

THE FORTH BRIDGE WORLD HERITAGE SITE

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2025-2035

APPENDICES



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



The Forth Bridge
inscribed on the World
Heritage List in 2015

APPENDICES CONTENTS

APPENDICES CONTENTS	2
APPENDIX A – ACTION PLAN 2025-2029	3
APPENDIX B – MAPS.....	7
APPENDIX C – TERMS OF REFERENCE OF MANAGMENT GROUPS	10
Appendix C.1 Forth Bridges Forum Terms of Reference	10
Appendix C.2 Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Group.....	16
Appendix C.3 Forth Bridges Tourism Group Terms of Reference	17
APPENDIX D – VIEW-CONES MONITORING	22
APPENDIX E - SUMMARY OF SELECTED COMPLETED ACTIONS FROM THE 2015 MANAGEMENT PLAN	54
Appendix E.1: Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy.....	55
Appendix E.2: Forth Bridges Trail.....	60
Appendix E.3: The Forth Bridges Website	60
Appendix E.4: Public Events	62
Appendix E.5: The Forth Bridges Education Programme.....	68
Appendix E.6: Commemorative Plaques.....	75
Appendix E.7: Forth Bridge Writer in Residence	77
APPENDIX F - SUMMARY OF PRE-DRAFT ENGAGEMENT	79
APPENDIX G – ABBREVIATIONS	100

Cover Photograph: Welcome to Fife, Fife Council



APPENDIX A – ACTION PLAN 2025-2029

Theme	Action	Responsibility	Timescale
Identification	ID-1 Publish the comparative study analysing the position of the Forth Bridge amongst the World's most important bridges.	HES	2025/26
Protection	PRO-1 Maintain the Partnership Management Agreement for agreeing the approach to consent to works on the bridge	Partnership Management Agreement partners	Annually
Protection	PRO-2 Complete a climate vulnerability assessment	Forum/HES	By 2029
Protection	PRO-3 Explore future architectural lighting solution for the Forth Bridge	Network Rail	CP8 (2029/30 – 2033/34)
Protection	PRO-4 Monitor condition of the paint finish and outline future refurbishment programme	Network Rail	CP7 (2024/25 – 2028/29)
Conservation	CON-1 Continue monitoring the property and its attributes	Network Rail Council Planning departments x 3	Ongoing
Conservation	CON –2 Monitor the protection of key view-cones through the relevant local authority Local Development Plans	Fife Council City of Edinburgh Council West Lothian Council	Ongoing
Conservation	CON-3 Review and maintain the Disaster Risk Management plans	Network Rail	Ongoing
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-1 Develop guidance for a programme of vegetation management around key viewpoints	Fife Council City of Edinburgh Council West Lothian Council	2025/26



		Transport Scotland	
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-2 Investigate new maintenance arrangements for key pathways and viewing locations	Forum (with Scotrail)	2025/26
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-3 Balance the visual impact of fenced maintenance compounds with the operational requirements to maintain the bridge.	Network Rail	Ongoing
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-4 Develop the plan to introduce the Forth Bridge Experience, an adventure walk from the south during CP8 (2029/30-2033/4)	Network Rail	CP7 (2024/25 – 2028/29)
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-4A In advance of the commissioning of the Forth Bridge Experience is to progress, submit the plan to the World Heritage Centre under Paragraph 172 of the Operating Guidelines	Network Rail	CP8 (2029/30 – 2033/34)
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-4B Continue to support Network Rail in the development and any delivery of a Forth Bridge Experience.	Tourism Group	2025-2029
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-5 Expand uses of 3D model of the bridge	Forum	Ongoing
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-6 Coordinate the presentation of the World Heritage Site with the adjacent road bridges in a programme of anniversary and charity events	Forum	Ongoing
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-7 Expand presence within UNESCO Trail and other cultural routes	FBWHMG Tourism Group	2025-2029
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-8 Improve and extend opportunities to share the story of the Forth Bridge(s) through local Museums and public buildings	Forum FBWHMG	Ongoing
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-9 Sustain the coverage of the	Tourism Group	2025-2029



	walking and cycling routes in the Area, focussing on the Forth Bridges Trail, but also integrating with neighbouring and national activity.		
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-10 Maintain the digital presence for the Forth Bridges Area visitor information and tourism business support through the Forth Bridges own and partner channels to promote half day and day visits.	Tourism Group	2025-2029
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-11 Establish mechanisms to further monitor and evaluate the actions on the Tourism Delivery Plan through use of physical and digital data collection.	Tourism Group	2025-2029
Presentation & Tourism	PRE-12 Explore opportunities for the Forth Bridges Area within the ESES Regional Visitor Partnership regional projects (Cruise Passenger Management Plan, Cycling, Culture, Data).	Tourism Group	2025-2029
Communities	COM-1 Continue to promote the use of public transport and active travel to assist in alleviating parking congestion for visiting the World Heritage Site in local communities	Forum	Ongoing
Communities	COM-2 Engage with Scotrail regarding feedback on access and the condition of infrastructure at the adjacent stations	Network Rail Transport Scotland	2025/26
Communities	COM-3 Continue to address community concerns about water and debris issues and maintain open dialogue regarding bridge works	Network Rail	Ongoing
Communities	COM-4 Maintain community interaction with the Bridge (s) through public events, website and other communications	Forum	Ongoing

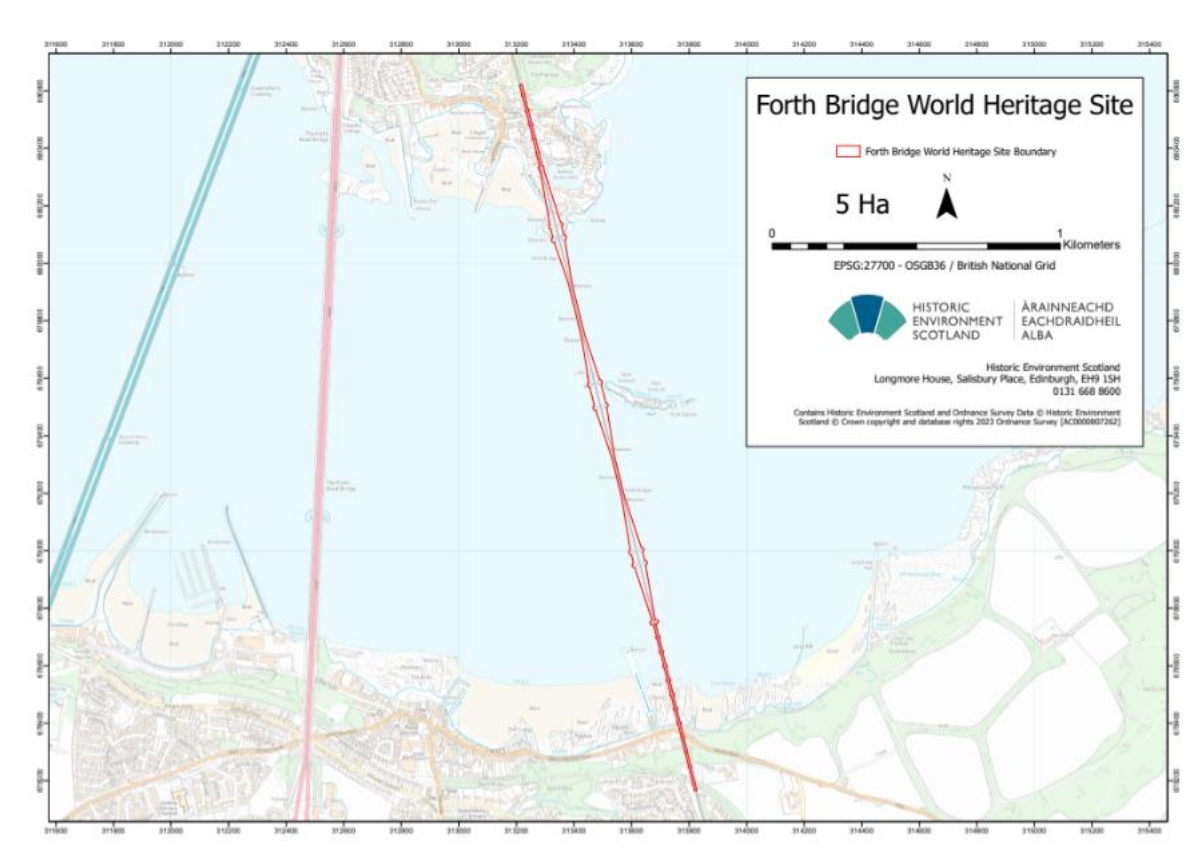


Future Generations	FUT-1 Support the School Education Programme	Transport Scotland	Ongoing
Future Generations	FUT-2 Reform the Collections Group to catalogue the location of Forth Bridge artefacts and records.	FBWHMG	2026
Future Generations	FUT-3 Develop a research policy to expand understanding of the history and historical impact of the Forth Bridge	FBWHMG	2026
Future Generations	FUT-4 Promote awareness and understanding of the Property amongst emerging generations of professional engineers	Transport Scotland Network Rail	Ongoing
Management & Governance	MAN-1 Maintain and develop the website www.theforthbridges.com	Forum	Ongoing
Management & Governance	MAN-2 Support delivery of the Management Plan actions by funding a World Heritage Site Coordinator through a Memorandum of Understanding between partners	Forum	2025/26
Management & Governance	MAN-3 Seek sources of funding (internal and external) to implement actions in Management Plan	Forum	Ongoing
Management & Governance	MAN-4 Refresh Terms of Reference for all Forum subgroups	Forum & Subgroups	2025/26



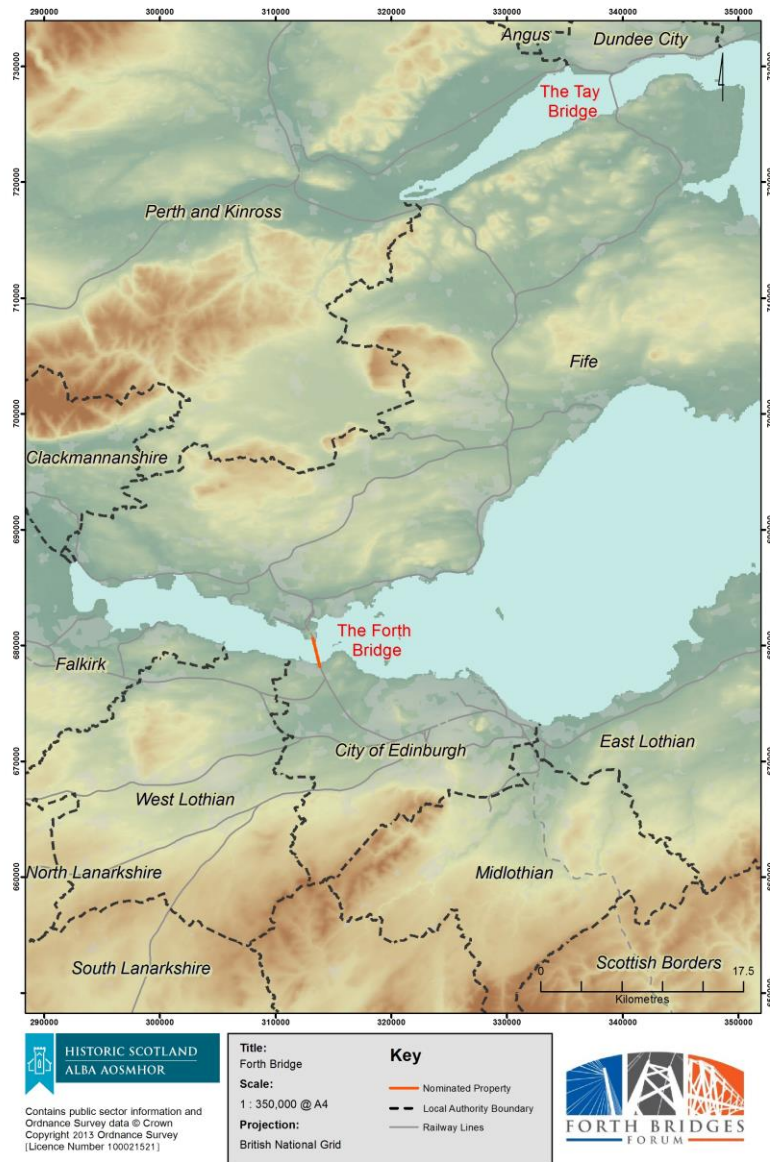
APPENDIX B – MAPS

Map B1 – Forth Bridge World Heritage Site



Map: Historic Environment Scotland

Map B2 – Forth Bridge shown in East Scotland (as used in original Management Plan)



