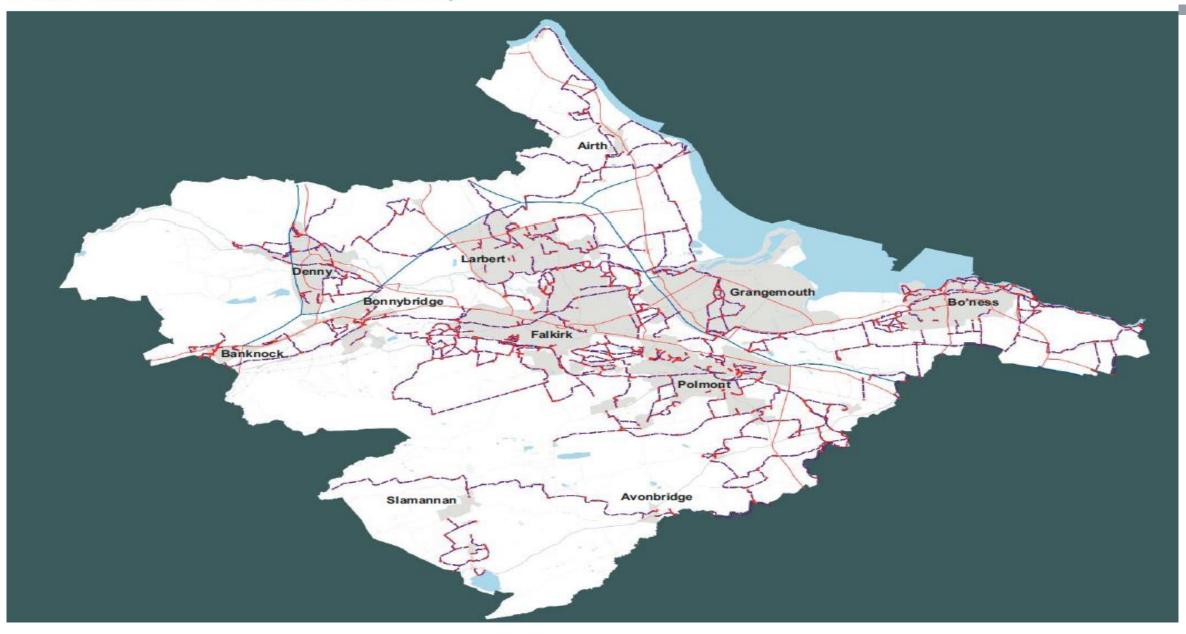
SUSTRANS PLACES FOR EVERYONE

Falkirk, Denny and Bonnybridge: Stage 0-2



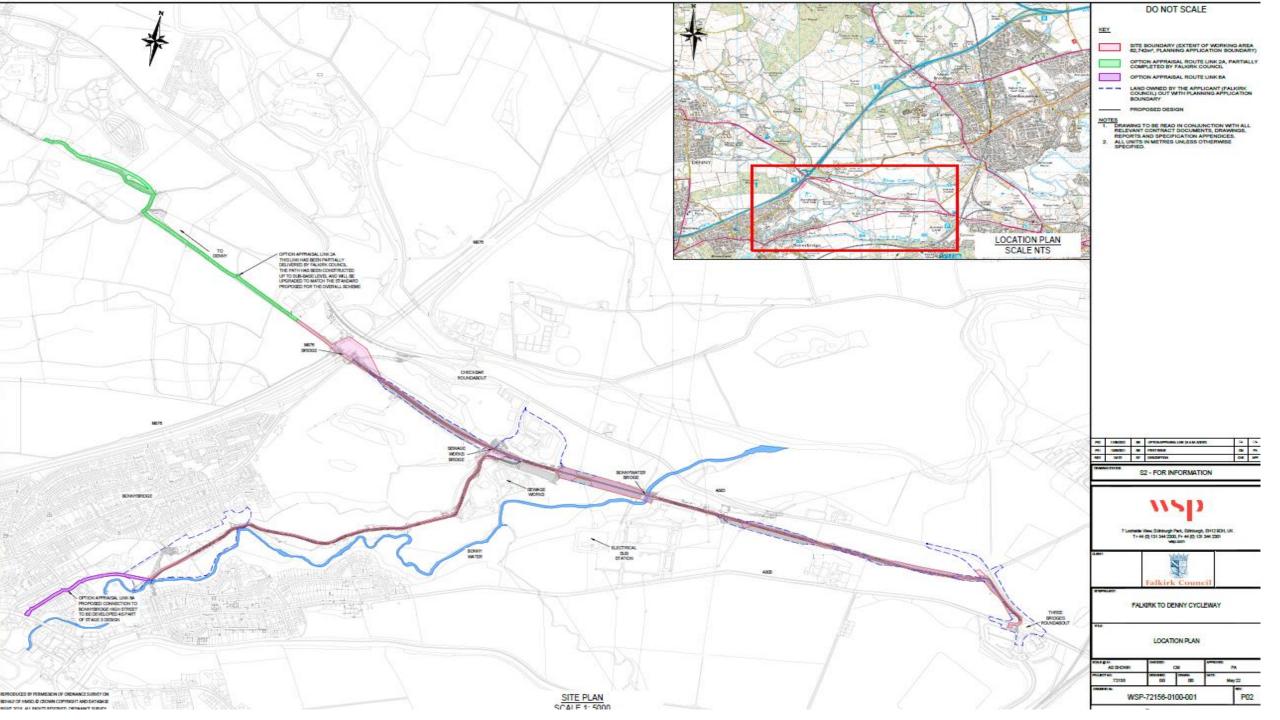


Falkirk Council's Core Path Network Map



FALKIRK, DENNY, AND BONNYBRIDGE PROPOSAL: BACKGROUND

- Project aspiration for Falkirk Council since 2000.
- Poor walking, wheeling and cycling provision for the communities of Denny and Bonnybridge into central Falkirk
- Extensive and complex project: 4km of path, utilities, new bridge over M876 and utilising two existing bridge structures.
- Pre 2019 unable to deliver due to cost.
- Estimated cost £10 million
- Population of 14,000 with pockets of social deprivation
- Subject to new housing developments in last decade
- One High School and five primary schools
- Bus service every 30 mins



PROPOSAL

- Create a 4km shared used path connecting Denny, Bonnybridge to the Falkirk Wheel; utilising the route of a historical railway rack (mid 1800s)
- Create a bespoke cycle and pedestrian bridge over the M876 motorway
- Utilise two existing bridges; Roughmute and Bonnywater (mid 1800s).
- Future proof onward connections into Denny, Bonnybridge and central Falkirk

PLACES FOR EVERYONE: 2019/20 BID

- 2019/20 bid was submitted to Sustrans for construction only.
- Early 2020 bid was **rejected** : public engagement wasn't recent, no options appraisal and the engineering drawing had not been subject to collaborative comments/input from Sustrans or public.
