

Portrush Train Station

Portrush Train Station 'Open' for business

£5.6m

/ Project value

May 2018

/ The project commenced

May 2019

/ The project was completed

Providing a “real sense of place”, the new £5.6m Portrush Train Station is a modern “gateway” for Portrush – a seaside town in County Antrim, roughly 67 miles from Belfast. Completed in anticipation of the 148th Open golf major, the contemporary station now includes three upgraded platforms, and the extension of the permanent way for Platforms 1 and 2. Importantly, it can now accommodate six-car train sets which has significantly increased its capacity. Our phased construction programme featured the construction of a steel framed station building and the installation of a range of modern facilities, notably a fully equipped wet room - the first of its kind for a Translink station in NI. Enhanced passenger information systems/signage and increased cycle storage, to encourage active travel, are additional elements of this transformative project.

The brief

The redevelopment of Portrush Train Station was one of the key “regeneration initiatives” of the Portrush Regeneration Programme (a wide-ranging £17m programme of capital works). The project, led by Translink, was funded by the Department for Communities (£4.7m) and the Department for Infrastructure (£900k+).



“Portrush Train Station provides a real sense of ‘place’ for the town and is a great gateway for the world to come and see what Portrush has to offer.”

Richard Knox
Translink’s Head of Rail Service Operations

“We are proud of what Portrush Station has to offer the travelling public, and we’re certain that those passing through this summer will be impressed by what they encounter, from modern waiting facilities, improved passenger information and signage to local amenities and attractions, as well as enhanced cycle storage to promote more ‘active’ travel.”

Richard Knox
Translink’s Head of Rail Service Operations

The challenges

The new Portrush Train Station had to be completed before July 2019 ahead of the 148th Open. To put the magnitude of the occasion into context, 1951 was the last time the showpiece event was hosted in Portrush at Royal Portrush Golf Club – the only championship ever held outside of Scotland or England before the 2019 edition. As such, there could be no deviation from the pre-agreed programme.

The solution

Beginning in May 2018, we introduced a multi-phased construction programme, and erected a temporary station building, which ensured that the pre-existing passenger and rail services remained fully operational and functional throughout the duration of the project. Among the core elements of the scheme were the construction of a new steel framed station building, the upgrading of three platforms and the extension of the permanent way for Platforms 1 and 2. Boundary works, environmental improvements, M&E, cladding, internal fit-out, landscaping and the general installation of modern facilities, including a new Public Address System, a Passenger Information System and corporate signage, were further aspects of the redevelopment. Demonstrating the high standard of finish, no bolted connections are visible on the structural steelwork. The new station building, which was designed and constructed to ensure high-quality disabled access, includes a fully equipped wet room, with an adult-sized changing table, toilet and showering facilities, and a hoist. This 4 x 2.5m area is the first of its kind for a Translink station in Northern Ireland.

Outputs & Benefits

- / **Responsible business:** A GRAHAM contingent of volunteers helped to keep the Portrush East Strand beach clean and safe as part of a beach cleaning programme. And, following ongoing engagement with the Portstewart Men’s Shed, we helped to fabricate train inspired barrel planters, which now provide a unique decorative element to the station’s platforms
- / **High Street Environment and Conditions:** For the first time on a Translink project, “High Street Environment and Conditions”, as implemented on UK Network Rail projects, were adhered to
- / **Local supply chain:** A total of 30 supply chain partners were utilised on the scheme, all of whom were locally based with the exception of EE Ingleton Engineering Ltd
- / **Programme:** To ensure we maintained the programme, we agreed to wrap and seal the new station building during the winter months to allow our supply chain and trades partners to work more effectively in dry conditions



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