

Construction Progress over the last three months

Since our previous Newsletter in April 2008 bulk earthworks activity have progressed at pace, haulage routes are substantially complete which will allow internal haulage of material on the project road. 22 of the 56 structures have commenced onsite to date, including the river Suck bridge.

MILESTONES FOR THE PPP SCHEME

Contract Award	4th April '07
Design & Construction Commencement	4th April '07
Design & Construction Period	33 months
Target D&C Completion Date.....	4th Jan. 2010
Operation & Maintenance Commencement	4th Jan. 2010
Contract Period.....	30 years

Structures

Work has commenced on an additional fifteen structures, bringing the total number underway to twenty two.

- In sections 1 + 2 a total of sixteen bridges are now under construction.
- In sections 3 + 4 bridge beams are installed at Tulrush Overbridge and Tulrush Separate Junction Overbridge.
- Work has commenced on the River Suck structure with the construction of a bridge pier underway. Three piers will be constructed in total to carry the roadway across the river.

The first of the piers to be built is in the centre of the River Suck and will be poured shortly.

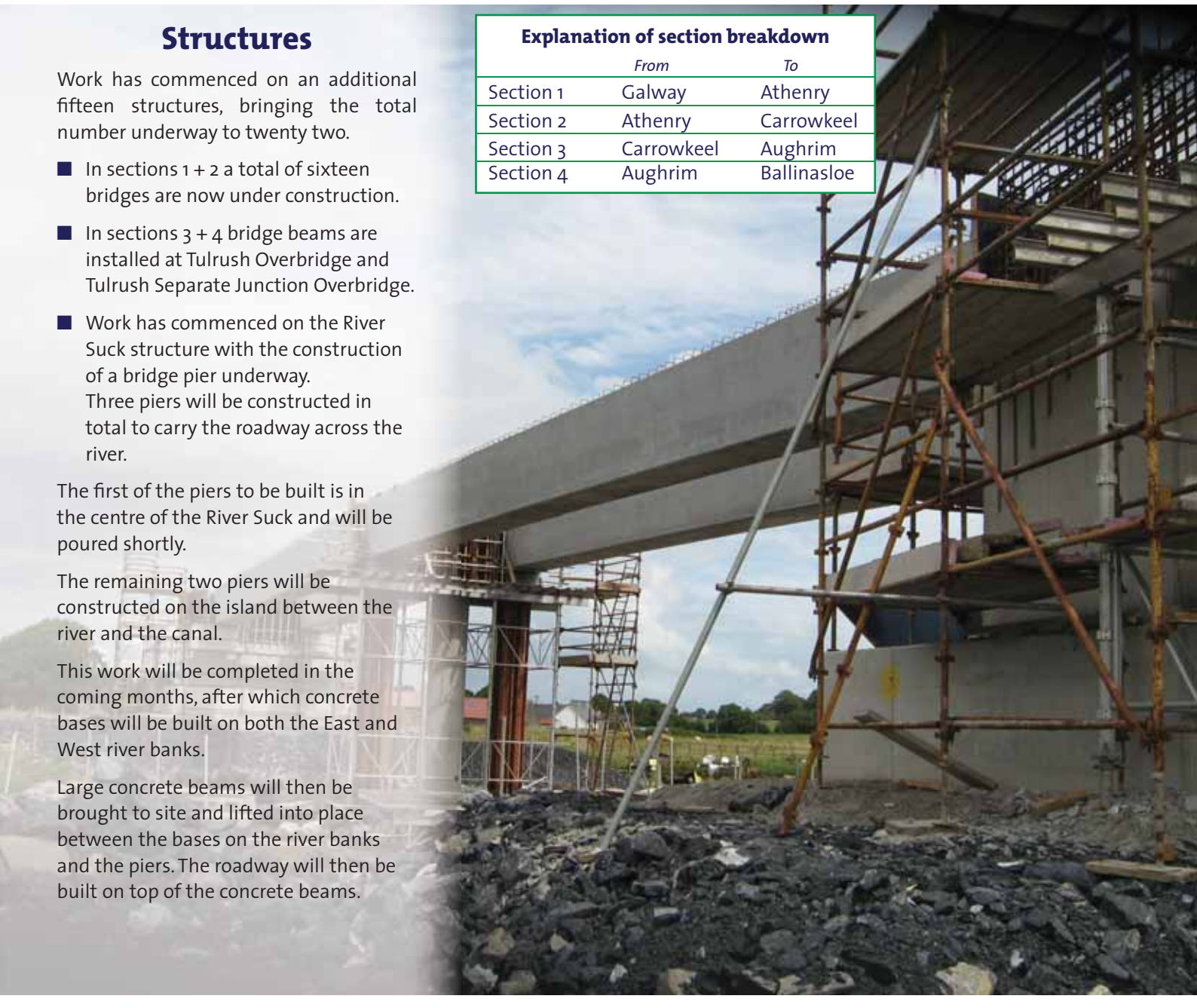
The remaining two piers will be constructed on the island between the river and the canal.

This work will be completed in the coming months, after which concrete bases will be built on both the East and West river banks.

Large concrete beams will then be brought to site and lifted into place between the bases on the river banks and the piers. The roadway will then be built on top of the concrete beams.

Explanation of section breakdown

	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
Section 1	Galway	Athenry
Section 2	Athenry	Carrowkeel
Section 3	Carrowkeel	Aughrim
Section 4	Aughrim	Ballinasloe





1



2



3

Blasting & Earthworks

The blasting of bedrock is almost complete in Section 1 and 2 (Galway to Carrowkeel). Works have been focused in section 3 (Carrowkeel to Aughrim) in the month of June, and will continue in this area in the coming months. Most of this rock has been transported to the crushing plants at a number of locations along the site. Here it is being crushed to form materials such as Clause 804 sub-base, Type 6J, Type 6N and various grades of chips for surfacing works. The majority of the Clause 804 sub-base required on the contract has been crushed for use at this stage.

