



Train Crossing the New Rail Bridge

# Strategic Infrastructure Development Bowling

Q4 Newsletter, January 2026

A major industrial and commercial site at the former ExxonMobil oil terminal in Bowling is starting to take shape.

The site is being transformed to unlock the potential of mixed-use development including storage, distribution, industrial, business and office space. It is a joint investment project between West Dunbartonshire Council and Glasgow City Region City Deal with funding from both UK and Scottish Governments.

The site is expected to bring £20.6 million of additional private investment and £331.4m net additional Gross Value Added to the City Region over 25 years.

The project includes the reconfiguration of Dumbuck junction on the A82/ A814, the construction of a new railway underbridge, partial reconstruction of an existing railway overbridge, 2.2km of spine roads and the phased implementation of raised platforms ready for development of future buildings on the site.

Of the 150-acre area, 47 acres are planned for development, with green network and green infrastructure enhancements including a waterfront pedestrian and cycle path being developed.

In addition, a heritage area has been identified around listed Dunglass Castle structure.

## Project Updates



Since September, work at the west junction has focused on completing essential service diversions to enable the installation of the new western underbridge and completing the bulk earthworks to the Spine Road embankment. One of the key activities involved the final tie-in of the intermediate gas main, which required a temporary closure of Glasgow Rd. We are grateful to the travelling public for their patience during this period, and the team worked hard to maximise productivity and minimise future disruption.







Bulk earthworks to main embankment at West Junction area

With the service diversions now complete, earthworks can now continue alongside construction of the two new underpasses that will form an integral part of the west junction.



Construction of underpasses

For public safety, a temporary diversion of the main cycle path NCN7 has been introduced, guiding users away from the active construction area before reconnecting with the final route to the east of the site. Localised cycle path diversions will be required throughout the works (approximately 12 months).





NCN7 Cycle path diversion route through the West Junction



Cycle path reconstruction adjacent to Glasgow Rd



Temporary footpath diversion

The east section of the works has seen the widening of the A814 Dumbarton Road. The earthworks and drainage have now been completed, and we are currently rerouting the existing services (gas, electricity, Virgin Media, BT, and Street Lighting) onto the new road alignment. These works should be finished by August 2026.



A814 Widening existing road and rerouting services.



Trial hole excavation uncovered historic cobble sets and tram lines



# On Track for Success



Site and Bridge Preparation

Over the winter break, Network Rail achieved a major milestone with the successful installation of the Western Underpass.

This complex engineering operation was completed on schedule, marking a significant step forward in the regeneration of the former ExxonMobil site.

The underpass will provide vital new connectivity across the development, supporting future investment and improved access for the community.

A highlight of the works was the careful movement of the new 2,500-tonne bridge structure into its final position on Boxing Day, following months of preparatory work and the excavation of over 80,000 tonnes of material.

The bridge structure had been previously cast on site using 1,860 tonnes of concrete.



Overnight works moving bridge into place.

Laura Craig, project manager at Network Rail Scotland, said:

“Driving the bridge into place on Boxing Day was a fantastic achievement and it’s thanks to the dedication of everyone involved.”



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The installation was carried out during a planned nine-day closure of the railway, minimising disruption for passengers and local residents.

After installation, teams worked intensively to reconnect the track, signalling, and overhead lines, allowing the first trains to pass over, on schedule, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January.



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Video: How Bridge was moved into place

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IU6yxPZAOBk>

Network Rail and partners worked day and night during the festive period to minimise disruption and ensure safety.

The project team continues to collaborate closely with partners to deliver these improvements safely and efficiently, with regular updates shared via news releases and social media.



# Nurturing Local Talent

We are delighted to welcome a local apprentice to our site team. Ben first engaged with us through our construction academy and has now started his career journey with Balfour Beatty.



Beginning on a very cold day in January, Ben is earning while learning, gaining hands-on experience alongside industry experts and working towards a nationally recognised qualification.

Apprenticeships like this offer a fantastic route into construction, allowing individuals to develop practical skills, build confidence, and progress in their careers while receiving a salary and support every step of the way.

Providing these opportunities for local people not only helps to nurture home-grown talent but also strengthens our community and ensures that the benefits of our projects are felt locally for years to come.

## Building Ambitions



Attending STEM West at West College in Clydebank and the St Peter the Apostle High School careers fair gave us the chance to connect with pupils and families, helping inspire the next generation to consider the wide range of careers available in Construction.

We discussed opportunities ranging from engineering and project management to sustainability and social impact and enjoyed hands-on activities and supportive conversations about apprenticeships and local projects.

The energy and curiosity we met reaffirmed how events like these can spark ambition and make the industry feel accessible, giving young people practical insight into roles, skills, and study routes, encouraging them to see themselves as the next generation of problem-solvers who will design and deliver resilient infrastructure for their communities.



### Coming Soon...Coming Soon... Coming Soon...

We are going to be busy over the next few months, continuing to inspire young people into careers in construction. From engaging primary school pupils in hands-on problem-solving STEM activities and discussing career options with secondary school pupils at careers fairs, to planning a second Construction Academy, we are covering all ages.

We will also be finalising our registration for the Considerate Constructors Scheme, ensuring our commitment to community engagement and site safety remains at the highest standard.



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# Traffic Management

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

- **A82 Westbound** – There will be a lane closure to allow for utility diversions starting on the 26<sup>th</sup> January for up to 3 weeks, dependant on works required. This will be followed by a narrow lane closure programme to start on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb for 4 weeks to carry out the water main tie-in by Scottish Water.
- **A82 Bus Stop Retaining Wall** – is programmed for 26<sup>th</sup> January to 23<sup>rd</sup> April - Monday to Thursday - 09.30 to 15.30 limited to off-peak hours only. Nearside lane closure east bound from access, temporary works, concrete retaining wall construction.
- **A814 Dumbarton Road** – 6<sup>th</sup> January to 27<sup>th</sup> February - 2-way temporary traffic lights to allow footpath realignment, service diversions, surfacing and drainage. As our works progress there will be intermittent closures until late summer 2026.
- **A814 Glasgow Rd** – Lane closure for westbound traffic joining the A82 from the A814 to allow for utility diversions. This will be in place until August 2026.
- **A82 Dunglass Roundabout** - Proposed start date April 2026 - 10 weeks duration overnight lane closures for realignment of roundabout and approach islands, duct installation, and drainage.

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 on the A82 includes: Public Holidays, Holiday Weekends, Local events: **No works.**



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# 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 was 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?

[BBExxonInfrastructureDevelopment@balfourbeatty.com](mailto:BBExxonInfrastructureDevelopment@balfourbeatty.com)

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/](http://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/business/regeneration/strategic-sites/glasgow-city-deal/)



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