utilities and creating access points on both the north and southbound carriageways to provide safe entry to the site for our team, visitors, and deliveries.

Additionally, we have recently begun installing new temporary road markings and signage, as well as safety barriers to segregate traffic from our work site, allowing work to proceed next to the A9 without major disruptions. A temporary 40mph speed limit was implemented on 10 March 2025 and will remain in place until the new road is expected to open to traffic in Spring 2028. This speed limit will be monitored and enforced with temporary average speed cameras to keep our team and road users safe.

We have extended laybys to the north and south of the construction area to accommodate wide loads, providing space for these vehicles to wait before being escorted safely through the site. We have also been working offline to construct a temporary roundabout adjacent to the main site compound at Invereen Farm.

The final step in this phase will involve completing the installation of temporary safety barriers and then switching the traffic, via a contraflow arrangement, into the new temporary traffic management arrangement. This work will take place throughout April 2025 with planned implementation for the main scheme from the 25 April 2025.

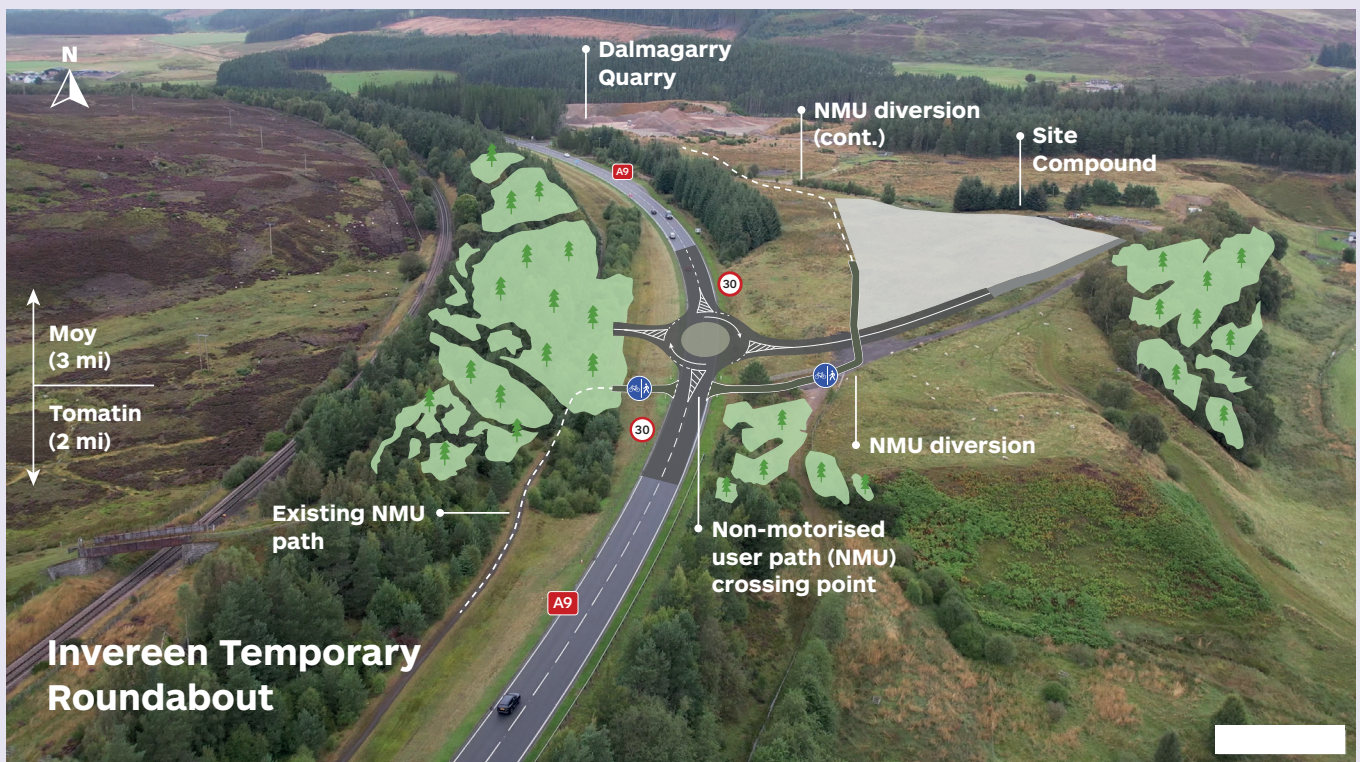
Once these measures are in place, we can move forward with the construction to dual the A9 between Tomatin and Moy.

Invereen Roundabout

The temporary roundabout at Invereen will allow for safer vehicle movements to and from the main project compound during the construction period. The roundabout has been traffic modelled and subject to a road safety audit. We expect the impact on traffic flows to be minimal; a similar system was used successfully at the A9 Dualling: Luncarty to Pass of Birnam project offices. The image below gives an indication of how the roundabout will look in operation at the site.



Image: Aerial view of the site compound under construction at Invereen



Academy9

Balfour Beatty joined the Academy9 team at Grantown Grammar on 25 February to participate in the delivery of a Risk Radar event as part of the award-winning A9 education outreach programme. The Risk Radar event challenges students to consider how risk is managed and mitigated using everyday examples of activities they might experience, before contextualising that process with examples from construction sites.

The project will work closely with the Academy9 team over the next few years to support their existing curriculum of events as well as collaborating to design exciting experiences including access to the live construction site for those interested.



Delivering social impact to leave a lasting legacy

We are excited to share our commitment to delivering not only the long-term benefits of dual carriageway on the A9 but also lasting, positive impacts for the surrounding communities and the broader region.

Our diverse range of community benefit initiatives have been carefully designed to create a legacy that will continue to enrich the area long after the road is operational.

These efforts are part of our mission to ensure the project not only delivers immediate infrastructure improvements but also fosters long-term growth and prosperity in the communities it serves.

We will update you in future quarterly newsletters about how these benefits are being realised locally. If you are interested in learning more or talking to us about how we can support your organisation, get in touch with the team by emailing A9T2M@balfourbeatty.com

We are dedicated to:

Creating new employment opportunities



Including jobs, apprenticeships, training programs, and graduate roles, with a strong focus on hiring and upskilling local talent

Promoting education



By engaging with schools and communities to raise awareness of careers in engineering, STEM fields, and construction, while supporting initiatives like the Academy9 programme

Providing placement opportunities



For individuals taking their first steps into the workforce, giving them valuable experience and pathways to long-term careers

Supporting community growth and resilience



By contributing to local projects through donations of skills, materials, and funding



Image: Pupils acted out a scenario and identified the risks



Image: Each student was made an honorary 'health and safety officer' for the day

For more information

Get in touch

[X@transcotland](#)

www.a9dualling.co.uk

The Community Liaison Team can be contacted 24/7 via:

Tel: 0800 998 7573

Email: A9T2M@balfourbeatty.com

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