



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 14 September 2021

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	ABERDEEN WESTERN PERIPHERAL ROUTE PPP
Project Number:	20130397
Country:	United Kingdom
Project Description:	The AWPR project involves the construction of about 58km of new dual carriageway. The project is almost exclusively greenfield. It includes the construction of 12 new intersections, extensive drainage, earthworks and pavement works, as well as the construction of over 150 structures (including two significant river crossings). The project will also accommodate a number of intelligent transport system elements.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

EIB notes the following Environmental and Social performance and key outcomes at Project Completion.

The project was not included in a plan or programme subject to a SEA according to Directive 2001/42/EC. Each scheme was initiated prior to the date of SEA legislation in force.

The project followed applicable environmental procedures at the time of preparation including the completion of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) in accordance with Directive 2011/92/EU. Environmental Statements for the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (AWPR) and Balmedie-Tipperty (B-T) were published in September 2007 and August 2007 respectively, with favourable decisions in December 2009 and January 2011.

The AWPR crosses the River Dee, a designated special area of conservation (SAC). The B-T is located within 3 km of the Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar site and SAC at the Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikie Loch. The appropriate assessment appraisal in 2009 concluded that no adverse impact was expected to affect the integrity of the sites.

The main works' construction started in January 2015 and followed an Environment Plan overseen by a construction Environmental Manager, environmental design coordinators and environmental engineers from the contractor. These ensured compliance with all environmental/ecological/archaeological requirements of the project. Compliance checks were also performed by the contracting authority, independent advisers and other competent authorities/entities in Scotland including the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Police Scotland, Scottish National Heritage and Aberdeen and District Angling Association.

During the construction phase of the project, severe rainfall events recorded in January 2016 and in June 2016 significantly affected the site. The events resulted in record river levels and flooding across the project, causing material damage, disruption and delay. Resources at the time were diverted towards the clean-up, repair operations and the construction and reinforcing of environmental mitigation measures.



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Incidences such as water quality and sediment run-off into water courses, were the main reported environmental disturbances during construction. These were closely monitored by SEPA who issued notices as required and ensured appropriate action was taken by the contractor.

Archaeological finds were discovered during construction and were managed according to the Project Agreement and regulated procedures.

No particular issues were recorded in relation to ecology (badgers, bats, otters, birds, red squirrels, Atlantic salmon, freshwater pearl mussels and water voles), the protected areas: River Dee, River Don designated fisheries river and Ythan Estuary.

There were no significant construction related health and safety issues on the project. No fatalities occurred. The Health and Safety File for the project is completed after consultation with the contracting authority.

The project received all required planning approvals and completed compulsory purchase orders. There are no outstanding claims or issues. All the claims by private land owners related to compulsory purchase orders (CPO) were resolved.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter, site visits by the EIB team and inputs provided by Lenders' Technical Advisers and others, where applicable, during Construction that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.