Map B3 – Forth Bridge in United Kingdom (as used in original Management Plan)



APPENDIX C – TERMS OF REFERENCE OF MANAGEMENT GROUPS

Appendix C.1 Forth Bridges Forum Terms of Reference – revised June 2025

Purpose of the Forum

The Forth Bridges Forum (the “Forum”) is a collaborative management grouping established to ensure that local partners and stakeholders’ interests remain core to and provide the strategic support of the three crossings of the River Forth at Queensferry. In addition, the Forum provides a mechanism for the collaboration and collective promotion of the Forth Bridge, Forth Road Bridge, Queensferry Crossing, and the surrounding environs, towns and villages of the Forth Estuary.

The Forum is a collaborative management grouping and as such has no legal standing and is not an independent entity.

Aims of the Forum – Functions are detailed in Annex 1

- To establish and oversee a strategic approach to exploring and implementing opportunities for the Forth Bridges to support local and regional tourism, economy and communities.
- To engage with community groups on matters relating to the aims of this Forum.
- To promote the location of the bridges spanning the Firth of Forth as a unique engineering, tourism and educational resource.
- To support the Forth Bridge’s World Heritage Inscription status and the coordination and review of the associated Management Plan. (The Forum is responsible for the implementation of the World Heritage Management Plan)
- To work with Council partners to explore and support schemes and measures to encourage an increase in cross-Forth active travel and sustainable public transport.
- To support the Scottish Government National Performance Framework and sustainability objectives and to provide any guidance and advice to local stakeholders.

Membership of the Forum

The core members of the Forum are at least one or more senior officials from each of the organisations listed below.

- City of Edinburgh Council
- Fife Council
- Historic Environment Scotland
- Network Rail
- Transport Scotland



- Roads and Rail Directorates
 - Supported by the South East Scotland Trunk Road Unit Operating Company – currently BEAR Scotland
- VisitScotland
- West Lothian Council

Additional bodies, organisations and stakeholders may be invited to join a Forum meeting(s) dependent on any specific workstreams which are required to be established or where specific discussion is required. For example, bus and train operators may be invited to the Forum to discuss measures to promote cross-Forth public transport.

Review of Membership

A list of current members of the Forum will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Meetings of the Forum

The Forum will meet on a quarterly basis on dates to be agreed with any sub-groups meeting ahead of the main Forum meetings in time to provide reports for consideration at Forum meetings.

Quorum

A quorum for any Forum meeting will require representative(s) from a minimum of five of the seven core members to be in attendance.

Chair of the Forum

The Forum will be chaired by a senior representative from within the core organisations on an annual rotating basis, with each organisation serving a 12-month period from 01 January each calendar year.

Support

Administration and secretarial support will be provided by staff from within the incumbent South East Scotland Trunk Road Unit Operating Company or equivalent under contract to Transport Scotland to ensure a consistent approach is maintained at all times.

Financial Management

Forum members contribute either financial or in-kind support to enable the Forum to deliver its aims positive outcomes for the local community.

Annual Contributions (or equivalent spend)

Forum members will carry their own staff and other costs to support the work of the Forum and no central funding resource will be made available. Separate financial governance with regards to specific funding arrangements will also be agreed by Forum members, managed



in house and reported to the Forum, including in a summary annual report for the Forum's own records:

Contributions (or otherwise) for Tourism Strategy Manager/World Heritage Coordinator

Financial support to the Forum will be agreed by participating organisations to deliver the specific roles of Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy Manager (TSM) and Forth Bridge World Heritage Coordinator (WHC).

Staff costs/expenses

Financial and/or in-kind support for other relevant projects and activities will be agreed by majority on a case-by-case basis by the Forum members. Staff time and any additional resources required to provide support to the Forum will be provided, agreed and confirmed by Forum members.

Costs of hosting/catering the meetings

Costs and arrangements for the hosting and catering for Forum meetings will be agreed by the organisation holding the chair.

Any other costs

Any other costs will be agreed by the Forum and delegated to the particular organisation with the responsibility to deliver a specific requirement.

Terms of Reference Review

The Terms of Reference for the Forum will be reviewed on an annual basis and agreed by the members of the Forum at the first meeting of the Forum each calendar year.

Annex 1 - Functions of the Forum

1. To establish and oversee a strategic management approach for the Forth Bridges.

Scottish Ministers have statutory responsibility under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 for the management, operation and maintenance of the trunk road network, including its bridges and structures. On behalf of Scottish Ministers, Transport Scotland will continue to be responsible for technical oversight of the Forth Road Bridge and Queensferry Crossing including management, operational and maintenance standards as well as design standards and policy. Similarly, Network Rail will retain responsibility for the operation and management of the Forth Bridge (funded by Transport Scotland). Network Rail is further regulated by the Office of Road and Rail and has statutory obligations under the relevant Railway legislation and Acts etc with respect



to the operation and maintenance of the Forth Bridge and associated railway infrastructure.

The purpose of the Forum will be to establish mechanisms for ensuring a strategic collaborative approach to the promotion of the Forth Bridges.

2. To maintain effective engagement with local communities on issues that may affect, impact or be of interest to them.

Recognising that the Forth Road Bridge and Queensferry Crossing have an impact on everyday life in the local and wider community, and that the two road bridges and the Forth Bridge are of cultural and historical importance to the local communities, national and wider geographical areas, the Forum will ensure effective community engagement and consultation is undertaken.

3. To promote the location of the three bridges spanning the Firth of Forth as a unique tourist destination.

The Firth of Forth is the home to three major iconic bridges, from three consecutive centuries, performing three different functions utilising three different design and construction technologies. The Forum will investigate opportunities for promoting the bridges spanning the Firth of Forth as a unique engineering, tourism and educational resource.

The Forum will further investigate opportunities and deliver activity to promote a responsible and high-quality visitor destination to the benefit of surrounding towns and communities, to inspire visitors to stay longer and spend more. This will also align and reference the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy's vision that by 2030 the Forth Bridges area will be recognised as a sustainable, high quality visitor destination, offering great customer service underpinned by an emotionally valued global brand. This will include the promotion of the location as a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) destination for the benefit of future generations, (as in 6 below).

4. To support the Forth Bridge's World Heritage Inscription and the coordination and review of the Management Plan

As a condition of the successful inscription in 2015 of the Forth Bridge as a UNESCO World Heritage site, Network Rail is required to provide information on and demonstrate effective delivery of policies that aim to give the site a function in the life of the community. In addition, a management plan/strategy must be maintained that involves stakeholders. The members of the Forum will be committed to supporting the coordination and review of the Management Plan, Partnership Management Agreement and the Memorandum of Understanding. This process will be managed by the appointed World Heritage Coordinator.



5. To develop and support schemes and measures to encourage an increase in cross-Forth active travel and sustainable public transport.

The Scottish Government is committed to promoting active travel options and public transport above single occupancy car use. The Forth Road Bridge has become a dedicated public transport corridor for buses, cyclists, pedestrians and any non-motorway traffic. The Forth Road Bridge combined with the Forth Bridge will present attractive and viable public transport alternatives to the car as the main cross Forth travel option.

6. To develop and maintain and operate an education programme available to schools and other interested parties throughout Scotland.

The Forum will engage with partners to ensure that an education programme, including STEM activities that provides school pupils and students from education establishments across all communities in Scotland a basic understanding of engineering principles based on the design and construction of the Forth Bridges. This includes the significant investment made by Transport Scotland in the creation of digital models for all three bridges and the promotion of the unique combination of infrastructure for the benefit of educational institutions beyond Scotland.

7. To manage and support subgroups reporting to the Forth Bridges Forum to undertake specific operational requirements.

The Forum will manage any required sub-groups to provide additional support the Forum that will provide regular reports as required. Each subgroup will report to the Forum on a regular basis and prepare, and regularly review, its own Terms of Reference (ToR). Each subgroup will provide details, as an annex to its ToR, of its structure/relationship between the Forum, the subgroup and its role. These subgroups will include but not limited to the following,

- Tourism Subgroup
- World Heritage Management Subgroup
 - o Including future collections and research requirement

The previous activities of the Communications Subgroup is now covered within the remit of the subgroups above.

The activities of the Tourism Directors Group has been included in the remit of the Tourism Subgroup.

Each Subgroup should prepare specific Terms of Reference for its activities and to provide details on the structure and relationship with the Forum and its role. Additional Sub Groups may be constituted on as required basis dependant on the changes in the management and operation of the three bridges or for specific events



or celebrations, e.g. Forth Road Bridge 60th Anniversary in September 2024, Forth Bridge 135th Anniversary in March 2025, Forth Bridge WHS 10th Anniversary July 2025 and the Queensferry Crossing 10th Anniversary in September 2027.



Appendix C.2 Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Group Terms of Reference

The terms of reference are being reviewed for this Group (as of November 2025).



Appendix C.3 Forth Bridges Tourism Group Terms of Reference – Revised December 2024

Background

The Forth Bridges Forum's Tourism Project Group was established by the Forum to deliver the Forum's third function which is to "promote the location of the bridges spanning the Firth of Forth as a unique tourist destination".

The Tourism Project Group led the development of the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy 2019-2029 which was launched on 24 April 2019.

The **Forth Bridges Area Tourism Group** was established to deliver the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy and action plan.

The Tourism Group completed a review of the first five years of the Tourism Strategy implementation and recommended a number of Terms of Reference (ToR) changes in September 2024 as incorporated below. The key ToR changes are: (1) to redesignate the role of the Project Manager to incorporate the Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Plan, as well as progressing the Tourism Delivery Plan; and (2), to amalgamate the Tourism Coordinating Group and Directors Group into one new combined Tourism Group.

Purpose and Remit

The overall purpose of the Group is to oversee the implementation, monitoring and review of the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy. In undertaking this role, the Group will:

- Work together to deliver the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy's vision "*By 2030 The Forth Bridges area will be recognised as a sustainable, high quality visitor destination, offering great customer service underpinned by an emotionally valued global brand*" through the strategic outcomes of Creating a Visitor Destination; Offering a Warm Welcome to All; Marketing the Destination; and Looking After the Forth Bridges.
- Act as ambassadors and advocates for the Forth Bridges Area as a sustainable tourism destination and the values, principles and objectives of UNESCO for the World Heritage Site.
- Develop a delivery plan to implement the objectives of the strategy.
- Identify the appropriate means of implementing the actions within the delivery plan and identify funding sources to secure the resources required to deliver these.
- Encourage local partnership working across the Forth Bridges Area to support the implementation of the strategy.



