



Strategic Infrastructure Development

Bowling

Q2 Newsletter, April 2026

The former ExxonMobil site in Bowling is being transformed into a new industrial and commercial area that will bring long-term benefits to the local community.

This major regeneration project, delivered in partnership with West Dunbartonshire Council and the Glasgow City Region City Deal and supported by UK and Scottish Government funding, is creating space for a mix of new businesses, workplaces and employment opportunities. Over time, the development is expected to attract significant private investment and support economic growth across the wider area.

Alongside new development space, the project is delivering important infrastructure improvements, including changes to the Dumbuck junction, new and upgraded railway bridges, and new internal roads to support future growth. These works are designed to improve connectivity, safety and access for the surrounding area.

A strong focus has also been placed on creating high-quality outdoor spaces. New green infrastructure will include landscaped areas and a waterfront pedestrian and cycle route, helping improve access to the river and providing spaces for people to walk, cycle and enjoy the area. A dedicated heritage area around the listed Dunglass Castle will protect and celebrate the site's historic importance.

Together, these improvements aim to create a well-connected, sustainable development that supports jobs, enhances the local environment and leaves a positive legacy for the Bowling and wider West Dunbartonshire community.



Project Updates



West Junction Area

Despite challenging weather conditions in recent months, works at the West Junction (Milton) remain on track.

The two overpasses that form part of the new junction will integrate with the NCN7 cycle route, providing a safe underpass for cyclists. These structures are now in place and waterproofed, with the south wing walls completed in March and construction of the north gabions ongoing. Infilling works are continuing. Throughout construction, the existing cycle route has been maintained to minimise disruption, and we thank users for their continued patience.

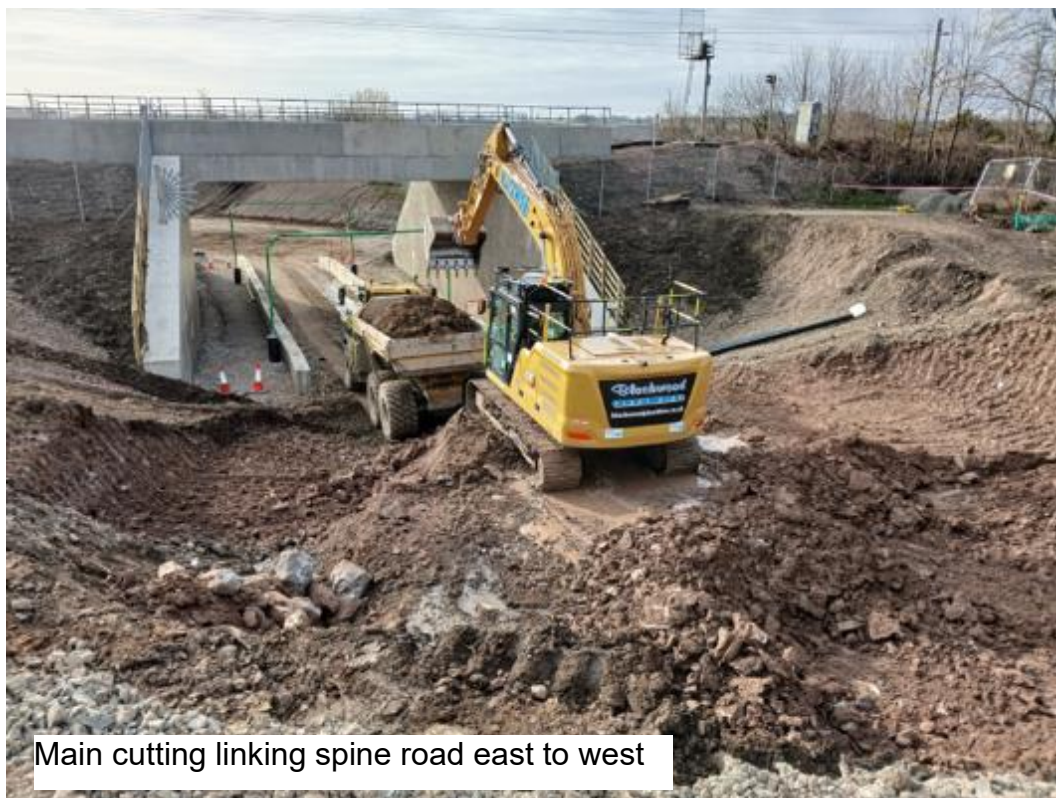




Utility diversion works will begin on the 30th March at the A814 Glasgow Road, requiring a lane closure to allow the works to be carried out safely. The drainage outfall is nearing completion.

