

Belfast Transport Hub Busway Bridge Project

Spring 2023

Welcome

Welcome to the Spring 2023 edition of our newsletter to update on GRAHAM preparatory engineering works for the Belfast Transport Hub, which has now been formally named Belfast Grand Central Station.

Site Works Update

The new Busway Bridge is a key element of the Belfast Grand Central Station project, which will allow buses access to the new Station from Broadway roundabout, crossing over the newly realigned railway track.

The bridge is fabricated from weathering steel with a distinctive rust-like appearance. This prevents corrosion and maximises sustainability. Because of their size, the two 150 tonne steel girders were transported in separate pieces and welded onsite to reach the 51m span.

In late September the bridge girders were successfully lifted into place using a 800t mobile crane and work on the installation of the secondary cross beams were completed within a few weeks, taking the total installed weight of the bridge to 480t.



Image 1 Installation of Bridge Girders using 800t Mobile Crane

Site Stats to Date:

- 818 Piles installed
- 5100m³ of concrete installed (Excluding Piles)
- 1300 tonnes of reinforcement tied in place
- 480 tonnes of bridge steel erected

Other notable project milestones achieved in this quarter:

- Installation of eastern ramp reinforced soil walls.
- Pouring of five base slabs in the southern and northern approach ramps, totalling 2170m³ of reinforced concrete.
- Opening of a temporary busway over the southern approach to allow bus traffic to enter Europa bus station through dedicated route.



Image 2 Extents of Belfast Transport Hub Site

Look Ahead

- Installation of soil reinforced earth precast panels to northern approach.
- Installation of reinforced concrete Bridge Deck & Precast elements.
- Installation of Anchor slabs and precast elements across the eastern approach.
- Completion of reinforced concrete walls across southern approach.

Fundraising for Kinship Care NI

The Busway Bridge Team recently hosted a Big Breakfast' Charity Fundraiser in aid of Kinship Care NI.

Kinship Care NI is a vital lifeline supporting children who cannot be cared for by their own parents to live safely and securely within their own families and communities.



Image 3:
GRAHAM Site Agent Ryan Hill with Kinship Care NI at site Fundraiser event

Over £3000 was raised through the Big Breakfast Event to support the vital services of Kinship Care NI, aided by generous raffle prizes donated by our supply chain and Translink.

Further information on the work of Kinship Care NI can be found at www.kinshipcareni.com

Gaining 'Insight' into Social Value

The Busway Bridge & Ramps project team recently hosted a 3-month research placement student, Sian Pike, from the QUB School of Psychology "Insight" Employability Programme.



Image 4:
Sian (2nd from left) assisting GRAHAM site engineers at Business in Community Donation Drive

Working alongside the Project Social Impact Advisor, Sian's focus was to explore the theme of wellbeing, and she engaged with our team and community partners to better understand this social value themes and impacts in practice.

Sian not only gained insight into a live construction workplace for the first time but was also able to apply her unique Psychology perspective to add value to our project wellbeing strategies and initiatives.

More information on the QUB Insight Programme can be found at www.qub.ac.uk

Belfast Transport Hub Projects celebrate Social Value delivery achievements

'Delivering lasting impact' is GRAHAM's guiding principle. The Belfast Transport Hub (BTH) team is delighted to report that our activities to support the local community throughout the very preparatory stages of the Enabling Works and also throughout the current Busway Bridge Project have recently been recognised with two prestigious awards:

The Enabling Works Team was awarded **finalist in the Social Value Project of the Year** category from the Construction Employers Federation Excellence Awards, recognising our extensive activities to support local employment and community organisations and initiatives.



Our partnership working with social enterprises throughout the Enabling Works and Busway Bridge projects were also recognised in the achievement of **Highly Commended Award in the Social Partnership / Market Building Category** by Social Enterprise NI.

We look forward to continuing to build on these successes to deliver lasting impact together with our local community as the project progresses.

Considerate Constructors Scheme

The Belfast Transport Hub Busway Bridge & Ramps Project is registered under the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS).

Following a recent audit, the Busway Bridge & Ramps Project has continued the precedent of 'Excellent' set by the Enabling Works, achieving an impressively high standard across all five categories of inspection.

Further information on the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) can be found on their website: <https://www.ccscheme.org.uk>



Here to Help

Information and updates on our work can be found at www.graham.co.uk/belfast-transport-hub

If you have any queries or concerns, or if you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact our site team at bthenquiries@graham.co.uk

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