- Consider regular progress reports from the Project Manager and from any short-term working or subgroups it may wish to form.

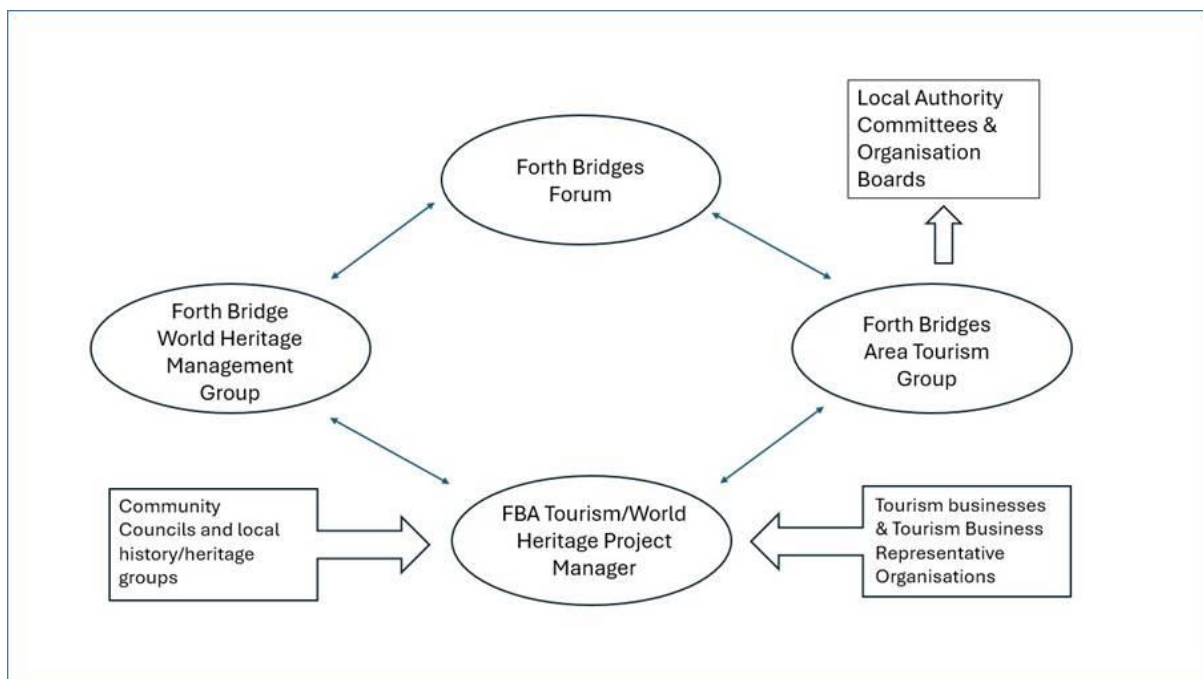
Provide regular updates on progress towards delivering the strategy to the Forth Bridges Forum.

- Support the development and delivery of a World Heritage Management Plan for the Forth Bridge UNESCO World Heritage site, as well as support the delivery of any actions which may come as a result of said plan.

Membership

The Group will be co-chaired by Fife Council and City of Edinburgh Council in alternate years, with secretariat support provided by Fife Council. The Chair will provide the formal link for communication with the Forth Brides Forum.

The Group will operate as illustrated in the diagram below:



Membership of the Group will comprise senior representation from the following organisations:

- Fife Council
- City of Edinburgh Council
- West Lothian Council



- Transport Scotland
- VisitScotland
- Historic Environment Scotland
- Network Rail

Potential new members can be proposed by a member of the existing Group. The Group will collectively decide on whether to co-opt the person concerned. The casting vote will be that of the Chair.

Additional representatives/individuals may be invited to attend meetings as necessary to provide support or updates on specific projects.

Group members are required to attend at least two meetings per year. It is accepted that from time-to-time members may not be able to attend a meeting. Members of the Group who are unable to attend a meeting should send a representative providing that they have the necessary authority to represent their organisation and have been fully briefed on the agenda items.

The Group may establish short-term working or sub-groups to deliver individual time-limited projects. These will report back to the Group on progress. Temporary sub-group members can be drawn from outside the membership of the main Group where required.

Frequency of Meetings and Operational Matters

The Tourism Group will meet on a *quarterly* basis with meetings held by rotation in locations within the Forth Bridges Area or on Teams. Quorum for the group will be 50% of the membership in addition to the Chair(s) but any urgent matters may be determined between meetings by email. While the Group will meet on a quarterly basis, additional workstream activity updates may be required between meetings.

Agenda and papers will be circulated one week in advance of meetings. As part of the agenda setting process, members will be contacted for any agenda items they may wish to include. An action note from the meetings will be circulated no later than two weeks following the meeting.

A risk register will be used to assess and manage the risks associated with the Group's activities. The Chair organisation will be responsible for maintaining this register.



Governance and Reporting Arrangements

Tourism Group

The Group will report directly to the Forth Bridges Forum – receiving direction from and providing progress reports on activities as agreed.

Each local authority and organisation represented on the Group will be responsible for regular reporting into the appropriate reporting channels within their respective organisations.

Forth Bridges Forum

The Chair will report on progress to the Forth Bridges Forum, which meets on a quarterly basis.

Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Group

This Group is chaired by Historic Environment Scotland and reports to the Forth Bridges Forum. The delivery of the Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Plan is key for this Group.

Financial Arrangements

Partner organisations are committed to providing either financial and /or professional support to sustain the work of the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Group and World Heritage Coordinator. The adequacy of these arrangements will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Forth Bridges Forum. Fife Council as host for the Forth Bridges Tourism Strategy Manager/World Heritage Coordinator will act as banker and facilitator for the funding.

Communication

Communication with business, community interests and in particular Community Councils will be facilitated through the Forth Bridges Forum website and by means of the Forth Bridges Forum public meetings on an as-required basis. In addition, the Forth Bridges Tourism Strategy Manager will facilitate regular meetings for Community Councils and other interested parties to enable regular updates on progress and gather feedback.

Consumer and Community Council engagement will be undertaken by means of existing or tailored web and social media channels as part of the delivery of the Strategy's actions.



The Forth Bridges Area Tourism Group will also seek to ensure that it is represented at appropriate Community Council and traders' groups meetings, primarily via the Forth Bridges Tourism Strategy Manager's attendance but also with Group members attending at meetings if and when required.

Exit strategy

The Group can be wound up if members consider that the work has been achieved or may alter or change the scope of its work as circumstances change over time, with the majority agreement of its membership and through an update to the Terms of Reference.



APPENDIX D – VIEW-CONES MONITORING



West Lothian
Council



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

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EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

The Forth Bridge World Heritage Site: Key Viewpoints



Updated for the Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Group on behalf of the Forth Bridges Forum, September 2025





The Forth Bridge World Heritage Site:



Key Viewpoints

1. Purpose

1.1 This report complements the Forth Bridge World Heritage Nomination dossier, submitted to UNESCO in January 2014. Following inscription of The Forth Bridge onto the World Heritage List on 5th July 2015, UNESCO requested that a limited number of viewpoints be formalised to ensure the setting of the property is adequately protected. This document therefore defines key viewpoints, thereby allowing them to be incorporated into planning guidance supplementary to the Local Development Plans of the three adjacent local authorities.

1.2 The Nomination Dossier (at 5.c.8 pages 97-106) details many places from which the property can be viewed within an extensive area of east-central Scotland. It took seven sample views from ranges between 3.6 and 18 kilometres distant (5.c.9, pp107-110) demonstrating that landform - hills and islands - determine longer-distance views, and the fact that only glimpses of the Bridge may be had from many locations.

1.3 Following inscription, the Forth Bridge World Heritage Nomination Steering Group is now the *Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Group*. The new group created a working sub-group comprising representatives from the three local authorities surrounding the property and the national heritage organisation, Historic Environment Scotland. They have collaborated to identify the ten key views included here. The working group comprises representatives from the following institutions: Fife Council, City of Edinburgh Council, West Lothian Council, and Historic Environment Scotland.

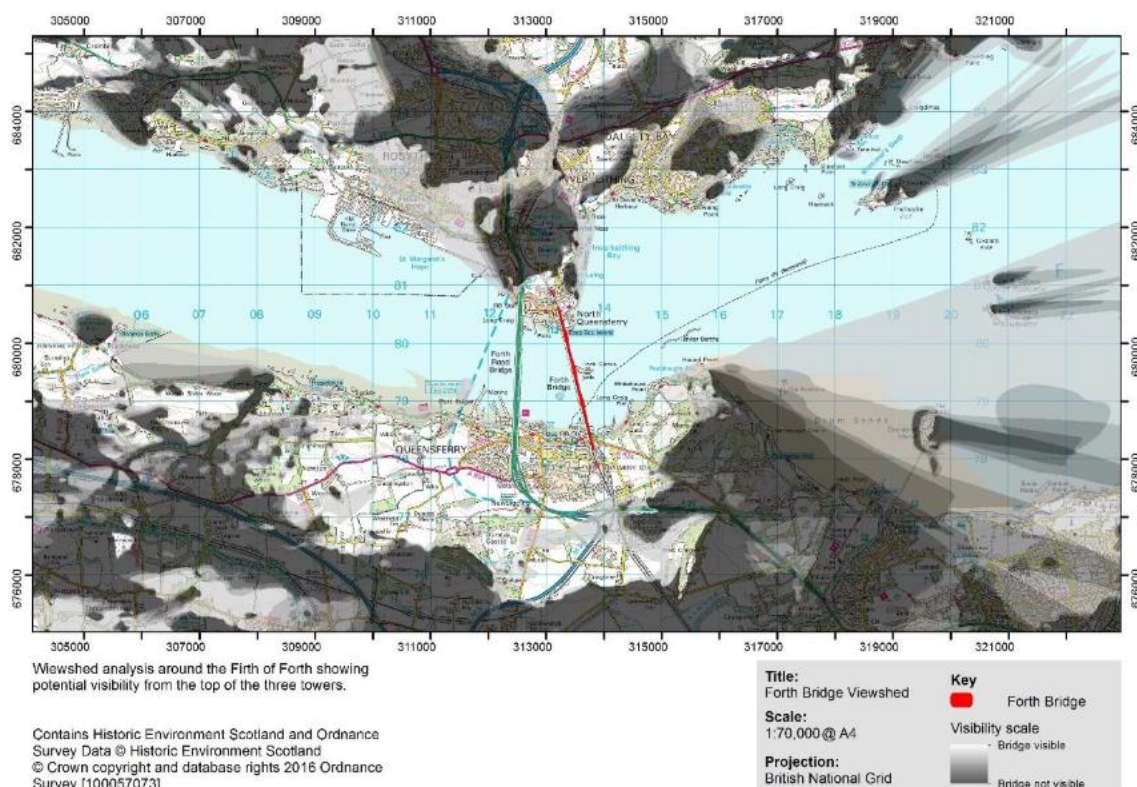
1.4 This report supports the Local Development Plans in force within the three adjacent local authority areas. It is further reinforced by the formal recognition of World Heritage within Scottish Planning Policy (SPP, Paragraph 147, p35), which states that, 'Where a development proposal has the potential to affect a World Heritage Site, or its setting, the planning authority must protect and preserve its Outstanding Universal Value.' See

<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/scottish-planning-policy/>



2. Introduction to the Key Views

2.1. Work in 2013 for the nomination dossier (at 5.C.8 78) identified many locations from which different views of the property may be had. As some of these are only partial glimpses, this number was initially reduced to ten that can beneficially be identified as protected views. This further develops part 5.c.9 of the Nomination Dossier, pages 107-110. The map below uses GIS and terrain data to define the areas from which the Bridge is most visible.



