

► **Welcome to the 1st official newsletter for the Glasgow Airport Investment Area (GAIA) Project!**

The construction of the GAIA infrastructure works began in June 2019, which includes new roads, bridges, cycling routes and pedestrian walkways, being funded through the £1.13billion Glasgow City Region City Deal initiative which is jointly funded by the UK and Scottish governments.

These works are the enabling infrastructure for the emerging Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District Scotland (AMIDS) which will be the only one of its kind in Scotland and will be internationally-recognised for advanced manufacturing, leading innovation and research and driving sustainable growth in the Scottish economy.

At its heart is Netherton Campus, which will be home to the National Manufacturing Institute Scotland (NMIS) and the Medicines Manufacturing Innovation Centre.

Further information on AMIDS is available at:
www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/AMIDS

The works include the realignment of Abbotsinch Road, upgrading and extension of Abbotsinch Road; a two-lane bridge at Wright Street and a pedestrian and cycle bridge over the Black Cart together with new pedestrian routes and cycleways and improved junctions and connections to existing routes.

The GAIA project is due for completion early 2021.

Wills Bros Civil Engineering Ltd (WBCEL) are delighted to have been contracted by Renfrewshire Council to deliver these works.

Our dedicated team aspire to cause as little disruption as possible to all of the surrounding residents and existing businesses. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have accommodated GAIA thus far. We also hope to continue to show our commitment to all stakeholders throughout the project.

Best regards,
Wills Bros GAIA Team



**OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER**

ISSUE 01
DECEMBER 2019

RECENT EVENTS

Time Capsule Burial

On the 28th August 2019 key partners from the project took part in a groundbreaking event which included a visit to the GAIA site, hosted by WBCEL. In attendance were the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work – Derek MacKay, Scottish Enterprise Chief Executive – Steve Dunlop, Renfrewshire's Provost – Lorraine Cameron, Renfrewshire Council Chief Executive – Sandra Black and five Inchinnan Primary pupils.

The visit was very successful with opportunities to pose with the time capsule on GAIA site compound before it was buried.

The participants all gathered around WBCEL excavators to witness the placement of the capsule into the ground which is now a permanent part of the community.



All the visitors took part in burying a tailor-made 'Time Capsule' on the site. The capsule contains items from renowned Renfrewshire-based manufacturers together with the **children's dream inventions**.



Traffic Management

A priority for the GAIA project is to minimise any direct effects on traffic throughout the duration of the project. To ensure safety for the public, our workforce and the movement of any vehicle, there will be a vigilant traffic management plan in place. We ask that you observe any speed restrictions or lane closures. These are in place to ensure the safety of everyone in the surrounding area.

Planned roadworks will be signposted in advance and project updates related to the GAIA project will be published at www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/gaia.

Local Partnerships

Wills Bros Civil Engineering Ltd have built a good working relationship with both Invest in Renfrewshire and Engage Renfrewshire and will continue to work with them over the course of the GAIA project to create opportunities in employment, provide qualifications and develop transferable skills for the people of Paisley and Renfrewshire.

INVEST
in Renfrewshire

ENGAGE
RENFREWESHIRE

ONGOING WORKS



Wright Street Bridge

Work has begun on the Wright Street Bridge link. The sheet piling is being performed in order to provide a secure base on which the heavy plant can safely operate. This plant will be used to construct the new crossing.

This method will create overall stability before the bridge is put in place. These works are taking place on both the East and West side of the White Cart River.



Computer Aided Design (CAD)

This type of work can also show an excellent example of Computer Aided Design (CAD), which is used by Wills Bros across our various projects.

CAD is widely used within construction industry to show engineers a 3D drawing of proposed designs. This allows the site team to understand measurements, dimensions and to make any required modifications to the design prior to construction.



Considerate Constructors

The GAIA site is proud to be registered with Considerate Constructors. This scheme aims to improve a construction site's image through being respectful to the general public, their employees and reducing any impact to the environment. When visited by the Considerate Constructors Scheme's auditor, the site achieved a level of excellence by scoring **at least 8 out of 9 points** from the five sections of the Scheme's Code of Considerate Practice. The sections include Care about Appearance, Respect the Community, Protect the Environment, Secure Everyone's Safety and Value their Workforce.



ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH & SAFETY



Protection of Marine Life

To construct the Wright Street Bridge, a cofferdam made of sheet piles is required in the river to provide a secure base for heavy machinery. With the commencement of the cofferdam installation on the west side of the White Cart, an ecological survey was to be carried out in order to check for potential marine life in the water enclosed within the structure.

The survey of the cofferdam was carried out by WBCEL along with support from an external ecologist. As the water level was very low, there was no requirement for a boat or lifejackets and the survey could be carried out by standing on the riverbed. The checks carried out confirmed that there was no marine life entrapped within the sheet piling.



RYA Training

As part of the Wright Street Bridge Works there is a requirement for a boat to set up and maintain silt netting within the river. Therefore, our Site Engineer contacted John Mackenzie who is the principal for Glasgow City Boats and provides RYA (Royal Yachting Association) training. Two general operatives were both put forward for this training and now have both successfully passed their Level 2 Powerboat Handling training.

They learned about tides and currents along with the minimum safety equipment requirements which are always expected to be carried on the boats. Both our general operatives were advised to carry out regular safety drills to utilise their skills and keep their learning up to date.

COMMUNITY

McMillian Cancer Research

Wills Bros site team recently took part in supporting McMillian Cancer Research by hosting a 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' by either baking or buying savoury and sweet treats. The team had a 'Star Baker' to encourage all to be involved in some healthy competition. Our Site Clerk, Susan McChesney, won with her chocolate fudge cake. The site managed to **raise £315 in donations**, which will all go to McMillian Cancer Research.

Jobs Fair

On 4th September 2019, members of GAIA's site team visited Lagoon Leisure Centre to attend a jobs fair. WBCEL showcased possibilities for entry level employees, as well as illustrating the progression for young people within the company with or without higher education. Throughout the duration of this project, we plan to attend many more events similar to this to ensure economic growth is promoted within the community.

Please don't hesitate to contact us via email or phone number provided below for enquires of upcoming employment and training opportunities!



Keeping You Informed

Rachael Finlay, our Public Liaison Officer (PLO), is the first point of contact for surrounding business', residents and community organisations. Her role involves overseeing communications and liaising with the general public to achieve as little disruption from the project as possible. She is also involved with fulfilling all community benefits directed to the project. Rachael is committed to creating employment, training and developing skills throughout Renfrew and Paisley.

To contact WBCEL there is a site email: info@gaiaproject.co.uk
as well as site phone on **07464 910226**.