

Newsletter

July 2023



GREEN DRIVER AWARD WINNER

**Michael
O'Donnell**

Amey's biggest environmental impact comes from our use of fossil fuels and we use around 10 million litres every year to deliver our services. One of the ways we can help tackle this is through improving our driver behaviours. To help encourage positive change, we will be assessing Masternaut data every quarter and rewarding our greenest drivers with Amey STAR awards.

Keep Scotland Beautiful

Keep Scotland Beautiful's annual Spring Clean ran from Friday 17th March until Monday 17th April 2023. Throughout this month-long campaign, the public were encouraged to clean up Scotland by organising or participating in a litter pick in an effort to make a difference to our landscape. During the month, our operatives collected 888 bags of litter (equal to 5,772kg!) and 697 large objects from the roadsides of the M8, M74, and M77. In addition, we worked in partnership with South Ayrshire Council who utilised our road closures on the A77 and A78 to clear rubbish. Roadside litter is not only a blight to the environment and wildlife but is also costly and dangerous to uplift. 50 tonnes of litter is abandoned on Scotland's roads each month with 54% being a result of people eating and drinking on the go. Please be mindful when you are travelling and give your litter a lift. #TakeItHome



Sign Donation

Caledonia Primary School in Saltcoats got in touch via social media seeking support for their Early Years class. In response, Amey South-West Trunk Roads donated some road signs for their school garden to educate the pupils in shapes, directions, and numbers.



Primary School visits

Troqueer Primary School

In April 2023, 9 Amey employees completed a two-week project to create a memorial garden at Troqueer Primary School, Dumfries. The garden will provide a peaceful and relaxing health and wellbeing learning space, where pupils will be able to enjoy some quiet reading time and, in the future, learn how to grow plants.

Nancy Torbett, Deputy Headteacher at Troqueer Primary School said: "After the death of one of our P3 pupils, her classmates wanted to create a memorial garden. After lots of consultation and planning, this tribute turned into a Health and Wellbeing learning space including spaces for quiet reading.

A member of our Parent Council spoke to our Ward Officer Kimberley Phillips, who approached Amey on our behalf. We were extremely grateful when Amey selected our project as one they could support.

During the Easter school holidays, Amey cleared the area designated for this project

and prepared the ground to allow the pupil plans for shelters and planters to be put in to place. The pupils are keen to add in baby pink and baby blue possibly in the shelter structures but also with tyre planters, as these were the favourite colours of their friend. As their friend had Rose as her middle name the pupils are keen to incorporate roses into this space.

We want to thank Amey and all involved who donated materials and worked to get the space ready for all in school to remember their friend and carry out learning activities. Without their support we, as a school, would have struggled to prepare the area."

This would not have been possible without the support of our suppliers J&J Curries, Rembrand Timber, Breedon, Grange Quarry, HSS, and AMD who generously donated plant and material to realise the project. We extend our thanks to all who were involved in making a huge difference to the school garden.

Lockerbie Primary School

On Thursday 27th April 2023, our Community and Communications Manager, Jessica Masterton supported Lockerbie Academy's "Work Ready Day". S2 pupils were given the chance to learn about various job roles and get inspired for their future careers through 20-minute workshops.

The Amey workshop involved a quick introduction to the business and an engineering task, which involved building a tower using marshmallows and cocktail sticks. The tower had to be freestanding for at least 30 seconds and the tallest tower that passed the test won. There were some very creative and eye-catching designs from the pupils. We hope to inspire the next generation of engineers and events such as these are vital to introducing the industry to new talent.



Locharbriggs Road Safety Visit

On Monday 24th April 2023, Amey employees Martin Cochrane, Amy McAteer, and Gordon Vivers visited Locharbriggs Primary School on the outskirts of Dumfries to deliver a presentation to 147 children about our gritters and winter service. The presentation involved an explanation of how the gritter works and how Amey keeps the roads safe during the colder months. The children were able to see the gritter up close and ask plenty of hard-hitting questions that left the team scratching their heads! Amey South-West Trunk Roads also donated a set of toy traffic management and hi-vis vests for the pupils to continue their road safety education. Many thanks to Martin, Amy, and Gordon for their hard work.





Scottish Apprenticeship Week

Amey was delighted to once again support and celebrate Scottish Apprenticeship Week. This week celebrates the way in which apprenticeships unlock potential in businesses and in their people through work-based learning. Apprenticeships allow people from diverse backgrounds and abilities to develop skills that will support them not only in work, but in their everyday lives too.