Viewshed analysis around the Firth of Forth, with the Forth Bridge in the centre. The lighter the shaded area, the higher the potential visibility. This is key to the management of building heights that may one day intrude.

2.2 Using this analysis, and observation in the field, the ten specific viewpoints whose viewsheds require protection within the planning process were selected. These are listed and represented in the table and map below:

1.	Ferryhills, North Queensferry, Fife
2.	B981 Above and below Balbougie Glen, Fife (* See 2.11)
3.	B9157 Clockluine Road, Fordell to Hillend, Fife (* See 2.11)
4.	Mons Hill, Dalmeny, City of Edinburgh
5.	Dalmeny Main Street near water tower, City of Edinburgh



6.	Station Road/ Bankhead Rd, Dalmeny, City of Edinburgh
7.	Forth Bridges Contact & Education Centre, Queensferry, City of Edinburgh
8.	Newton, West Lothian Council
9.	Viewing Tower at the House of the Binns, West Lothian
10.	Castland Hill, Fife



Map showing the position of the ten agreed viewpoints designed to protect the wider setting of The Forth Bridge

2.3 This is the best selection of views from which all three cantilever towers can be seen, and which also provide a foreground that is relatively undeveloped. The majority of these also show the bridge at sea level.

2.4 The viewpoints collectively offer a range of experiences of the bridge from both banks of the River Forth. Some are focused vistas channelled between hills. Others are panoramic views that may also showcase the collective setting of the neighbouring road bridges. In elevation, from east and west, the bridge shows its elegant lines, while from north and south the impression is of a great mass of steel spars in three humps, so it is important that both aspects are included among the viewpoints.



2.5 The very many views obtainable from the shoreline are not included because the shore is not liable to be developed, being almost continuously covered by natural designations, and in large part also by cultural designations that are set out in the nomination dossier.

2.6 Views from within conservation areas are not included here because the key locations are already noted in conservation area appraisals, any development permitted must preserve or enhance character and will be on a small scale that does not obstruct full or partial views that can be had nearby.

2.7 All ten chosen viewpoints are within a 15km radius. This is because at 15 km distance, the lower part of the bridge starts to disappear below the horizon due to the curvature of the earth, and at 25 km the lower half of the bridge is entirely obscured from view.

2.8 The chosen viewpoints are selected to have some relatively undeveloped rural land in front of the viewer. Where they are relatively high-up, they may have the benefit of showing the bridge arching across water, so what lies beyond the bridge in those cases is considered. The silhouette may be more or less important depending on the presence of landforms, such as Mons Hill, in the backdrop.

2.9 Line of Sight analysis has been carried out for each chosen viewpoint. So, in addition to maps defining the viewsheds from each point, cross-sectional graphs show the profile of land between the bridge and a viewpoint. Red lines are points that cannot be seen from the observer's position, shown as a black dot on the left of each graph. The white line indicates what could be seen in the lie of the land, assuming that trees and buildings do not intervene (which they often do, so indication of potential interruption into a view-cone by a planned development will prompt a check made in the field).

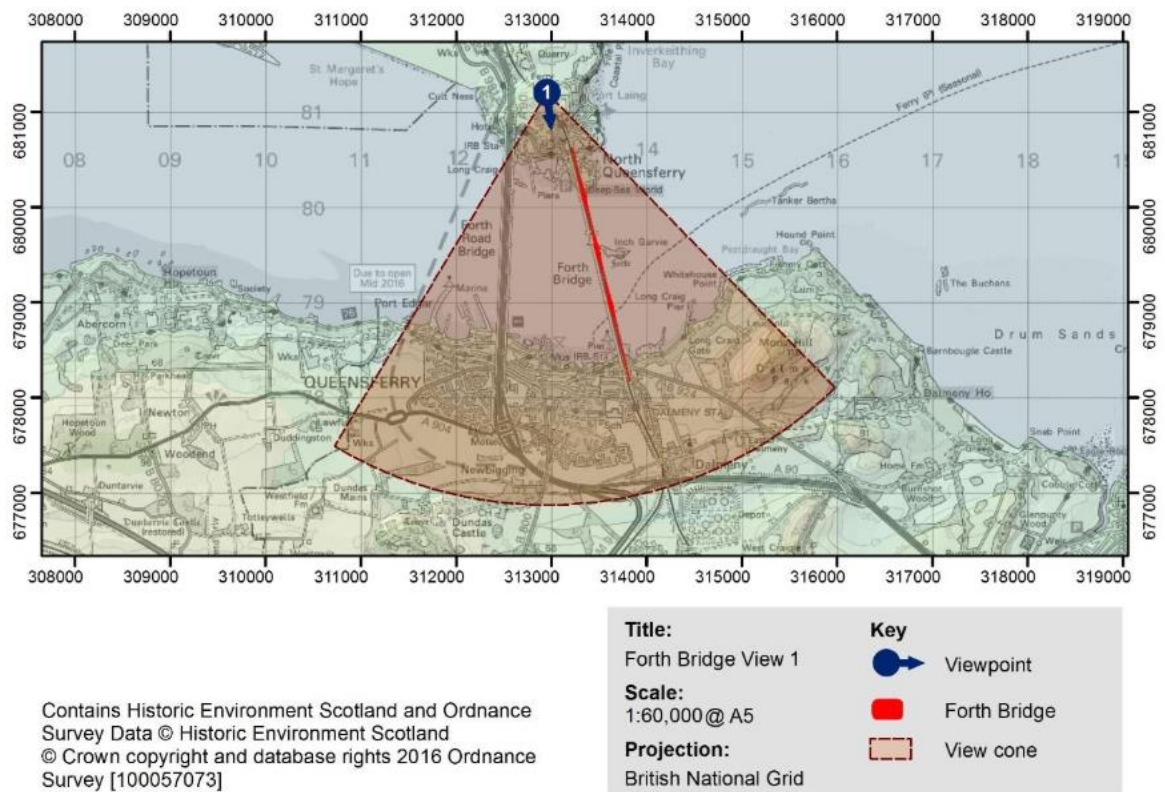
2.10 New reference photographs have been added taken between September 2024 and September 2025.

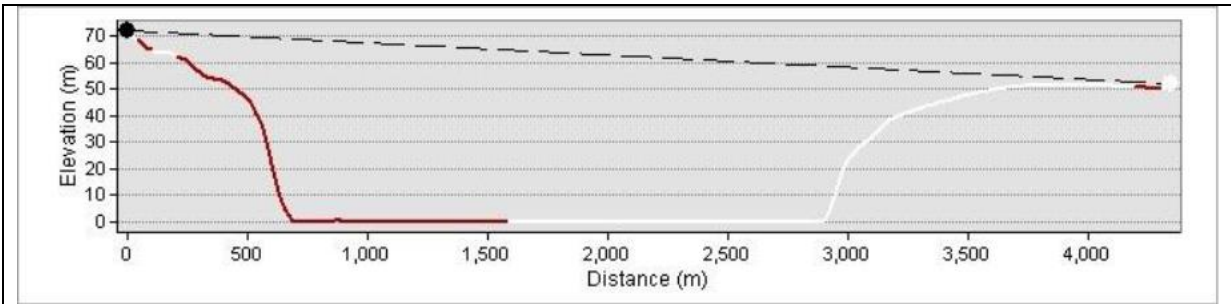
2.11 * During the preparation of the Management Plan 2025-2035, the Working Group has proposed to rationalise Fife view-cones 2 and 3 due to the similarity. View-cone 2 is from a greater distance and will be used to represent 2 and 3. Subsequently, the number of monitored protected view-cones will reduce from 10 to 9 from 2026.