- Advised to bring project back from a Stage 5 bid to a Stage 0-2 bid

OH DEAR !!



PLACES FOR EVERYONE: 2020 REVISED BID

- Reframed now a new project.
- Engaged a transport consultant to support project from Stage 0-2 and beyond.
- Engaged with Sustrans to discuss how we create a successful bid.

PLACES FOR EVERYONE: REVISED BID

- Stage 0-2 funding application was created on portal
- Created a working group with Sustrans, WSP (consultant) and Falkirk Council

FALKIRK COUNCIL: lead authority responsible for identifying infrastructure and are custodians of infrastructure

SUSTRANS: lead funder, on behalf of Transport Scotland, to administer funding for active travel infrastructure throughout Scotland

CONSULTANTS: provide a service to local authority to deliver tasks associated with project/infrastructure implementation

PLACES FOR EVERYONE: NEW APPLICATION

- Developed a brief with appointed transport consultants, WSP: PRE, DURING and POST tasks
 - PRE brief preparation
 - DURING all Stage 0-2 tasks
 - POST tasks include funding claims, preparation for Stage 3-4.
 - Application submitted

PLACES FOR EVERYONE: JULY 2020 BID APPROVED



STAGE 0-2: DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

TASKS

- **1**. Strategic Definition: Aims of Project
- 2. Preparation of Brief: Feasibility, budget, options appraisal, EIA and risk register
- 3. Concept Design : Arrangement drawings, topographical study , road safety audit.