The 180mm watermain tie-in has now been completed, which is considered a major milestone.

Next steps include widening the A82 diverge. While no lane closures are required for this stage, a temporary 30mph speed limit will be in place to protect the workforce. Necessary modifications to the A82 at the West Junction is expecting to commence in June which will include surfacing and kerbing works. Works to tie in the West Junction to the A814 are anticipated to follow.





Railway Underbridge

The railway underbridge is now completed by Network Rail, further drainage works are progressing to enable the spine road construction at this area.

Spine Road

Earthworks on the Spine Road are nearing formation, allowing carriageway drainage works to begin. A key milestone has also been achieved with the excavation of the cutting, creating a direct connection between the north and south of the rail line and effectively linking the two sections of the Spine Road.



Progress continues along the main section between the West and East Junctions, with earthworks advancing steadily and drainage works scheduled to commence in the coming months. To date, sections of the Spine Road structure have been constructed, with settlement monitoring confirming the ground is performing as expected, supporting continued progress on this critical route.



East Junction

At the East Junction on Dumbarton Road, the majority of utility services have now been diverted to facilitate the northern widening, allowing drainage and kerbing works to progress.

The realignment of the Dungleass Roundabout is programmed to commence on the 7th April and is expected to last for approximately 10 weeks. To minimise disruption to road users on the A82, works will be carried out overnight between 8am and 6pm. These arrangements have been extensively coordinated with Transport Scotland and Amey. A reduced speed limit of 30mph will be in place throughout the works to ensure the safety of the workforce.



Supporting Local Communities

The Exxon Infrastructure Development Project continues to deliver meaningful social value alongside construction activity, working in partnership with local organisations to support skills, inclusion and community wellbeing across West Dunbartonshire.

Supporting Young People to Explore Future Careers

As part of our commitment to supporting local communities, the Project Team recently took part in a series of careers events across West Dunbartonshire, meeting pupils, parents and teachers to talk about the wide range of opportunities within today's construction industry.

Visits to local schools and colleges gave young people the chance to learn about careers at Balfour Beatty and across the wider sector, including engineering, sustainability, digital roles, project management and apprenticeships. Many pupils were surprised by the variety of roles available and enjoyed discussing how their own interests and strengths could link to future careers.



Clydebank High School Careers Fair Stand



Supporting Parents and Pupils

Engagement was enthusiastic and encouraging, with strong interest in sustainability and the future of infrastructure, and more girls expressing interest in technical roles. A quiet session at Vale of Leven Academy also helped ensure conversations were inclusive and accessible for all pupils.

We look forward to continuing to work with local schools and supporting young people as they explore their future pathways.



Vale of Leven Academy Careers Fair Stand



Improving Community Spaces Through Volunteering

We were delighted to support Improving Lives, a Clydebank-based charity that provides vital support for people with disabilities, their families and carers across West Dunbartonshire.

Over two days, volunteers from the Exxon redevelopment project and Balfour Beatty's Maxim Park office worked alongside charity volunteers to refresh the charity's community hub. Together, they repainted the space to create brighter, calmer and more welcoming rooms for the many people who use the centre each week.



Martin and Kenny delivering materials



Balfour Beatty Volunteers painting



Day two volunteers



Angela made sure we had tea and coffee

The improved environment will support a wide range of local groups, including autism and ADHD support sessions, Art for Anxiety, Knit & Natter and other wellbeing activities, helping to reduce sensory stress and ensure the space feels safe, inclusive and comfortable.

The project was made possible thanks to the enthusiasm of staff volunteers and materials provided by the Exxon redevelopment site and shows the positive difference that working together can make, strengthening local partnerships and helping community organisations continue their important work.



Balfour Beatty Volunteers



Improving Lives Volunteers

Inspiring Young People Through Hands-On Learning

We were delighted to visit local primary schools in Dumbarton to help pupils learn more about careers in construction and engineering, supported by Graduate Apprentice Engineer, Declan Reid.

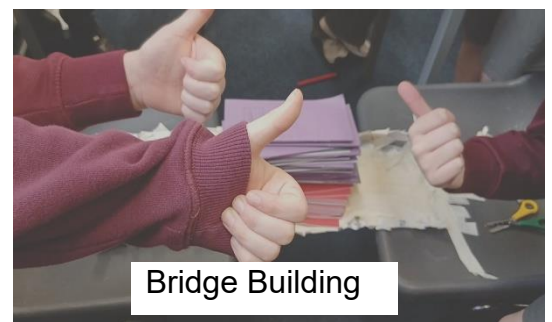
Through fun, hands-on activities, pupils explored how teamwork, creativity and problem-solving are used in real construction projects. Challenges included building towers and bridges, learning how roads are constructed, and taking part in practical design activities that brought engineering ideas to life. Pupils were curious, enthusiastic and full of great questions, with many expressing a new interest in engineering as a future career.