3. The Ten Key Views

Viewpoint 1: Ferryhills, North Queensferry, Fife

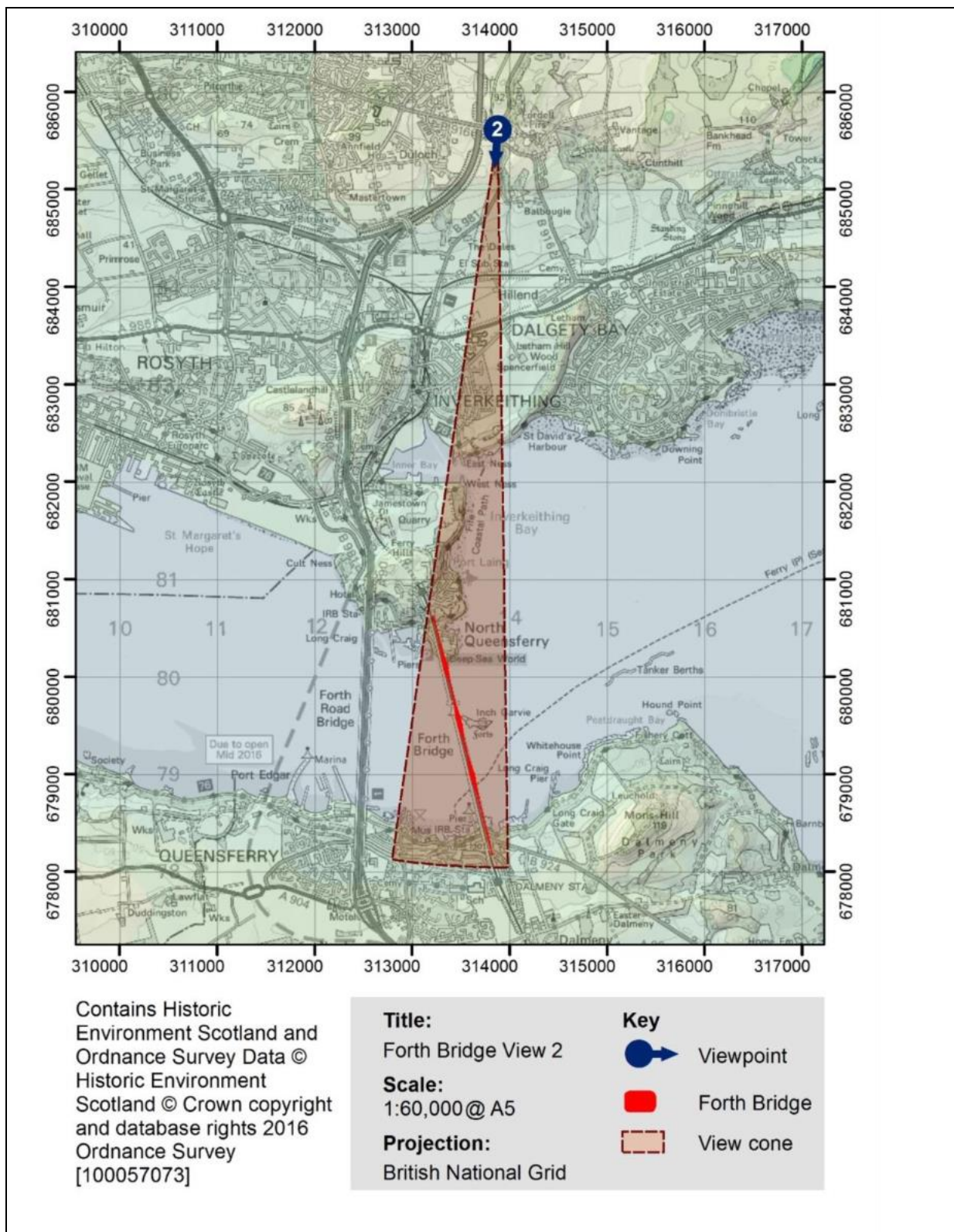


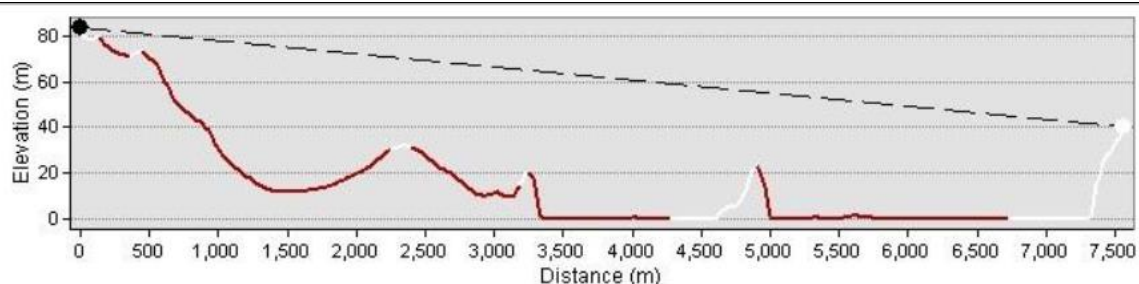


A viewpoint and bridging point formed by an outcrop of hard whinstone making the headland that separates inner and outer Forth estuaries. The white line shows the land that is visible from that viewpoint, excluding factors like trees and buildings. Parts of the foreground, uncultivated land for nature conservation, recreation and a covered reservoir, are in front of the viewer and then, as the ground drops away, the village of North Queensferry is out of sight along with some of the Forth, the red line. Trees to either side of Dalmeny Station form the south bank backdrop, while the flatter land above the escarpment recedes from prominence. All three bridges splay away from the viewer, emphasising a wide panorama. End-on, the massive steelwork of the Forth Bridge makes a formidable impression. The Road bridges are well over to the right and out of view. (Photograph 2014)



Karen Stewart, Fife Council, September 2025





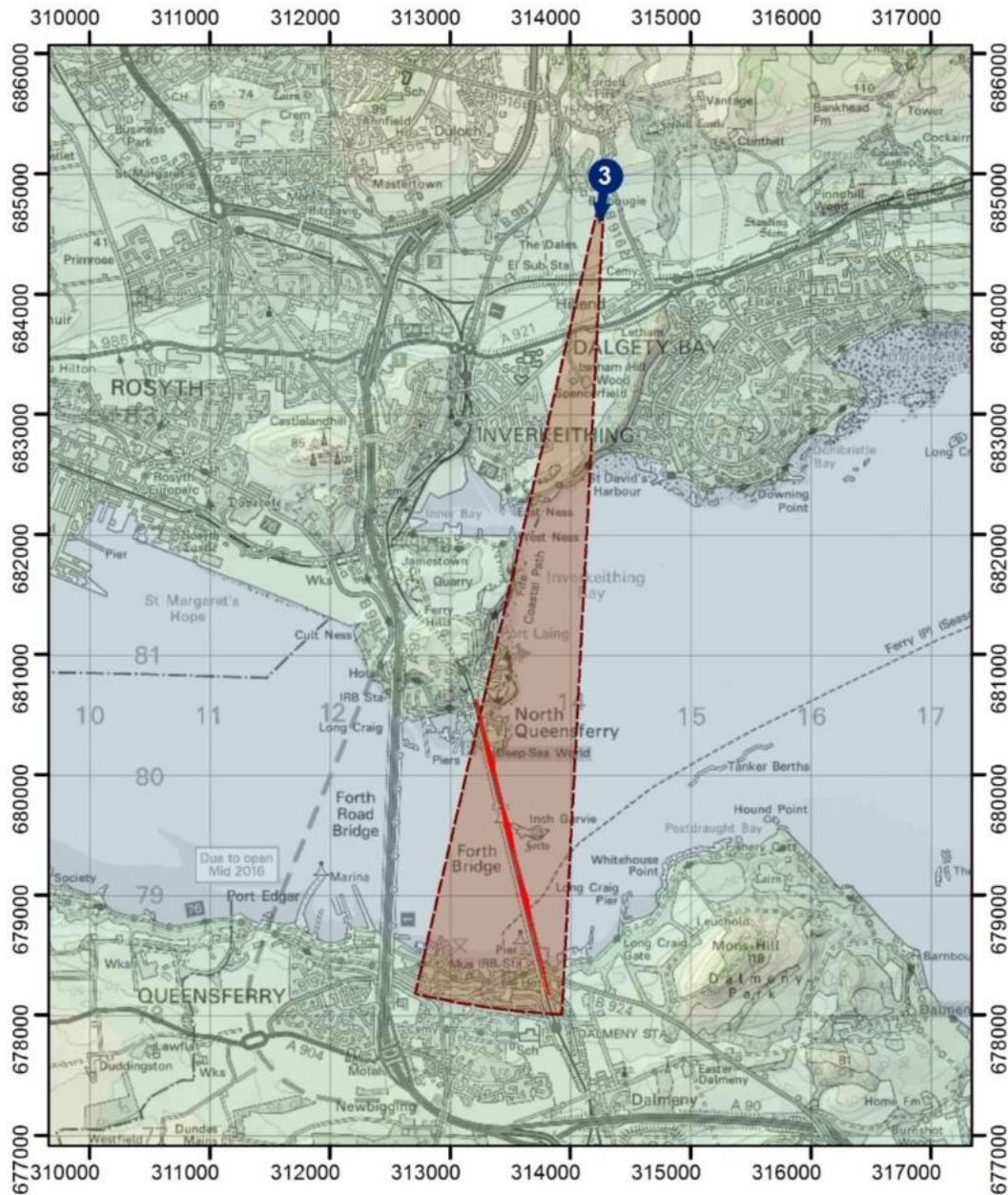
Minor roads B916 and B981 meet near the M90 overbridge, where the motorway is low down in a cutting. Inverkeithing is in the lee of the slope, out of view from the higher viewpoint, and one span of the Forth bridge appears to arch over the water. Lower on the same road, and same viewshed, the river is not apparent. Inverkeithing High School (the modern building to the right) is in the vista, fields and the railway cutting connecting to the Forth Bridge are in the foreground. The Road Bridges are well over to the right and out of view. (Photograph 2013).

From 2026, view-cones 2 and 3 will be rationalised, with view-cone 2 chosen to represent this general aspect as it's from the greater distance.



Karen Stewart, Fife Council, September 2025

Viewpoint 3: B9157 Clockluine Road, Fordell to Hillend, Fife






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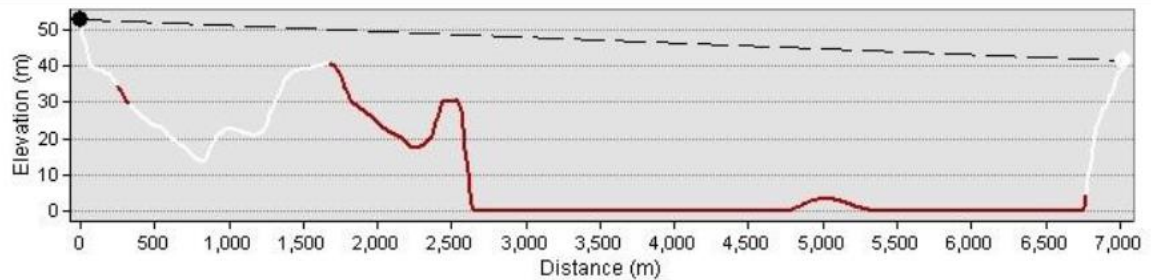
Title:
Forth Bridge View 3

Scale:
1:60,000@ A5

Projection:
British National Grid

Key

-  Viewpoint
-  Forth Bridge
-  View cone



A view over rural Fife in the gap between Dalgety Bay and Inverkeithing from the B916 road and pedestrian route. Lothian (the south bank) is over 7 kilometres away and indistinct, as the sea is out of sight. North Queensferry is also hidden, except for one house. The East Coast railway line to the Forth Bridge and the A921 road and streetlights run in front of the trees around Spencerfield on the near horizon. At present the upper three cantilever towers of the Forth Bridge stand out. If/when trees are removed, more of the Forth Bridge will be visible at least as far as the suspended spans. (photograph 2016). The road bridges are well over to the right and out of view.

This view-cone will not be monitored from 2026 due to similarity with view-cone 2.