Apprenticeships at Amey allow our apprentices to excel by working on major projects alongside our team of supportive and knowledgeable experts. Not only that, but our apprentices also earn a nationally

recognised qualification and a competitive salary.

Do you know someone that would be a perfect fit for our apprenticeships? If you're aged 16 and over, eligible to work in the UK and not in full-time education, then visit our website and see if our team is the right fit for you!

<https://www.amey.co.uk/your-career/early-careers/apprentices/>



Our Lady's High School Work Experience

On the week beginning 27th February 2023, Amey hosted three pupils from Our Lady's High School in Motherwell. Throughout the week, the pupils worked with various departments and got the opportunity to understand how all departments work together to complete a project.

On their first day, the pupils were introduced to social value at Amey. The pupils were given a list of social value objectives and they then had to complete a social value plan for the North Lanarkshire area. Towards the end of the session, the pupils were given a CV workshop.

Day two of the work experience placement was spent with Kyle McMurrin, Assistant Civil Engineer. Kyle started the day by teaching the theory of structural engineering, giving the pupils real life examples of structures we maintain. The pupils were then given a task to build a bridge with a Knex kit and to a budget.

On day three, the pupils learnt about the

environmental factors we need to be aware of when out of site. Once the environmental training had been completed the pupils were then tasked with carrying out an environmental survey using online mapping systems. At the end of this session the pupils got the opportunity to speak to Lwendo Kazoka who is currently in his second year of his civil engineering degree apprenticeship with Amey.

This was extremely useful for the pupils to understand the interview process and how the apprenticeship works.

Day four was spent with Amy McAteer, Communications Graduate. Amy delivered an introduction to communications and told the pupils about her experience on the Amey graduate programme. The

pupils were set a series of communications tasks to complete during the day and finally, they were taken through a presentation on interview skills and got to practice interviewing each other. On the final day of the work experience placement the pupils were put into

an assessment centre scenario. They were given a desert island task to complete, which was used to show them how to effectively communicate, work as a team, and problem solve. Once the task had been completed the pupils were then kitted out in full PPE and taken for a tour of the yard and salt barn. Here, the pupils saw the types of

vehicles we use on site and some of the materials we use.

It was an extremely successful week, one of the pupils said:

'I enjoyed learning about the different career paths that I could take as an engineer, especially with a graduate apprenticeship.'

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Low Emission Zone Plan Ahead

With enforcement of Glasgow's Low Emission Zone since 1 June 2023, road users are being urged to plan ahead.

Glasgow's LEZ will protect public health by tackling unacceptably high levels of harmful air pollution that has long persisted in the city centre.

All vehicles entering the city centre zone must meet the less-polluting emission standards or face a penalty charge. There are some exemptions, such as for blue badge holders and emergency vehicles and zone residents have an extra year to prepare.

Motorcycles and mopeds are unaffected by LEZ schemes in Scotland.

Generally, diesel vehicles registered after September 2015, and petrol vehicles registered from 2006 onwards will meet LEZ standards. To be certain however, you can enter your vehicle registration number into the national online vehicle checker hosted by Transport Scotland.

Transport Scotland has also developed an online portal where blue badge holders can register vehicles they are travelling in to obtain the required exemptions.

Glasgow's Low Emission Zone will operate continuously, all year round. It covers an area of the city centre bounded by the M8 motorway to the north and west, the River Clyde to the south and Saltmarket/High Street

to the east. The motorway itself however does not form part of the LEZ. LEZ signage and road markings are in place, covering all zone entry points.

ANPR cameras linked to a national vehicle licencing database will be used to enforce Glasgow's LEZ. When a non-compliant vehicle is detected in the zone, a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) will be issued to the registered keeper.

In addition to reducing levels of harmful vehicle emissions, Glasgow's LEZ is also expected to accelerate the uptake of more sustainable forms of transport and increase the safety, attractiveness, and amenity of Glasgow city centre.

For full details, visit www.glasgow.gov.uk/LEZ



Troon Beach Clean

On Tuesday 18th April 2023, 16 volunteers from South-West Trunk Roads, across Amey Transport Infrastructure and Consulting, joined forces to litter pick at Troon Beach in Ayrshire. The litter pick, held in collaboration with the Marine Conservation Society, was a success with 42 bags of litter collected from the beach, including plastic bottles, rope, and food packaging. Some of the more interesting items collected included towels, bulk bags, and a hoodie! The event was even blessed with beautiful weather, which made for some fantastic conditions.

A huge thanks go to all who volunteered their time to help make this such a success!



Community Fund

SSPCA and Refuweegee

Each quarter, the Amey South-West Community Fund allocates funds to support local causes along our road network with Amey employees nominating those who need donations for a particular event, supplies, or initiatives. For Q4, two causes were chosen to benefit from the community fund.

