

Re-configuration of Tawe River Bridges



The Tawe Bridges form the key gateway entrance into the City Centre and the Gower Peninsula and forms the first stage of improvements to the urban route which is referred to as the Boulevard.

This will deliver a key theme of the City's regeneration strategy to transform current Oystermouth Road / Quay Parade corridor into an urban route alive with movement and activity, that's good to look at as it is to use. Pedestrians and cyclists will gain greater priority with new crossing squares along its entire length.

The works have produced an attractive gateway into Swansea and Gower, using high quality materials and have greatly eased congestion, allowing for future growth. Careful planning and collaborative working's enabled the project to be completed without undue effect on thousands of daily users .

Strengthening of the New Cut Road Bridge to allow for the additional traffic lane was achieved by bonding Fibre Reinforced Polymer plates to the soffit of the precast concrete beams, without any effect on the traffic on the road above.

Although the scheme was designed in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, the principles of Manual for Streets were considered and the blank canvass approach of reducing street clutter was adopted where achievable.

The traffic signals, with Puffin crossings are controlled through a Wireless MESH communication system allows four junctions on the bridges to be controlled remotely from the Civic Centre's ITC. Greater control of these junctions and revised staging design allows cycle times to be optimised. SCOOT has further enabled the reduction of cycle times across the Oystermouth Rd corridor, benefitting motorists, pedestrians and public transport.

Client: City and County of Swansea

Funding: ERDF Convergence Programme, CCS and Welsh Government Transport Grant

Value: £2.2m

Location: St Thomas, Swansea

Service Dates: 2011 - 2012

Services: Detailed Design, development of contract documents, CDMC, construction supervision and cost management

Contractor: Alun Griffiths (Contractors) Ltd.

Awards: Shortlisted for ICE Roy Edwards Award 2012