Karen Stewart, Fife Council, September 2025

Viewpoint 4: Mons Hill, Dalmeny, City of Edinburgh



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Title:
Forth Bridge View 4

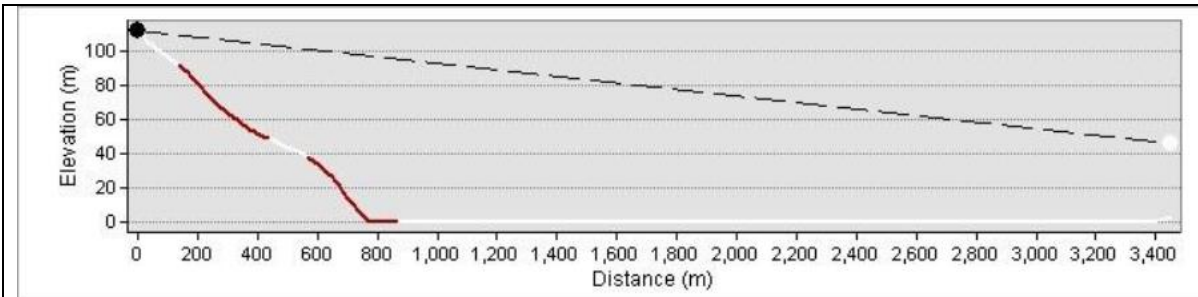
Scale:
1:50,000 @ A5

Projection:
British National Grid

Key

-  Viewpoint
-  Forth Bridge
-  View cone



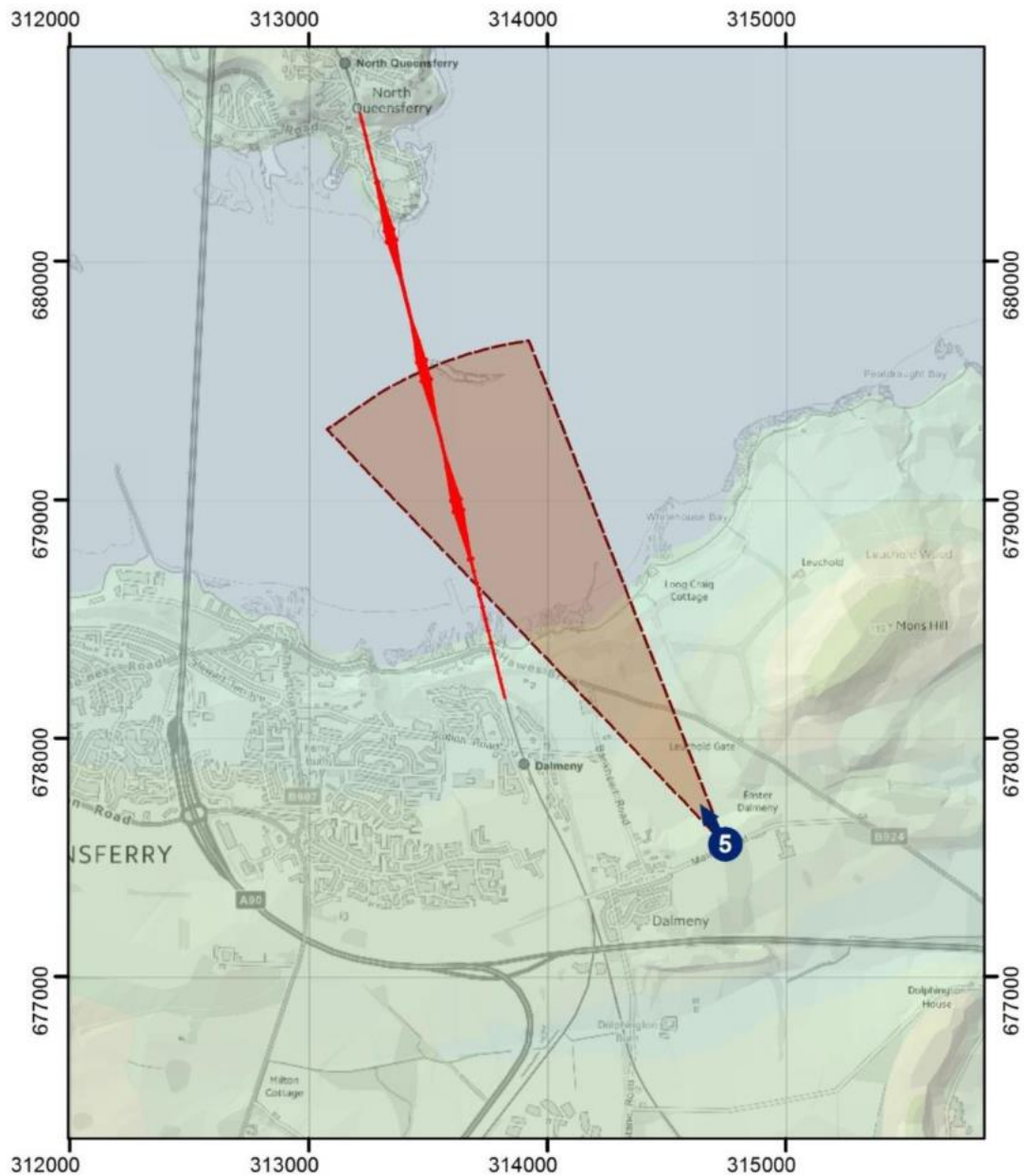


This view from the South East is from Mons Hill which shields much of urban Edinburgh from the Forth Bridge. It provides good unobstructed views of the property, across parts of a Designed Landscape, a Special Landscape Area and Green Belt, silhouetting all three bridges against the Inner Forth. At the level of Leuchold Farm the three bridge decks are aligned and the nearer of the cantilevered arches is unobstructed. A pylon of each road bridge stands beyond the north main span of the Forth Bridge but the clarity of the cantilevering over water is apparent. (Photo 2016 when Queensferry Crossing was almost complete).



Photograph December 2024, Mark Watson, Historic Environment Scotland

Viewpoint 5: Dalmeny Main Street near water tower, City of Edinburgh






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Title:
Forth Bridge View 5

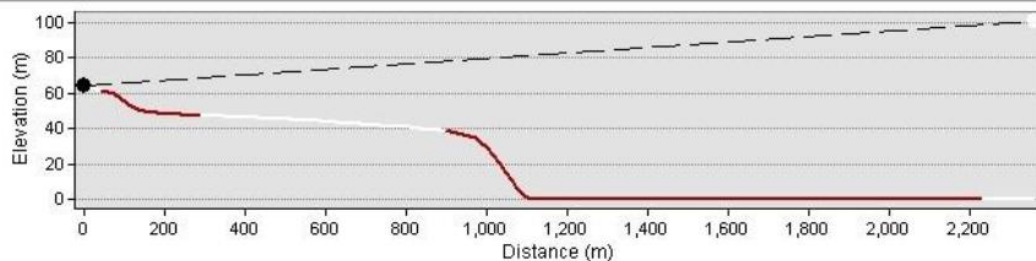
Scale:
1:30,000@ A5

Projection:
British National Grid

Key

-  Viewpoint
-  Forth Bridge
-  View cone



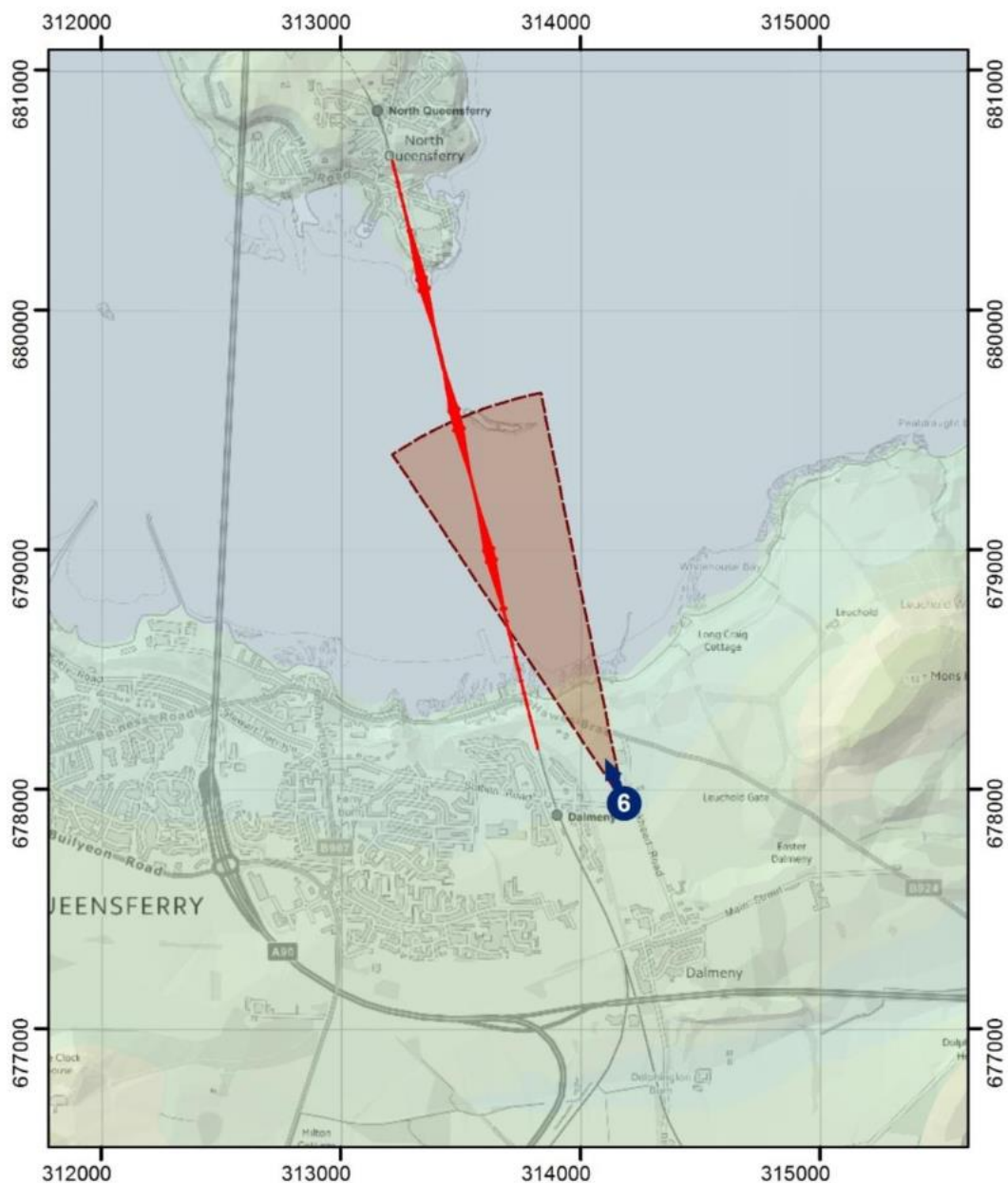


Between Dalmeny village and the converted water tower to the east, a minor public road and National Cycle Route 1 from Edinburgh city offers views to the Forth Bridge over a hedge and rolling farmland. Forth Bridge/North British Railway company housing is in the trees to the left. The near shore and much of the sea is out of sight. The Road Bridges are beyond and to the left of the Forth Bridge and largely hidden by the relatively tight angle taken by the Forth Bridge. Just one pylon of the new Queensferry Crossing is grouped with one of the 1964 Road Bridge over the shoulder of the Queensferry cantilever of the Forth Bridge. In this view Fife and the road bridges are in sunlight while the Forth Bridge is in the shade, illustrating the variable microclimate at the Forth. (photograph 2016).