As part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week, pupils also learned about apprenticeships and how major infrastructure projects, such as the Exxon Redevelopment, are developed within their own community.

Visits like these help young people build confidence, recognise their potential and begin to see how they could play a role in shaping the places they live in. We're grateful to the staff and pupils for such a warm welcome and look forward to continuing to support local schools.



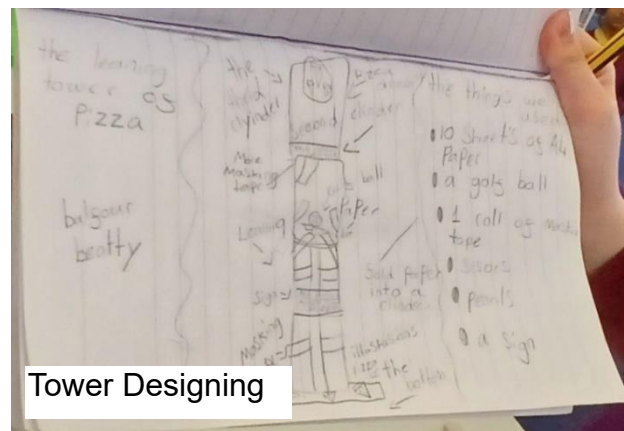
Declan and pupils building towers



Bridge Building



Tower Building



Tower Designing



Building Edible Roads

Robust Roads

Roads are not just one solid piece

- They are built in layers, and each layer has a different job.

Why do roads need layers?

- Each layer has a different job
- Together, they make roads safe, strong and long-lasting
- Just like building a tower, you need a strong base first

Engineers sometimes drill out a core sample of a road to check

- How strong
- If it was built
- How long it might last

Surface Layer – The Top
Asphalt (bitumen mixed with small stones)


- The pret cars, bikes, and people travel on
- Gives grip so vehicles don't slide
- Helps keep rainwater out so road stays strong

Binder Layer – The Support Layer
Asphalt with bigger stones (aggregate)

- It spreads the weight of cars and lorries
- Stops the top layer from cracking or breaking

Base Layer – The Strength Layer
Crushed rock or strong recycled materials sometimes mixed with cement

- This layer gives the road its strength
- Helps it carry heavy vehicles every day



Learning About Road Building



Edible Road Core

Scottish Apprenticeship Week: Bringing Construction Careers to Life

As part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week, pupils from Vale of Leven Academy visited site to learn more about the construction industry and the wide range of careers it offers.

During the visit, pupils saw first-hand the progress being made locally and spoke with two Balfour Beatty engineers who shared their own career journeys. One is currently completing a Graduate Apprenticeship, while the other followed a university route, giving pupils valuable insight into the different pathways available and the chance to ask questions and get honest advice.



Vale of Leven Academy
Pupils on Site



Vale of Leven Academy
Pupils on Site

The visit also included a demonstration of technology used on site, with pupils encouraged to try out equipment themselves. This hands-on experience helped show how modern, innovative and technology-driven construction has become.

Visits like this help bring careers to life, inspire young people and highlight the many routes into construction, supporting the aims of Scottish Apprenticeship Week.

Helping Young People Build Confidence for the Future

We were pleased to support pupils at Clydebank High School through a series of mock interview sessions, helping young people build confidence as they prepare for the world of work.



Clydebank High
School Crest

The sessions gave pupils the opportunity to practise speaking about their skills, interests and aspirations in a supportive environment, whether they already had clear plans or were still exploring their options. Pupils approached the interviews with maturity and enthusiasm, showing strong communication skills and a real willingness to learn.



Barista Job Advert

Activities like this play an important role in helping young people recognise their strengths, build self-belief and feel more prepared for future opportunities. It was encouraging to see the confidence and potential of the pupils involved, and we're proud to support schools in developing these essential life skills.

Creating Local Apprenticeship Opportunities



Balfour Beatty

NetworkRail



SCOTLAND'S RAILWAY
BETTER IN THE MAKING

During Scottish Apprenticeship Week, a short video was created to highlight how investment through the Glasgow City Region City Deal is helping create real apprenticeship opportunities for local people.



The video shares Ben's journey into construction, from first taking part in the Scottish Pathways to Construction programme to securing a full-time apprenticeship on the Exxon Infrastructure Development Project. Through training, work experience and hands-on learning on site, Ben is now earning while learning as an Apprentice Site Operative and working towards a recognised qualification.

