

M8 / M73 / M74 Motorway Improvements

We have upgraded this vital section of **Scotland's busiest motorway between Edinburgh and Glasgow, now connected by uninterrupted motorway for the first time in history.** This link provides over 100,000 of Scotland's daily travelling public **with reliable journey times and improved safety.** We have generated employment opportunities by creating over **1,000 construction jobs** over the three-year contract, with **70% recruited locally.**



Transport
Scotland



£500m



2014
– 2017



PPP

The project was delivered under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement by Scottish Roads Partnership (SRP), a consortium featuring Ferrovial Construction sister companies, Cintra and Amey. We led the delivery of design and construction works on behalf of SRP, with Amey as lead designer.

The project scope comprised the design and build of a new 15km stretch of the M8 motorway between Ballieston and Newhouse, upgrading the Raith Interchange and widening 10km of existing motorway, managed across three geographical areas. The works also involved 18 new bridges, including the 2,000tn Braehead Rail Bridge which was executed in a 16-day rail possession.

Collaboration was instrumental to the project, between contractors, designers and client, extending to wider stakeholders, including Network Rail. We worked with Transport Scotland, utilities providers, local authorities and key stakeholders, using Building Information Modelling (BIM) to integrate design, build and maintenance. This created long-term operational solutions, such as the upgraded Raith Interchange, where the use of BIM has accelerated traffic management planning and temporary works, compared to conventional design methods.

For the first time ever, Glasgow and Edinburgh are now fully connected with a motorway, reducing travel times by up to 20 minutes at peak periods.



ADDED VALUE

- Installation of the 2,000tn Braehead Rail Bridge in a 16-day possession, an example of rigorous planning and effective collaboration
- Design optimisation from an overpass to a junction at Chapelhall, reducing virgin earth import by 500,000m³ and off-site materials requirement by 300,000m³
- BIM strategy fully integrated throughout design and delivery and into operations
- Intelligent, whole-life approach to design and delivery e.g. using a pavement with a design life of 40 years for minimal intervention and reduced risk
- Design optimisation to reduce temporary dewatering at Raith Junction during construction – reducing costs and creating environmental enhancements
- Reduced 180,000 on-line lorry journeys through off-line haulage

“ The new M8 will be a major milestone in what is a massive transport infrastructure project and I’m pleased to say the phased opening will start five days ahead of schedule. We are now close to seeing the culmination of three years of construction works and half a billion pounds worth of investment to improve this vital link between Scotland’s biggest cities. This investment will make a tangible difference to our economy, improving business links and connectivity, as well as reducing journey times for road users. ”

Keith Brown

The Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work at the opening of the new M8 section

15km
of new highway

10km
online highway widening

3 new
interchanges
and 2 interchange
upgrades

70 structures
installed or upgraded

30 year
concession

20 minute
reduction in journey times
between Glasgow and
Edinburgh