



Airdrie – Bathgate Rail Link



↔ **Linking...** Helensburgh & Milngavie / Glasgow
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Armadale / **Bathgate** / Livingston North / Uphall /
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Environment



Environment

What are the environmental benefits of the new rail link?

One of our main objectives is to provide an alternative transport solution to those living in the central belt, taking pressure off the M8 and reducing dependency on cars.

- An electrified railway will provide clean, sustainable public transport and can contribute to lower overall CO₂ emissions.
- Over 1000 car parking spaces provided at train stations, encouraging people to park and ride.
- A £7.3m investment in a brand new cycle path encouraging people to enjoy the great outdoors.

How have you limited the impact of building a new railway on the environment?

We have worked with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) to develop our Landscape and Habitat Management Plan, which identifies and protect plants and animals' natural habitats.

This has included:

- Carrying out environmental surveys to identify endangered species
- Timing construction and de-vegetation to avoid animal breeding and bird nesting seasons
- Re-using pulp from felled trees as mulch to improve the quality of the earth
- Building artificial badger setts and otter holts to protect their natural environments
- Erecting specially designed newt fence to ensure Great Crested Newts don't endanger themselves by crossing the railway
- Planned vegetation replanting once construction of the new railway line is complete