Retained Options Route 1 Route 2 Route 3 Route 5 Route 6

Route 2 Reasons for Retaining: - Facilitates a direct route between Falkirk and Denny. - Route free from general traffic.

Route 5 Reasons for Retaining: - Facilitates a spur between Bonnybridge and a direct Falkirk to Denny route. Route 1 Reasons for Retaining: - Facilitates a direct route between Falkirk and Denny. - Potential to separate cyclists from general traffic. - Potential to connect to Falkirk Wheel via Millenium Wheel Drive.

> Route 6 Reasons for Retaining: - Facilitates a spur between Bonnybridge and Falkirk to Denny route. - Route free from general traffic.

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Route 3 Reasons for Retaining: - Facilitates a connection between Denny, Bonnybridge and Falkirk.

STAGE 0-2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TASKS

- 1. Stakeholder Map
- 2. Production of drawing for consultation
- 3. Engagement: workshops, events, online
- 4. Findings
- 5. Identify on-going engagement

CASE STUDY: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Denny, Bonnybridge and Falkirk Community Consultation VIRTUAL ROOM

STAGE 0-2: COMMUNITY CONSULATION

BENEFITS VIRTUAL CONSULTATION:

- Link created that could be sent to stakeholders, press team and social media platforms,
- Can be used to target hard to reach groups
- Safe virtual so no public facing activity during COVID 19 pandemic
- Time saving and available 24 hrs
- Less resource intensive
- Can be developed and utilised throughout project
- 200 responses exceeded expectations

STAGE 0-2 BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

- Behavour Change Plan Stage 0-7
- Identify groups/audiences
- Soft interventions in lead up to project I Bike, School Travel Planning, etc.
- Stage 5-7: More intensive Behaviour Change

STAGE 0-2 PERMISSIONS AND OBLIGATIONS

- 1. Land Ownership
- 2. Planning Permission
- 3. Committee Approvals
- 4. Transport Scotland (BEAR) trunk road network
- 5. Internal Stakeholders: lighting, maintenance

STAGE 0-2 COMMUNICATION

Communication Plan:

- Stakeholder map, audience identification, media platforms, etc.
- Key Stages of projects; press release, social media, social media posts
- Committee timelines

STAGE 0-2 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- 1. Develop a monitoring an evaluation plan; cycle counters, surveys, feed back loops.
- 2. Outcomes and objective report.

PLACES FOR EVERYONE: LEARNING AND FEEDBACK

- Looking at project from a Falkirk Council perspective only
- Sustrans and consultant found process more manageable and comfortable to deliver we all knew our roles.
- Opportunity to review project and start 'fresh'
- Engaging with partners and stakeholders has enhanced the project and design
- Discovered new ways of working and learning from partner insights
- Project delivered in a methodical fashion
- Project is more accountable and the work to date, and going forward, will help with scrutiny complaints, councillor enquires, etc.
- Each stage done well and delivered will enhanced the next application......

PLACES FOR EVERYONE: STAGE 3-4 BID 2022



STAGE 0-2 TIPS

- Read the guidance thoroughly and break down the tasks
- Prepare for substantial increase in workloads
- Project will take longer, potentially adding months to years
- Key stage is developing your initial brief with your consultant (or internal teams) this sets the scene and will be your overall work plan and foundation of entire project.
- Never too early to engage with partners, ask for permissions, raise concerns.
- Be considerate of partner needs.
- Embrace change and see process as an opportunity to view project from different perspectives
- Adopt new technologies and approaches virtual consultation, new building materials, etc.
- Communicate with stakeholders and alert them of process and the need for patience

QUESTIONS ?

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