

DRILLING AND BLASTING NOTICE

DirectRoute wishes to advise of the upcoming drilling and blasting operations schedule to the end of July as follows: (Exact dates and times are subject to change and such notices are posted locally in advance of the works taking place). We will endeavour to post updates on the website when they are received and will do so for further updates beyond the end of July.

Date (Provisional)	Location (Townland)
14/07/2015	Toberbracken & Roevehagh
14/07/2015	Annagh Hill
14/07/2015	Caherateemore
15/07/2015	Ballinphuill, Corofin
16/07/2015	Kiltiernan West & Ballymaquiff
16/07/2015	Annagh Hill
16/07/2015	Caherateemore
17/07/2015	Ballinphuill, Corofin
21/07/2015	Kiltiernan West & Ballymaquiff
21/07/2015	Annagh Hill
21/07/2015	Caherateemore
23/07/2015	Kiltiernan West & Ballymaquiff
23/07/2015	Annagh Hill
23/07/2015	Caherateemore
24/07/2015	Ballinphuill, Corofin
28/07/2015	Roevehagh, Kiltiernan West & Ballymaquiff
30/07/2015	Kiltiernan West & Ballymaquiff

PROJECT CONTACT DETAILS

24 Hour Emergency Phone: 091 777000

Email: info@directroutegorttotuam.ie

Web: www.diretroutegorttotuam.ie

DIRECTROUTE (TUAM) LTD
N17/N18 GORT TO TUAM
PROJECT OFFICE
CARTYMORE
ATHENRY



Marguerite



DirectRoute (Tuam) Ltd Newsletter

N17/N18 Gort to Tuam PPP Scheme

Q 3 2 0 1 5

N17/N18 Project Update

The period since our last newsletter has seen tremendous progress on the Project aided in no small part by the reasonably clement weather conditions. The progress achieved ensures that we remain aligned with the target programme for completion and we are delighted that it has resulted in many opportunities and benefits for the region with over 330 employed from the region at the end of June and further knock-on benefits accruing to many local businesses.

Earthworks across the entire project have progressed significantly in the last three months which has the effect of enabling the majority of the project to be traversed along the line of the new road thereby reducing the contractors' reliance on the local public road network. Temporary bridges have been installed at the majority of watercourses to allow the contractors' plant to cross the rivers, while the works to construct the permanent bridges are ongoing. The majority of the topsoil along the route has been stripped and is stored for re-use on the Project. The peat removal in soft ground areas is progressing well as is the removal and treating of rock for re-use within the project. The processing of rock has gone very well to date

and assists greatly in minimising as far as possible import of material from external sources, with the aim of limiting haulage of large quantities of imported material on the local road network. There is of course necessary movement of vehicles to and from the Project but site won logistics and resources are such that these movements are far less than would be the case on other comparable Projects.

Work has commenced on structures across the project with progress varying from structure to structure with some structures at the early stages of construction (excavated and blinded in preparation for the bridge foundations) to several structures where reinforced earth panels are substantially complete and bridge deck

works are about to commence.

From an environmental perspective pre-earthworks drainage has been significantly progressed in all areas and several culverts and mammal underpasses have commenced across the scheme. The early landscaping required to enable the indigenous bat population to navigate their way to their roosts has been completed.

We at DirectRoute are endeavouring to keep our website updated with relevant project information on rock blasting activities and major traffic management and are adding overhead photographs on a monthly basis to demonstrate the ongoing progress of the scheme. Please check the website regularly for these updates and additions to the gallery.



Processing Rock

THREE MONTH LOOK AHEAD

The main works to be undertaken in the next three months are described in the table below.