Photograph December 2024 Karen Stewart, Fife Council

Viewpoint 6: Station Road/ Bankhead Rd, Dalmeny, City of Edinburgh



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Title:
Forth Bridge View 6

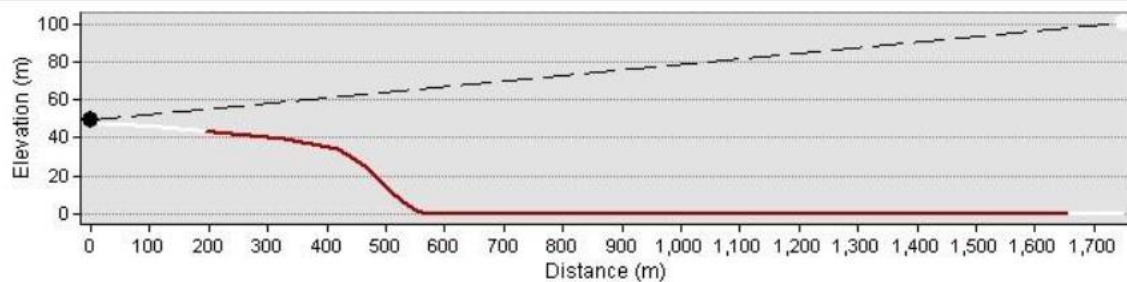
Scale:
1:30,000@ A5

Projection:
British National Grid

Key

-  Viewpoint
-  Forth Bridge
-  View cone



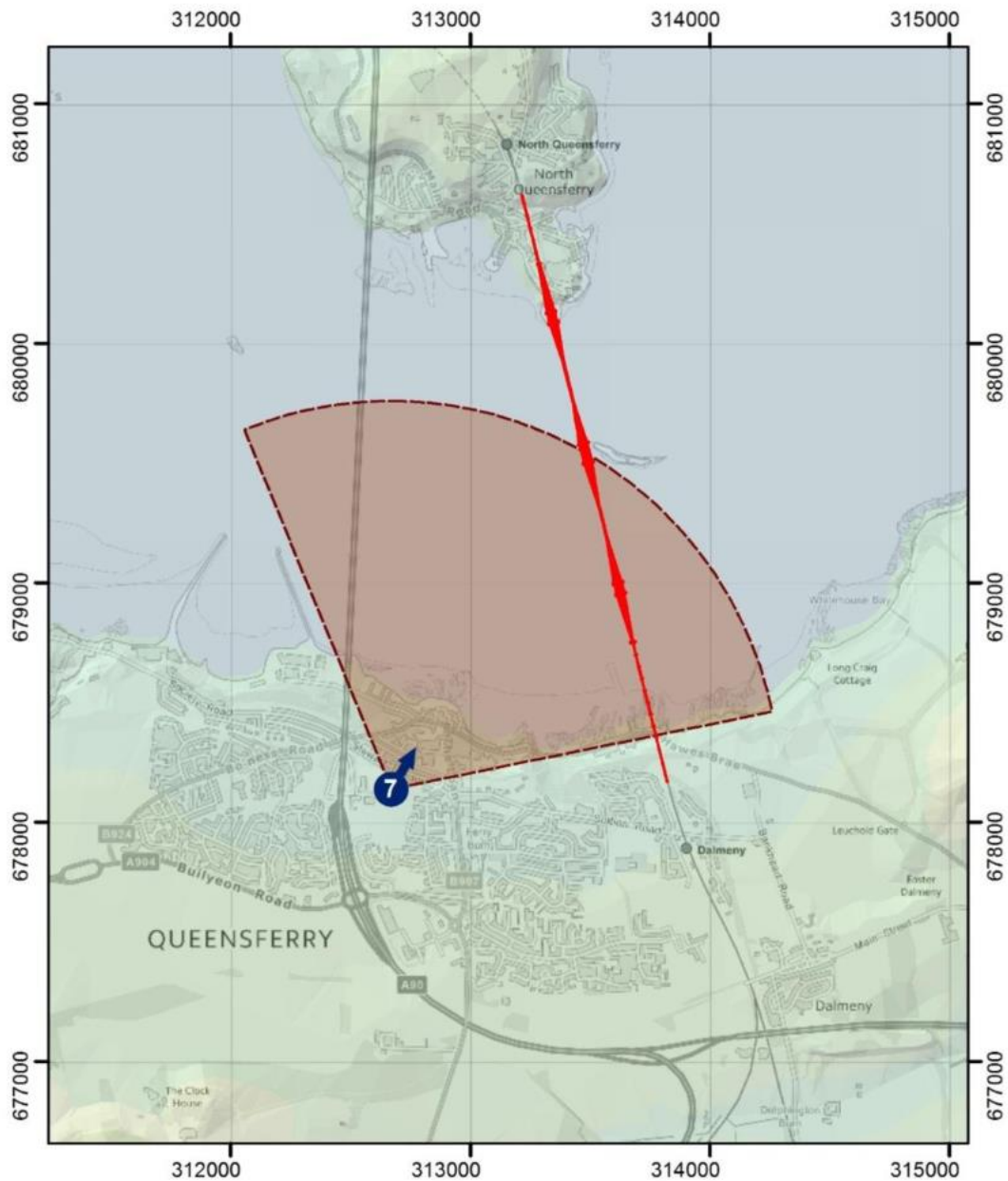


From Bankhead Farm Steading, Dalmeny, west of which was the Forth Bridge construction yard (1883-1890), since reverted to farmland. The Shore is out of sight due to the curvature of the hill and to trees. Public roads with footpaths connect Dalmeny station to Bankhead Road and the B984, bounded by a Dalmeny Estate wall (from which this photo is taken). There also is a footpath in the old railway cutting to the former Queensferry and Port Edgar, but trees conceal views to the Forth Bridge from it except when underneath the bridge. The north pylons of the Road Bridges are masked by the bulk of the Queensferry cantilever of the Forth Bridge. (photograph 2015)



August 2025, Karen Stewart, Fife Council

Viewpoint 7: Forth Bridges Contact & Education Centre, Queensferry



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Title:
Forth Bridge View 7

Scale:
1:30,000@ A5

Projection:
British National Grid

Key



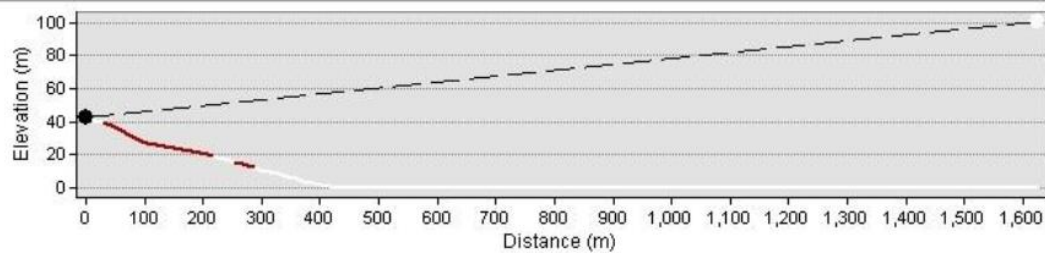
Viewpoint



Forth Bridge



View cone

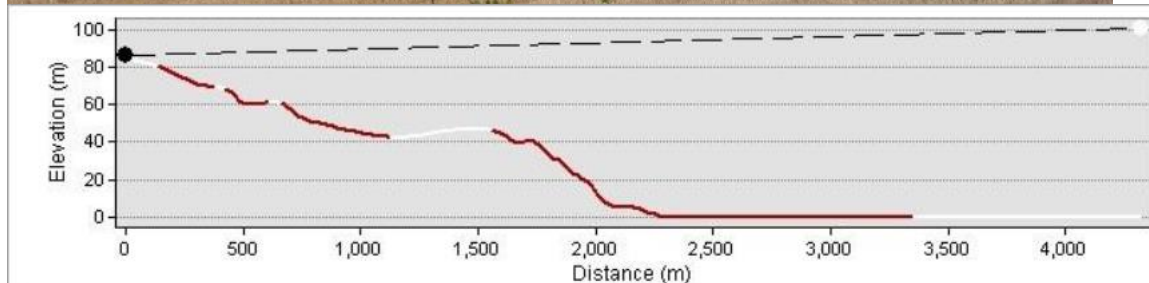
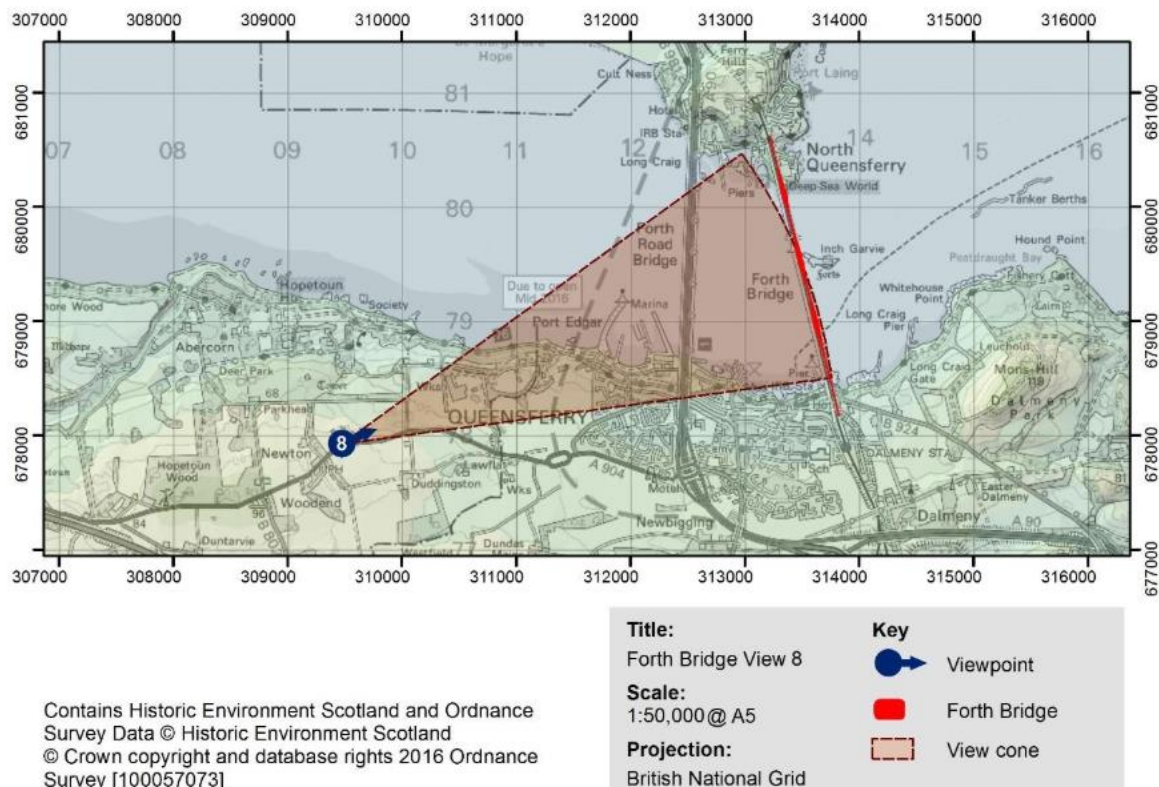


A viewing platform created in 1964 that contains monuments to the Forth Road Bridge, and some interpretation of other bridges that is exploited by coach tours and also by the Contact and Education Centre for the new Queensferry Crossing. Older areas of Queensferry, shown in red, are in the lee of the viewer, but there is a clear view (the white line) of the Forth bridge and the sea underneath, in front and beyond the bridge. The road bridges are not within that view, until viewers pan around 90 degrees to see them to the left. Trees had been getting high but have been trimmed back to benefit bridge views. (photograph 2015)



New development in progress. Tree cutting due Autumn 2025.
Karen Stewart, Fife Council, August 2025

Viewpoint 8: Newton, West Lothian Council



Newton lay-by, just inside West Lothian, provides interpretation and benches on a slight bend of the A904 single-carriageway trunk road, Queensferry to Bo'ness. A railway office building is in the mid distance, below the sight line to the Forth Bridge. Here the decks of



the Road and Railway bridges are in line with the Fife shore, and the Queensferry cantilever of the Forth Bridge is seen in full elevation, the other two cantilever towers being angled away slightly. The three pylons of the new Queensferry crossing are all to the left of the cantilevers of the Forth Bridge and its deck is lower, the approach ramp being behind trees. Cable stays in front of the Fife cantilever of the Forth Bridge are more or less prominent according to light conditions. (photograph 2016)