- 1 Piles Cast at River Suck
- 2 ST1A Garraun Road Underbridge (West Abutment).
- 3 ST11 Graigabbey River Bridge (Athenry Junction)
- 4 Blasting of bedrock

4

EARTHWORKS achieved to date

	CUT	FILL
Section 1	840,674 m ³	437,432 m ³
Section 2	58,611 m ³	549,873 m ³
Section 3	285,304 m ³	62,288 m ³
Section 4	548,082 m ³	368,979 m ³
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TOTAL	1,732,672 m ³	1,418,572 m ³



Traffic Management

Due to construction activities there will be a need for temporary alterations to the existing road network. The following traffic management is in place or planned for the following quarter:

- Glennascaul (N18) Site access No. 2
- Caherbriskaun Site access No. 3
- R348 Athenry Junction Site access No. 4
- R347 Boyhill Site access No. 5
- R348 Moyode Site access No. 6
- Rathgorgin Site access No. 7
- R348 Curraghmore Site access No. 8
- Clogharevaun Site access No. 9
- Carrowkeel Junction Site access No. 10
- Caraun More Site access No. 11
- Urraghry Site access No. 16
- Liscappul Site access No. 17
- West Ballinasloe Site access No. 18
- Pollboy Site access No. 19
- R357 Site access 21
- Galboley Site access No. 24
- Loughrea Link Road Site access No. 25
- Garraun North Cross Road No. 3
- Lisheenkyle Cross Road No. 7
- Barnacragh Cross Road No. 40

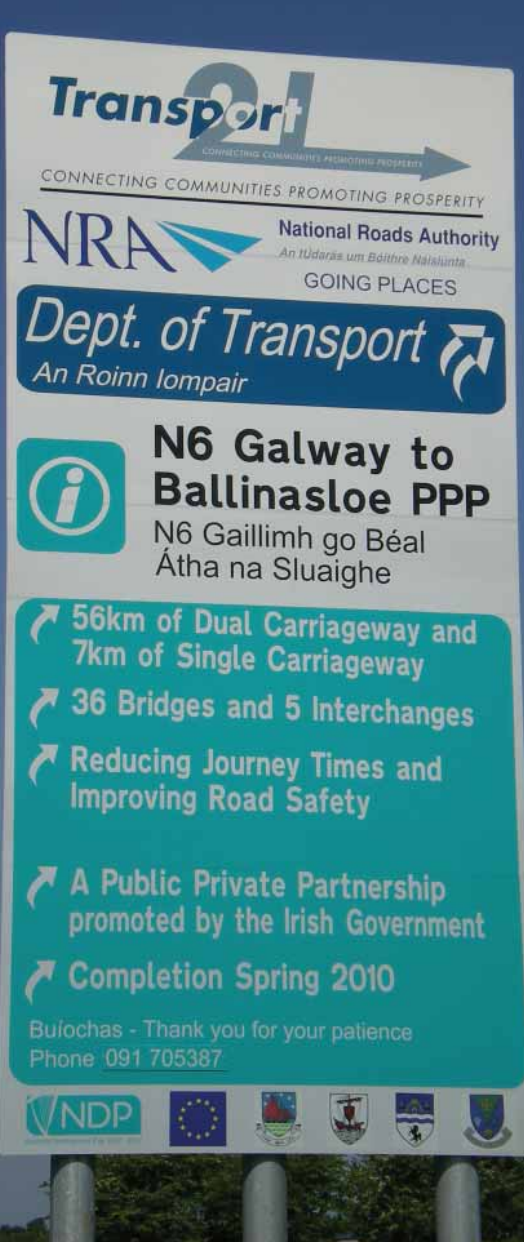


Maintenance of Roads

In order to minimise the impact on local residents, N6 (Concession) Ltd has a crew in operation in order to deal with minor repairs to local roads. We have also clearly signposted the authorised and unauthorised routes. All trucks have been labelled in order to ensure that if unauthorised routes are being used it will be possible to identify those drivers. We apologise for any inconvenience caused to local residents caused by temporary diversions and we appreciate your patience and understanding during the construction period. Going forward we will continue to endeavour to minimise the disruption.



Labour and plant is employed for the daily maintenance of all approved public roads which are in use, primarily as haul routes, for construction traffic. Access points to the works are manned with the use of Stop / Go signs to ensure the safe access and exit of construction traffic. A number of road sweepers and power washers are also in use to keep the roads clean and safe to drive on.



Upcoming works

Upcoming works on site for the coming three months are as follows:

- Earthworks are almost completed in section 1. The target for the coming months is to complete the earthworks in sections 1 and 4 and to remove the soft material in sections 2 and 3, covering the bottom of the embankments with rock material. This will allow the contractor to haul material inside the lands made available.
- Blasting of rock will end in section 1, 2 and 4 and will be ongoing in section 3. Crushing of rock is continuing.
- Culverts and mammal underpasses will progress along the scheme, the target for this open season is to build all culverts and bridges which could affect the fish passable water streams.
- Bridge works will advance in the 22 structures started to date and all of the remaining overbridges in section 1, 2 and 4 will commence. Underbridges using reinforced earth will also commence.
- Pavement foundations will start in section 1.

Archaeology

A haulage route has been constructed under archaeological supervision in the archaeological excavation at Ch. 41+000 in Ballynaclogh Townland. The Site has been secured and the entire site is currently being excavated following the guidelines and conditions set out by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

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