The first, Refuweegee, is a community-led charity that supports those who have been forced to flee their homes and gives the people of Glasgow a way to support the newest in their city. They provide clothing, food, skills, classes, and more. They received £625 after our Communications Manager Robyn Dale noticed their appeal for help on social media.

Refuweegee were delighted with the donation: "Thank you so much! This money will make an immeasurable amount of difference to the services we provide."

The second cause chosen to benefit from the Community Fund was the SSPCA and their Pet Aid campaign. This initiative was set up to support people and pets who are struggling, providing pet food supplies throughout their network by donating boxes to local foodbanks. Amey donated 61 boxes to foodbanks across the South-West network. We look forward to further supporting our communities and other great initiatives in the coming months.



Volunteer Awareness Week

At Amey, our employees are encouraged to make use of two Social Impact Days, each year, to volunteer in their communities. Thursday 1st June 2023 saw the beginning of this year's Volunteer Week, with many employees across the business choosing to use their Social Impact days to support our partner charity Cancer Research and other causes across our network.

Tracy Smith, a Landscape Architect with Amey, has spent much of her free time in the Catrine community in various roles, most recently having

been invited to speak at East Ayrshire Council's Volunteer Week celebration, which recognises volunteers across the constituency. We have been proud to support her past efforts within the Catrine community, from providing 250 selection boxes for their annual Make Catrine Sparkle event, to rounding up a team to support efforts to improve the garden at Blacklaw Primary School.

Many thanks to all our wonderful volunteers at Amey, we're already excited to see how you generously give your time next year!





Amey proactively engages with our supply chains when carrying out road maintenance to minimise the use of carbon in materials and reduce waste. In September 2022, an ex-situ pavement recycling scheme was completed on 1,061m of the A77 between Stranraer and Beach Cottage.

Ex-situ recycling involves the removal of old planings off-site to a nearby quarry, where they are reprocessed and encapsulated with other materials before being brought back to site and re-used as the base layer of the road

surface. The reprocessing of planings via ex-situ recycling is much less energy intensive than the manufacture of virgin materials.

A total of 2,060 tons of hazardous tar-bound and not tar-bound materials from four sites were stabilised with bitumen emulsion, cement, and pulverised fuel ash, before being used as base and binder courses on the A77 site. Traditionally, hazardous tar-bound materials would have been sent to specialist landfill sites to be disposed of there. The ex-situ recycling process has therefore avoided the use of

landfill as well the need for virgin materials. It also reduces the number of lorry journeys that would be needed to transport the coal tar planings to specialist landfill sites, the nearest of which is in England.

Our calculations have shown that sending tar-bound materials to landfill and choosing instead to use virgin materials would have resulted in emissions of 122 tCO₂e, while the ex-situ recycling scheme resulted in emissions of just 44 tCO₂e. This process saved a total of 78 tCO₂e.

In future projects, it is possible that even further savings could be made from changing to electric HGVs and from incorporating in-situ recycling to reduce transport emissions. In instances where ex-situ recycling is not possible, there will be opportunities to use recovered waste materials such as glass in place of virgin aggregates to reduce the material demands of the project. This is the second ex-situ recycling scheme to be undertaken on Scotland's South-West Trunk Roads since the network maintenance contract commenced in 2020, with the first completed on the A76.

Clean up our air to look after your mind this #CleanAirDay

People who breathe polluted air are more likely to develop mental health and brain conditions.



Clean Air Day

This year on Thursday 15th June, we celebrated Clean Air Day. Clean Air Day is the UK's largest air pollution campaign by the environmental charity Global Action Plan, in partnership with Environmental Protection Scotland, which aims to raise awareness about air pollution, share information, and ultimately, make our air cleaner and safer for everyone.

This year's theme was: Clean up the air to look after your mind this #CleanAirDay

Studies have shown that people who breathe in polluted air are more likely to develop conditions such as asthma, heart disease and certain cancers, and air pollution has also been linked to depression, anxiety and dementia. This can be caused when a person breathes in polluted air and small pollution particles can enter through the lungs into the blood stream, where they can reach the brain.

Amey Transport Infrastructure in Scotland supported this year's campaign through educating our employees and promoting behavioural change to combat air pollution. For 2023, we refreshed and relaunched our Fuel-Efficient Driving briefs. Driving fuel-efficient only requires small changes that can make a big difference and each quarter, our most efficient drivers are recognised through the Amey Green Driver initiative.

