

PPP DATA SHEET

M6 DBFO PROJECT



Background

The M74 is Scotland's principal trade route with our major markets in England and beyond. It carries 70% of all cross Border traffic with a particularly high proportion of commercial traffic. As such, its upgrading, and efficient management and maintenance was vital to the well being of the Scottish economy. The benefits are clear for all to see in terms of safer and more comfortable driving conditions.

In early 1996 the Scottish Office took the decision to complete the remaining section of the A74 to motorway standard, a 28.8 kilometre section between Paddy's Ruckle Bridge and Cleuchbrae using the Private Finance Initiative (PFI), by means of a Design, Build Finance and Operate (DBFO) project. The M6 DBFO Project also included an option to upgrade the short stretch of the A74 in England. In the event, this option was not taken up by the Highways Agency.

In December 1996 the M6 DBFO contract was awarded to Autolink Concessionaires Ltd. Autolink is a consortium of Amey PLC, Sir Robert McAlpine (Holdings) Ltd, Taylor Woodrow Construction Holdings Ltd and Barr Holdings Ltd. They were supported by design consultants Sir Alexander Gibb and the Babbie Group.

The construction of the new section of motorway was completed in the Spring of 1999 some 8 months ahead of schedule.

This project is, of particular significance as it provides an unbroken motorway link from Glasgow to the English border.

Features

- ◆ The project was the first privately financed roads DBFO contract to be let in Scotland with construction costs totalling some £96m (excluding the English option). Autolink were not only responsible for completing the construction of the final link in the motorway but are also responsible over the next 30 years for the day to day management and maintenance of some 92 km of the route from Millbank to the Border.
- ◆ Payment for the scheme is made by the Scottish Executive through shadow tolls. Traffic counters are placed on the road and payment made to Autolink according to the volume of traffic using the road and subject to availability and performance.
- ◆ Every effort has been made to reduce environmental impact and wherever possible steps were taken to enhance the local environment in the New Works construction and this continued during the maintenance of the existing infrastructure.
- ◆ A feature of the project is the provision of a dedicated long distance cycle way along the all-purpose A74 collector-distributor road which runs alongside the motorway from Douglas to Gretna. The cycle way was adopted by Sustrans as part of their national cycle network.

Facts

Sponsor –
Contact -
Winning Consortium -
Contact –
Capital Value -
Contract length -
Advisers:
Financial -
Legal -
Technical -
Senior Lender -
Scottish Executive Contact –
Tel ()
Status - Operational