

# Elton Interchange Improvement Works

# Welcome to the first edition of this project newsletter

The Elton Interchange project involves junction improvement works and changing the current layout of two roundabouts at the Elton junction of the A66 to an interchange.

The objective of this project is to increase the capacity of the road network, reduce travel times (greater predictability of travel times) and create modern and safe links between communities and main highways. This will ensure that current and upcoming housing developments will be able to continue.

Keep up to date with the project and our community engagement through our quarterly newsletter and webpage updates.





**Balfour Beatty** 



# **Project Updates**

- Drainage works have commenced, including the installation of 3 attenuation tanks to store surface water during periods of high flows from the new road layout, one covering almost 1000m2.
- Narrow lanes were installed in early June which has allowed the embankments to be re-profiled in preparation for the widening and lengthening of the Eastbound on slip. Associated drainage is currently being installed to allow removal of the existing system to create space for widening the existing Slip Road.
- New drainage has commenced and will be followed by lighting and road construction. This allowed embankment to be created utilising existing site won material. Approximately 3000m3 of material has been moved within the site to build this road which will carry the new Darlington Road alignment.
- Culverting of the existing Greens Beck has been undertaken to facilitate the flow of surface water beneath the new highway alignment.

#### **Key Project Data (To Date)**

- Zero Accidents/Incidents with over 15,060 hours worked to date
- 1074 Car miles saved through staff cycling to work
- 100% site waste diverted from landfill
- Over 1060+ Days worked by local people
- 82% of Supply Chain spend within 40 miles of project
- 1 Social Enterprise engaged



### **Social Value & Community**

Social value and community engagement is at the heart of the project. Within the first quarter of the scheme we have collaborated with Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and our supply chain partners to deliver:

- 4 weeks of work experience
- Engaged with 400+ school students across Stockton-on-Tees
- Became an Enterprise Advisor at Outwood Academy Bishopsgarth
- STEM Ambassador at local primary school
- 2 careers events at local Sixth Form Colleges
- Mental Health Awareness Week & Rainbow Day
- 1 'Year in Industry' placement Civil Engineering student
- Healthy eating campaign for project staff
- Stockton-on-Tees 'Employment & Skills' Hub event





## **Inspiring the Future Workforce**

As part of our commitment to leave a positive legacy in the community of Stockton-on-Tees, we have been working with residents from schools, colleges, and employment hubs. We aim to inspire people of all ages to consider a career in the construction and infrastructure industry, by demonstrating the exciting opportunities the industry has to offer.

We engaged with **St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School** during their career week. Students were introduced to Balfour Beatty and different job roles involved in a construction project. They were set a challenge to design, plan and build a bridge to a £1m budget! **The Oak Tree Academy** also welcomed us to join their 'Business & Enterprise' session which saw students create and pitch products made from recycled materials.

Careers Fairs are an excellent way to share our industry with young people looking to start their career pathways. We met over 200 students from **Stockton Sixth Form College**. We were very impressed with their questions and professionalism when talking to businesses.

**Egglescliffe Sixth Form College** invited us to join their annual careers event for students in Year 12. Students investigated requirements needed to pursue a variety of career paths at Balfour Beatty and gained a broader insight into the construction and engineering field.

"We would like to thank you very much for your fantastic contribution to our Sixth Form Careers Event. Feedback from the students has been extremely positive. They clearly found the sessions stimulating and useful."

Egglescliffe Sixth Form College



# **Emerging Talent & Early Careers**

Infrastructure engineering is all about solving problems and finding solutions that make the world work better. We have a community of apprentices, year in industry, placement students and graduates working on the scheme, helping shape these answers right from their first day.

Two students joined the Social Value Coordinator at Elton Interchange to undertake a **2-week research project** as part of a Nuffield Research Placement. The local students joined ahead of their final year of A-level study to develop their research skills and investigate ways to leave a lasting legacy in Stockton-on-Tees, aligned to the construction project.

Ben joined the Balfour Beatty team as a **year in industry placement** student. Ben, who is studying Civil Engineering at Northumbria University applied for the industry placement to enhance his study and understand the theory in a practical setting. Ben will spend 12 months at Elton Interchange learning about our business and industry. Ben is being mentored by two of our graduate civil engineers who are sharing their experience and guidance.

We were invited to join Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's dedicated 'Employment & Skills Hub' to attend the 'Build your Career' event on Thursday 23rd June. We joined other likeminded employers from the region within the construction and manufacturing industry to share current vacancies and offer employability skills and support.

If you are interested in a career, work experience or simply more information about opportunities at Balfour Beatty, scan our **Early Talent QR Code** below to register your details.



# Environment & Workforce

### **Cycling to Work**

'National Bike Week' took place from 6th-12th June 2022. The Elton Interchange project celebrated members of the team who are leading by example with their commitment to reduce their carbon footprint, by cycling to work. We're proud to have local staff working on a local project, promoting the health and wellbeing benefits and doing their part for the environment.

"As a keen cyclist it's great to be based on a project in my local area with a commutable distance to cycle to and from work. I'm a great advocate for the health and wellbeing benefits you gain but of equal importance is the environmental benefit, not just for the project but my local community. Balfour Beatty provide a safe bike lock area on site. This is being utilised by more Balfour Beatty staff and subcontractors as the project continues, which is great to see."

James Cochrane (Quantity Surveyor)



### **Rainbow Day**

The team at Elton Interchange celebrated diversity and inclusivity on Wednesday 22nd June, encouraging a culture of respect and authenticity on site. Our Rainbow Day consisted of rainbow cakes, cookies and fruit. We encouraged conversations and shared the excellent resources available from the Balfour Beatty LGBTQ+ Affinity Network, with our teams and subcontractors on site.



### **Healthy Eating Initiative**

We are supporting our workforce, subcontractors, and visitors to make healthy choices on site with the addition of fresh fruit. Fruit and vegetables are part of a healthy, balanced diet and a great source of vitamins and minerals. Engaging with local businesses is also an important part of supporting the local community and we are pleased to be purchasing our fruit from Fox's Garden Shop. Fox's Garden Shop are a locally run business who are located on Yarm Back Lane, a key road within the project.



### Social Value Dashboard

### SOCIAL VALUE | ELTON INTERCHANGE | Q1

**Balfour Beatty** 

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Balfour Beatty, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and the team of subcontractors are collaborating to maximise social value engagement with residents, businesses, community groups and education establishments. The infographic below shows activities to date, in the local community and surrounding areas of Stockton-on-Tees





Total Social Value Add (to date): £278,473



10 SMEs small and medium sized enterprises engaged

students engaged

400+ local

2 Graduates engaged on the project

1160 Days worked by local people

1 Micro local enterprise engaged

social enterprise engaged

'Enterprise Advisor' at local secondary school



Year in Industry' placement student







weeks of work experience placements

Employment & Skills Hub Employability Skills Event

STEM Ambassadors working on the project

100% of waste reused or recycled and therefore diverted from landfill

15,060+ hours worked without a lost time incident



1074 car miles saved by cycling to work







### **Stay in Touch**

For more information on the scheme or if you have any questions, please email:

clare.davison@balfourbeatty.com

Or keep up to date via our dedicated webpage:

www.balfourbeatty.com/elton-interchange

Follow us on social media:

@BalfourBeatty

@Stocktoncouncil

@Scape\_Group