Ben's story shows how early support, clear pathways and local projects can help young people build confidence, develop skills and move into long-term employment. By supporting apprenticeships, projects like Exxon help grow local talent and ensure the benefits of investment are felt within the community.



Second Dumbarton Construction Academy





Academy Participants Visit Site

The second Dumbarton Construction Academy is now underway, with participants completing a strong first week of learning as part of a structured programme of industry-recognised training.

Across the week, learners took part in Introduction to Construction, Abrasive Wheels Awareness, REHIS Elementary Health & Safety, Manual Handling, Vehicle Marshal training and Working with Others. The programme also included a live site visit and tour, helping participants connect classroom learning to real-world construction environments.

Participants also learned more about Balfour Beatty and the work being delivered locally through the Exxon Infrastructure Development Project, strengthening understanding of how major infrastructure projects are planned and delivered.



Health and Safety Training



Academy Participants Visit Site

Following a positive first week, participants spent another week preparing for their CSCS card assessment. Learners will then be invited onto site to complete a week-long work experience placement, gaining first-hand insight into working within a live construction environment and supporting progression into future training and employment opportunities.



Vehicle Marshal Training



Academy Participants Visit Site

Traffic Management



Please be aware that the following traffic management updates are proposed and could be subject to change.

- **A82 Dumbarton Road (slip road) proposed to be extended by approx. 60 meters towards the east** – To support the offline construction the speed limit will be reduced (from 40mph to 30mph) on the A82 locally.
- **A814 Dumbarton Road** – As our works progress there will be intermittent closures until late summer 2026.
- **A814 Glasgow Rd** – in late April proposed daytime off peak Lane closure for westbound traffic joining the A814 from the A82 to allow for utility diversions.
- **A82 Dunglass Roundabout** - Start date 7Apr 2026 approx.10 weeks duration overnight lane closures for realignment of roundabout, approach islands, duct installations and drainage works.

Traffic management is carefully planned and coordinated between the Project Team, Transport Scotland, and the Council's Roads Department. We understand how important being able to use the road network with minimal disruption is, therefore, every effort will be made to reduce the impact on road users.

Updates on proposed traffic management activities will be communicated through the following websites and social media feed.

- Council Webpage for Traffic Regulation Orders/ Traffic Management: <https://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/council/public-notice/traffic-regulation-order/>
- Scottish Roadworks Online: <https://www.roadworksscotland.org/>
- Traffic Scotland: <https://www.traffic.gov.scot/traffic-information/roadworks>

Additional Traffic Management Restrictions include:
Public Holidays, Holiday Weekends, Local events: **No works.**

The Project Team



Client: West Dunbartonshire Council serves 89,000 residents and a lively business community in an area stretching from the banks of Loch Lomond to the shores of the Clyde. The region is one of great diversity and natural beauty with a rich history, shaped by its world-famous shipyards.

It boasts many attractions, ranging from the rugged beauty of Dumbarton Rock to historic whisky warehouses. The Council has big ambitions to deliver first class services, grow the local economy, revitalise the region's town centers and waterfront, and provide a modern education service for future generations. The development site at Bowling is a key infrastructure project aimed at driving economic growth and improving transport links for residents of West Dunbartonshire and the wider community.

Funders: The Glasgow Region City Deal encompasses a total of eight partner councils that make up the Glasgow City Region. Working in collaboration with local and national stakeholders to drive regional economic growth and improvement. The aim is to develop plans that will help to grow the local economy and provide a great place for residents to live, work and study; for businesses to flourish and for companies to invest in.



Since the Glasgow City Region Cabinet established in 2014, millions of pounds have been invested in improving transport and connectivity; growing skills; supporting businesses and freeing up derelict land for housing, retail, and commercial development. The ground-breaking £1.13 billion City Deal, one of the largest in the UK, is funding major infrastructure projects: creating thousands of new jobs and generating millions of pounds of private sector investment.

Balfour Beatty

Contractor: Balfour Beatty are a leading international infrastructure group, trusted by customers to deliver sustainable solutions and

strengthen communities. Balfour Beatty finances, develops, builds, maintains and operates the increasingly complex and critical infrastructure that supports national economies and delivers projects at the heart of local communities.

Delivering a lasting positive impact for the communities we work in is embedded in how we operate. As the contractor for the Bowling Development site Balfour Beatty supports the community by working with local organisations and education providers to ensure local people benefit, and we leave an impact legacy beyond our project.



Feedback or concerns?

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We have a project website that shares key project information and regular updates: www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/business/regeneration/strategic-sites/glasgow-city-deal/

