

SATIN Case Study - Bankier Primary School Path, Banknock, Falkirk

Organisation Name

Falkirk Council Development Services

Infrastructure Location

Bankier Primary School, Banknock, Falkirk



Date of Completion

30-Sep-2015

Falkirk Council

Development Services

Context

This path project has enabled the creation of important link in the local path network in the area around Bankier Primary School, Banknock, Falkirk. The project has opened up key open space for the local community and provided a high quality walking and cycling path that significantly enhances the core path network in the area. The project that had strong community support (community, community council, community groups lobbied hard for this path) makes improvements for shared use access in all weathers, something that previously would have been difficult. The creation of the path now provides easier and safe access to the wider network of paths that the area has to offer.



The route of the path offers the most direct route available, easiest gradients possible in the location, and enables people to use the path to access the community and recreational facilities, local transport, and wider network of paths and open space. The latter is particularly so as the path connects directly to the only park that the village has to offer. This path will also encourage people who are less active to try cycling or walking as the first steps towards a more active lifestyle.

The path is located within the grounds of Bankier Primary School.

Technical Aspects

Substantial construction works were carried out to create a 2.5 metre wide sealed bound surface path. The path structure was constructed as per Sustrans recommended specifications for 'Paths and Areas Free from Motor Traffic' for shared use cycle tracks and footpaths.

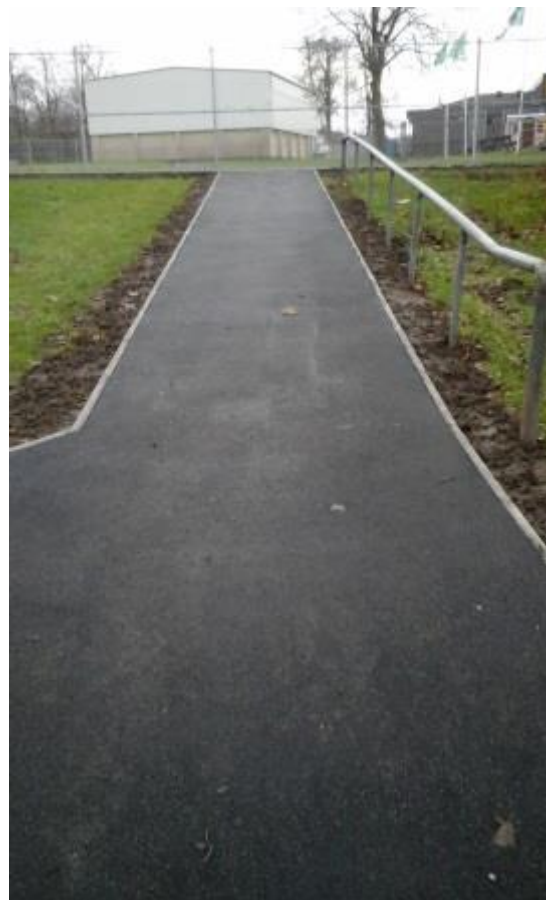
The works also included:

- vegetation clearance to improve access and sight lines
- drainage to intercept surface water running off the impervious surface of the path
- re-alignment of fences to enable minimum path width to fit in the location.

Due to the scale and value of the project, Falkirk Council owning the land, and agreeing to the path improvements being made, the project was designed and managed by Falkirk Council's Small Works Team. As the project site is on local authority land, it was approved under delegated powers of Falkirk Council's Development Management.

Outcomes

The new 2.5 metre wide path connecting residential areas together and with open space, now provides easier and safe off-road shared use access for the benefit of the local communities.





Financing

Funding for this project amounted to £35,819.51 and came from Sustrans Scotland's Community Links (£30,000) and Falkirk Council's C & N Capital Programme (£5,819.51).



Evaluation

The route before the new path was created only existed as a desire line. With a new path surface now available, the route is now shared use, accessible 365 days of the year, and connected to local facilities and

open space. It is now envisaged that a significant proportion of people living in the area will use the path for recreational and alternative modes of travel, such as cycling or walking to school.

The new path now provides a safe and easier route with lower gradients as possible, linking the communities together with the open space, community and recreational facilities, and wider network of paths. And helping the less able or inactive residents to try walking or cycling in their local outdoor environment as a way of gaining confidence and an active lifestyle.

The designing and managing of the project, to achieve a new path by Falkirk Council's Small Works Team, was fairly straight forward with the path construction works successfully delivered on time, and to approved specifications and standards of Sustrans.

The delivery of the path project has also met the needs of Community Council and local environmental group who lobbied to create the new path.

Contact Details

Angus Duncan
Falkirk Council
Abbotsford House
Davids Loan
Falkirk
FK2 7YZ
01324 504928

angus.duncan@falkirk.gov.uk