



Proposals for the Falkirk Gateway development are starting to come forward. One outlines plans for a hotel, pub/restaurant and retail space on part of the 27-acre site next to the College and Stadium, with more investment expected to follow.

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Project updates

Phase 1: Early works and ground preparation (autumn 2023 to spring 2025)

This phase included setting up the site compound, improving pedestrian safety at Earlsgate Roundabout, and start rerouting essential utilities.

Specialist drainage and surcharge platforms (heavy layers of material) were also installed to stabilise the ground. The land is now being left to settle before construction can continue.

Phase 2: Main works and traffic management (spring 2025 to early 2027)

With the ground now settling, the project has entered its most complex phase. This includes final utility diversions, removal of the surcharge, building the new roundabout on the A9 outside the Helix and the rollout of new traffic management to support the build.

New carriageways will be constructed and, from early 2026, traffic will gradually be switched onto these. The final stage of this phase will involve upgrading the existing roads and building the new Westmains roundabout. The full project is expected to be completed by early 2027.



Utility companies have been on site to move pipes and cables, with five diversion works now complete.



Single-lane closures are now in place along the A9 (pictured) and A904 to allow key works to progress safely. These include building a new carriageway, creating a roundabout, carrying out utility diversions, and preparing the ground for future road construction.

New link road



A new link road has been built to connect Alexander Avenue with the A9 Fire Station Roundabout. The footpath alongside the road opened to pedestrians in June 2025, while the road itself will remain closed to vehicles for now to support ongoing traffic management.

Traffic management

Traffic management is being carefully coordinated to keep disruption to a minimum. The Council, contractor and project team are working together to plan works and maintain access as much as possible. Updates will be shared via the following sites:

- Falkirk Council:
falkirk.gov.uk/roads/road-closures-traffic-orders
- Scottish Roadworks:
roadworksscotland.org
- Contractor website:
<https://a9-a904-improvements.co.uk>

Building in Sustainability

Environmental sustainability is a key part of the A9/A904 Westfield Improvements Project - shaping both the design and delivery of the work.

High-quality, shared-use foot and cycle paths are being created to encourage active travel and reduce reliance on cars. These will be 3 metres wide between Forth Valley College and Westfield Roundabout, and 5 metres wide between Westfield and Earl's Gate.

Major earthworks, including piled embankments, have been designed with long-term land stability and environmental impact in mind. A new Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) will manage water runoff and support local wildlife through a series of ponds and wetlands.

The project is also delivering a biodiversity net gain of over 8%, thanks to extensive landscaping. This includes nearly 200 specimen trees (including fruit and nut species), more than 750 wet woodland trees, 775 scrub trees, 9,000 hedgerow plants, and thousands of ground cover, reed and marginal plants.

Together, these features will create a greener, more resilient transport corridor that supports nature and the local community.

Social impact – skills, jobs and opportunities

Every Falkirk Council infrastructure contract includes a community benefit clause - a requirement for contractors, like Balfour Beatty, to deliver added social, economic or environmental value alongside their core construction work.

This can include supporting local businesses, promoting sustainability, and creating opportunities for employment, training and education. At a minimum, contractors must work with the Council's Employment and Training Unit (ETU) to offer meaningful work experience, apprenticeships, and job opportunities for local people.

Through the A9/A904 project, these commitments are being delivered in a range of ways - helping to ensure the long-term benefits of the project are felt across the community.

The infographic below summarises the community benefit that has already been delivered as part of the project.

Balfour Beatty

**A9/A904 Westfield Infrastructure Improvements:
04/25**

FALKIRK COUNCIL



Community benefit brings playground improvements to Victoria Primary School



A Beacons Primary School pupils' tour of Galaxy Sports facility

Falkirk young people take on the Balfour Beatty Big Design Challenge



4 Project site tours for local schools

Local school grounds supported with drainage surveys

96% Total waste diverted from landfill



16

Career information and engagement sessions supported



2 Local jobs created



161 Training weeks supported

350

Pupil Engagement hours

150

Balfour Beatty staff hours



Donation of hard hats for local pupils to upcycle and feature in sustainable fashion show



40 Pupils engaged across **6** Local High Schools



Social impact highlights



Inspiring future careers in construction

Working in construction offers exciting opportunities to literally shape the world we live in.