In addition, we have launched a Green Travel Survey to assess what barriers our employees face in commuting more sustainably and its results will inform future Green Travel Plans for our contracts. Amey South-West Trunk Roads' Fleet is currently being reviewed by an Energy Saving Trust Sustainable Transport Co-ordinator and the report will provide fleet decarbonisation recommendations.



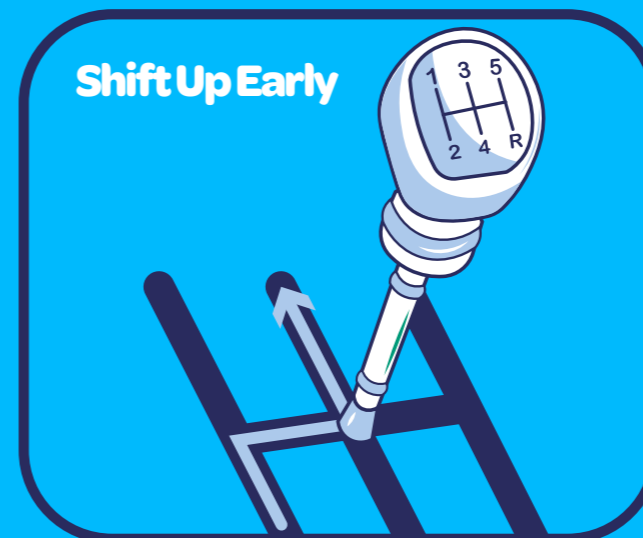
Core Principles Fuel Efficient Driving Techniques



Anticipate situations and other road users as far ahead as possible to avoid unnecessary braking and acceleration. Maintain a greater distance from the vehicle in front so that you can regulate your speed without using the brakes.



When slowing down or driving downhill, remain in gear but take your foot off the accelerator as early as possible. In most situations and for most vehicles this will activate the fuel cut-off switch, reducing fuel flow to virtually zero.



When accelerating shift to higher gear early, usually by around 2,000-2,500 revs per minute (RPM). Skip gears e.g. 3rd to 5th or 4th to 6th when appropriate



High speeds greatly increase fuel consumption



Cancer Research Charity Partnership

Following from the success of the past two years, Amey is delighted to announce our continuing partnership with Cancer Research UK. Over the next two years, we will be working closely with Cancer Research UK to fundraise, raise awareness of the disease, and support our employees that wish to volunteer within the organisation. In the past, our employees have taken part in challenges such as the Race for Life and Walk All Over Cancer, collected items at depots for Cancer Research UK stores, and donated 560 hours of their time through store volunteering.

Throughout our past work with Cancer Research UK, Amey employees have helped us to smash

our fundraising goal of £200,000, with 100% of those funds going directly towards lifesaving research. We are hoping to see similar results by April 2025. [Click here](#) to read more about the important work that Cancer Research UK do and how you can get involved!



We're proud to support

15 to 21 May 2023

Mental Health Awareness Week



Mental Health Awareness Week took place between Monday 15th May and Sunday 21st May 2023 and this year focussed on Anxiety, a normal emotion in us all, but sometimes it can get out of control and become a mental health problem.

Lots of things can lead to feelings of anxiety, including exam pressures, relationships, starting a new job (or losing one), or other big life events. We can also get anxious when it comes to things to do with money and not being able to meet our basic needs, like heating our home or buying food. But anxiety can be made easier to manage.

To raise awareness, Amey South-West Trunk Roads welcomed Gus Hamilton from Emmaus

Glasgow to have an open forum around mental health with colleagues.

Gus called back to his previous knowledge of working in social care to provide information on ways to spot mental health problems in friends, family, and colleagues, and shared ways that you could help. It was a safe space that colleagues could open up about their mental health struggles and about how important it is that attitudes change around mental health. Emmaus Glasgow is a charity that provides a home and meaningful work for up to 27 adults who are at risk of or have experience of homelessness.

Report a Problem

If you need to report an immediate issue on the South-West Trunk Roads network, please use our Report A Problem form on the website. Completed forms are sent direct to our control room who operate 24/7, 365 days a year.

[Report a problem](#)

Sign up for Roadwork Alerts

Roadwork alerts are available for all 17 of South West Scotland's Trunk Roads. This is a free service where the latest road maintenance and improvement schemes are announced FIRST. Updates on incidents and weather events will also be delivered straight to your inbox and you can personalise the alerts to your needs. All you need is an email address to get started.

[Sign up](#)

Find us on Facebook

Connecting with the communities we serve is a priority for our teams. To facilitate information sharing we have launched a Facebook page.

[Find us](#)



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