Site Location	Work Period	Operation	Plant & Equipment
Entire Project	Ongoing	<u>Main Earthworks</u> Cut and fill works across the project remain ongoing.	Heavy construction plant, trucks, jeeps
Entire Project	Ongoing	<u>Utility Diversions</u> Utilities including water, gas and electricity as well as phone and internet lines will be diverted as and where required ahead of major construction works	Construction plant, jeeps
Entire Project	Ongoing	<u>Drainage</u> Construction of the majority of the drainage shall run concurrently or just following completion of earthworks in each area of the scheme.	Construction plant, trucks, jeeps
Entire Project	Ongoing	<u>Accommodation Works</u> Installation of or adjustment to private gates, entrances, boundaries or other features belonging to private individuals which are affected by the construction of the new road	Construction plant, jeeps
See attached schedule plus updates regularly on the website	Ongoing	<u>Drilling and Blasting</u> Drilling and blasting of rock in these areas shall be carried out to allow the rock to be excavated to the required level for the new road	Construction plant, drilling and explosive equipment, trucks, jeeps
Various Locations Across the Project	Ongoing and commencing in the coming months	<u>Structures</u> Works on structures already commenced shall continue as well as the commencement of a number of new structures. Construction of new under bridges, over bridges and underpasses across the project. The new structures will span existing rivers and roads or provide access for local landowners to their property. Works shall include piling works, concrete works, installation of precast concrete beams, localised drainage and earthworks, surfacing works, etc.	Construction plant, trucks, jeeps, cranes, concrete trucks and pumps, piling equipment
Entire Project	Ongoing	<u>Landscaping</u> In sections where earthworks are substantially complete topsoil is being placed to allow planting and grass seeding to commence.	Heavy construction plant, trucks, jeeps
Entire Project	July Onwards	<u>Safety and Environmental Barriers</u> Environmental barriers such as noise barriers shall begin to be installed in areas where earthworks are sufficiently progressed. On the N6 the new permanent road barrier shall be installed shortly to cater for the new Rathmorrissey junction.	Heavy construction plant, trucks, jeeps

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

As notified in our previous newsletter we are seeing increasing amounts of traffic management and local diversions in place on the existing road network as work interfaces increase. DirectRoute again asks that road users observe all signage and reduced speed limits to help ensure the safety of all. Traffic management signage to alert public road users has been and will continue to be erected throughout the scheme, where the construction works interact with the existing road network.

Works associated with the construction of the new Kiltiernan junction on the M18 Motorway commenced at the end of June. There will be a reduced speed limit of 60kph in force for a 1 km length on both approaches to the junction on the N18. This reduced speed limit will be in place for approximately 12 months. Temporary traffic lights will be in use on the N18 while the works to create the plant crossing at the location are completed including replacing road markings and creating turning lanes. Two way traffic will then continue for the duration of the works. A heavy plant crossing will be in place to allow site machinery and vehicle movements to cross the existing N18 for approximately 8 months. This will only involve short duration stoppages while a vehicle or two crosses the road.

Details of the road closure at Ballinaphuil which commenced on Monday 8th June are up on the DirectRoute website. The closure will be in place until February 2016.

The westbound hardshoulder on the M6 is currently closed and the eastbound will be closed from mid-August at the proposed Rathmorrissey interchange. This shall facilitate construction works while ensuring two way traffic is maintained on the M6. Temporary vehicle safety barriers shall be installed to close the hard shoulder and ensure the safety of road users and construction personnel. The speed limit has been reduced through this location from 120 km/h to 80 km/h. To facilitate the lifting into place of bridge beams over the existing M6 a number of nights of road closures / rolling closures are planned. These are scheduled to take place in the 4th quarter of 2015. The works will be restricted to night time hours to reduce any inconvenience to the minimum possible. Further information shall be provided once dates are fixed.



SAFETY NOTICE

Construction activity by its nature exposes people to a higher level of risk than many other activities. DirectRoute have detailed arrangements in place to manage the risks for both those involved in building the project and for the general public. DirectRoute is very aware of the attraction that large construction sites and plant can pose for children especially during the school summer holiday period and has visited a number of local schools to highlight the potential dangers to children and hopefully also to their parents or guardians.

We would ask you to co-operate with us in ensuring the project is delivered as safely as possible. You can help us by:-

1. Keep clear of site. Parents and Guardians are particularly asked to try and ensure that their children understand this message.
2. Taking care at the various locations where the project crosses the existing road network and complying with any restrictions imposed under local temporary traffic management arrangements including any reduced speed limits.