Balfour Beatty is committed to encouraging young people in Scotland to explore the exciting career opportunities the sector offers.

As part of that commitment, the Falkirk Big Design Challenge invited pupils from six local high schools to design a cost-effective road linking Falkirk, Grangemouth and Stenhousemuir, considering environmental, social and economic impacts.

Balfour Beatty provided over 150 hours of mentoring and support, with pupils contributing more than 400 hours of work. The project gave students hands-on experience, technical skills and valuable insight into careers in construction and engineering.



Creating opportunities for young people to grow their skills

The project has also supported 13 weeks of structured work experience for local young people, providing hands-on training, insight into the construction industry, and industry-recognised qualifications. These placements have helped young people build skills, boost confidence, and explore future careers.

The project will continue to rollout more placements and apprenticeship opportunities, as Balfour Beatty and Falkirk Council are committing not just to build infrastructure, but to build better – better skills, better opportunities and better futures.



No more muddy shoes: Help improves school playground

As part of the community benefits linked to the project, drainage improvements were carried out at a local school to address persistent flooding in a low-lying area of the playground. Around 40 metres of drainage was installed, meaning pupils no longer have to navigate muddy paths or deal with wet shoes after heavy rain.

Further work included investigating the condition of the school's access road, using CCTV to assess the existing drainage system, and clearing blocked drains across the school ground, which helped improve day-to-day conditions for pupils and staff.

Contractor and client



Balfour Beatty

Balfour Beatty is a leading international infrastructure group, trusted by customers to deliver sustainable solutions and strengthen communities.

We finance, develop, build, maintain and operate the increasingly complex and critical infrastructure that supports national economies and deliver 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 the A9/A904 Improvements, we look forward to supporting the community by working with local organisations and education providers to ensure local people benefit, and we leave a legacy beyond our project.

We are proud members of the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS), working to raise standards in the consideration for the communities in which we work and to improve the performance and overall perception of the industry. Our membership to CCS reflects our commitment to responsible practices, high standards, and ethical construction.

Feedback or concerns?
publicsupport@considerateconstructors.com
08007831423
[considerateconstructors.com/public](https://www.considerateconstructors.com/public)

FALKIRK COUNCIL



Falkirk Council

The A9/A904 Westfield Improvement Project is being delivered by Falkirk Council as part of its Tax Incremental Finance (TIF) programme.

The TIF programme allows the Council to borrow money to fund infrastructure projects like Westfield, with that investment repaid over time using business rates generated from new commercial developments across 28 designated 'red line' sites in the Falkirk area.

By unlocking land for business, industry, and development, the local TIF programme aims to enable 400,000 square metres of new commercial space, support the creation of up to 6,000 jobs, and attract significant private investment.

The Council's TIF has already delivered over £18m of infrastructure improvements, including roads, drainage, site access, and an electric vehicle charging hub at Falkirk Stadium. The Westfield project is the largest and most complex to date and plays a critical role in unlocking the Falkirk Gateway site and supporting regional economic growth.

TIF funding is ringfenced and cannot be used to support general Council services. It's an investment tool to create long-term economic benefits for the area.

Questions?

After meeting with the community and reviewing comments on social media, a list of frequently asked questions was pulled together to address the topics people care most about - including how the project is funded, why it's needed, and what's happening when.

To read the full FAQs online – and to keep up to date with project developments and news – please visit www.a9-a904improvements.co.uk or scan the QR code below.



If you have questions about the project or feedback you'd like to send to the Project team, please email: A9-A904Improvements@balfourbeatty.com