

FORDER VALLEY TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENTS

Newsletter – October 2021



Balfour Beatty

What's been happening

Last month we began pouring concrete onto the bridge deck, which continues into October until all areas of the bridge are covered. It takes a day to pour concrete onto each separate area of the bridge, with a specialist team ensuring the coverage is even.

Earthworks continued on the drainage pond and you can now see the scale of the pond from Novorossiysk Road.

Work to install kerbs has continued along Forder Valley Road and the new shared-use cycle and pedestrian pathway on Forder Valley Road (West) is now in use.

The team at the Forder Valley Interchange have made headway on the subway extension and sheet piling work is now complete.

Click on the link to view a video showing the building of the bridge:

[Forder Valley Link Road bridge-build \(extended\) - YouTube](#)



What's happening next

Installation of fencing across the Forder Valley Link Road site is starting to take shape and we now have our landscaping team on site making preparations for more tree planting.

We are now in the second phase of the pond excavation and all ground material from this area will be moved to fill the area north of the bridge.

Roadworks at the main junction of the Forder Valley Link Road continue.

Traffic arrangements

Longbridge Road: The inside (left-turn) lane from Leigham Roundabout onto Longbridge Road is closed for 12 weeks but traffic can still turn left using lane two. From Monday 11 October, Longbridge Road will be closed overnight in both directions between Leigham Roundabout and Barnstaple Close.

Most of these overnight works are expected to take place each week from Monday night through to Saturday morning but there will be occasions when teams work on Saturday and Sunday nights too.



HM Government



Environmental works

We have been busy carrying out woodland management, coppicing targeted areas of woodland within Forder Valley and Bircham Valley Local Nature Reserves to help the biodiversity of plants and wildlife. Coppicing is the cutting back of a tree or shrub to ground level to stimulate growth, opening up the tree canopy to allow more light to reach the smaller and low growing plants. This subsequently provides more food sources for pollinators and other insects. Through improving the insect population, it provides a greater food supply for a wealth of wildlife, such as small mammals, birds and bats. Not only does it improve forage in the area, it also improves habitats for nesting and shelter for wildlife, especially through the habitat piles created with the coppiced wood.



Meet the team

Meet Hugo Wellum, one of our section engineers, who lives in Plymouth. Hugo has been on site since the start and is passionate about his job and developing the city. "I've enjoyed being able to see the project through from the early stages and to where we are now," he says. "It's great being able to see the finished product starting to take shape. My job role is to deliver the earthworks package which forms the new footpaths and carriageways."

Community news

Giving something back to the local community and creating a legacy for when we leave has really inspired our project team.

Our project team worked hard during the summer holidays to build a new sandpit and seating area for the children of St Edward's CofE Primary School and Nursery, Eggbuckland. Over 100 volunteering hours were used to create the new interactive space that will help support children's learning. All of the materials were donated by our supply chain partners WH Bond & Sons Ltd, Brunel Recycling, WBM Groundworks Ltd, Ainsworth Civil & Engineering and Kelston Sparkes. A huge thank you to all involved!!



We also gave some of our surplus materials to Plym Bridge Nursery School. The off cuts will be used to enhance the children's indoor and outdoor play activities.

If you haven't signed up to our mailing list already and would like to receive scheme updates, please email your name and email address to fvlrcomms@balfourbeatty.com. You can also find more information on the Plymouth City Council webpage: www.plymouth.gov.uk/fordervalley or follow Plymouth City Council on Twitter @plymouthcc