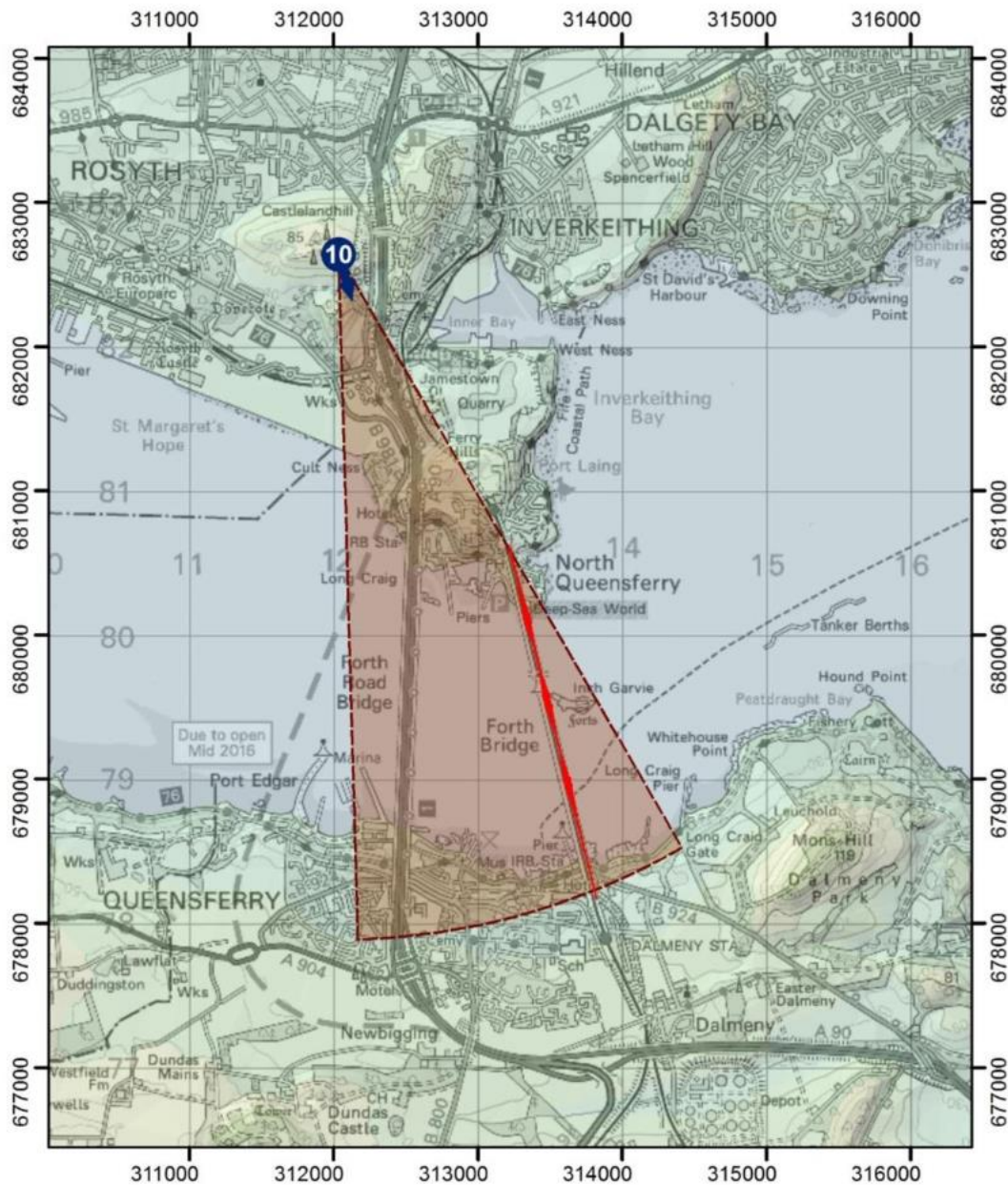
September 2024, Karen Stewart, Fife Council

A landmark in the House of the Binns designed landscape that signposts the estate from land and sea. The Forth Bridge is in full elevation over treetops, silhouetted against sea, sky, islands and distant East Lothian. The Queensferry Crossing introduces its south pylon just left of the centre of the Forth Bridge, and its mid pylon lines up with the north pylon of the Forth Road Bridge, so limiting its intrusion. The north pylon of the Queensferry Crossing is off to the left, not in view. Road and railway bridge decks are aligned at their highest points with the north span of the Forth Bridge. The Southern approach ramp is lower but behind trees. Much of the land is fields or trees within the estates of the Binns, managed by the National Trust for Scotland, Midhope and the Hopetoun Trust. The foreshore is behind trees. (photograph 2016 from the platform at the base of the tower).



September 2024, Karen Stewart, Fife Council

Viewpoint 10: Castland Hill, Fife






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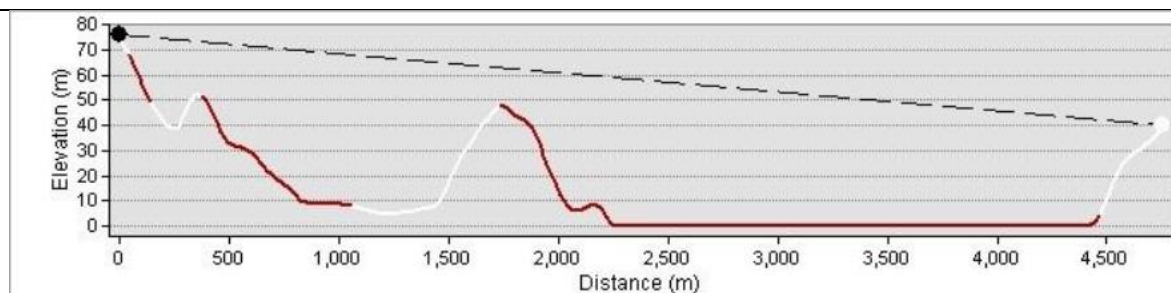
Title:
Forth Bridge View10

Scale:
1:50,000@ A5

Projection:
British National Grid

Key

-  Viewpoint
-  Forth Bridge
-  View cone



Castland Hill has on it a former Naval signal station and Admiralty Cottages thanks to its location near Rosyth, with views over the Forth and towards the bridges. The northern slopes of Ferryhills obscure the sea and all but two houses in North Queensferry. The backdrop to the Forth Bridge is the wooded Mons Hill and the Pentlands (snow-covered in March 2013). A disused whinstone quarry is on the lower hillside to the left. Trains cross a viaduct from Inverkeithing, recently painted Forth Bridge red, and then a cutting and tunnel before crossing the Forth Bridge. The M90 motorway to the road bridges is here obscured by trees on a foothill and is well below sightlines to the Forth Bridge. (photograph 2013).



Karen Stewart, Fife Council, September 2025

APPENDIX E - SUMMARY OF SELECTED COMPLETED ACTIONS FROM THE 2015 MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Action Plan which accompanied the 2015 Management Plan contained 46 actions. These were grouped into 6 categories which have been preserved: Protection (PRO), Conservation (CON), Presentation (PRES), Community Benefit (COM), Transmission to Future Generations (TRA) and Management (MAN). Some new actions were added after the original Management Plan was finalised (NEW).

Some of these action points are continued through the 2025 Plan, e.g. Partnership Management Agreement.

Case studies illustrating the delivery and status of some of the actions follow.

- 1 Tourism Strategy
- 2 The Forth Bridges Trail
- 3 The Forth Bridges Website
- 4 Public Events
- 5 The Forth Bridges Education Programme
- 6 Commemorative Plaques
- 7 The Forth Bridge Writer-in-Residence



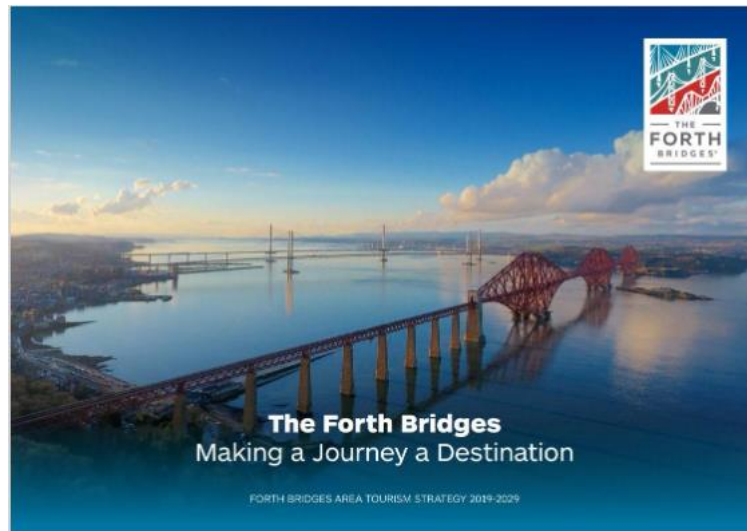
Appendix E.1: Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy

Action Plan 2015 Actions references, New Actions (NEW) and Presentation (PRES):

NEW-4: Develop a tourism plan.

PRES-11: Develop a World Heritage package involving Scotland's World Heritage Sites, and where possible, linking with international World Heritage sites and cultural routes like ERIH.

Status: Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy 2019-2029 launched and ongoing



E.1.1 The Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy

The Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy 2019-2029 was launched in April 2019 by the Forth Bridges Forum partners.

It is managed by the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Group which was established in September 2019 to oversee the delivery of the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy 2019-2029.

Membership of the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Group comprises senior officer representatives from Fife Council, City of Edinburgh Council, Transport Scotland, VisitScotland, Historic Environment Scotland, Network Rail and West Lothian Council. A project manager was appointed in February 2021 to coordinate activities in the Delivery Plan.

E.1.2 Delivery Plan Status

The Strategy and Delivery Plan were reviewed by the Tourism Group partners at the Strategy's mid-point in 2024.



The Vision that: ‘Forth Bridges area being recognised as a sustainable, high quality visitor destination, offering great customer service underpinned by an emotionally valued global brand’ was retained for the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy Delivery Plan 2025–2029.

The three strategic goals remain the same: Creating a Visitor Destination, Offering a Warm Welcome for all and Marketing the Destination.

Many of the actions of the Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy Delivery Plan 2019-2024 have been realised. The Delivery Plan 2025-2029 aims to sustain the digital visitor information and tourism business engagement, incorporate any opportunities from the regional visitor economy priorities.

The new Delivery Plan will also continue to support the development of Network Rail’s Forth Bridge Experience. The planned Experience activity involves walking from the south end of the Bridge along the suspended walkway to climb to the top of the south cantilever. Network Rail continues to work on the business plan for this activity walk.

The Forth Bridges Area is also contributing to Edinburgh & Southeast Scotland’s Regional Visitor Partnership projects and will seek to benefit from the outputs of these larger initiatives.

E.1.3 Examples of the Tourism Delivery Plan 2019 – 2024

The Forth Bridges social media channels reached over 5m people in Financial Year 2024/25, with a strong focus on tourism and visitor information content. Facebook and X (Twitter) are the main sources of engagement, with other channels Instagram, Threads, You Tube and, more recently, TikTok, also contributing.

The Forth Bridges website was relaunched in October 2022 with significant new content dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience around the bridges.

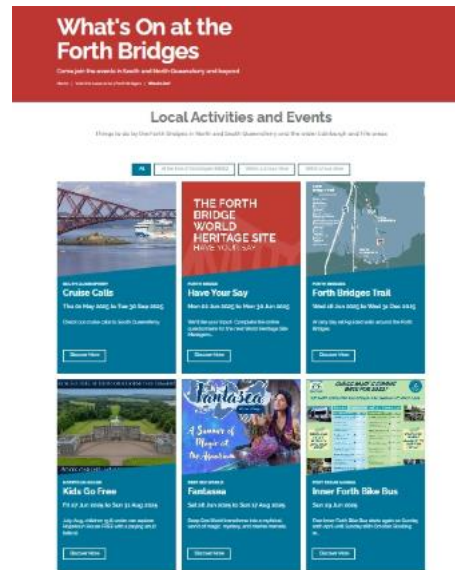
A key new visitor experience was created, The Forth Bridges Trail. This sustainable activity integrates Forth Bridge and Forth Road Bridge usage, as well as driving footfall to tourism, retail and hospitality businesses in the area. New visitor signage for the Trail is covered below in Appendix E.2.

The website, www.theforthbridges.org, is hosted by Transport Scotland and is regularly updated with News and Blogs and a What’s On section covering events and activities around the Bridges.





Example of social media post



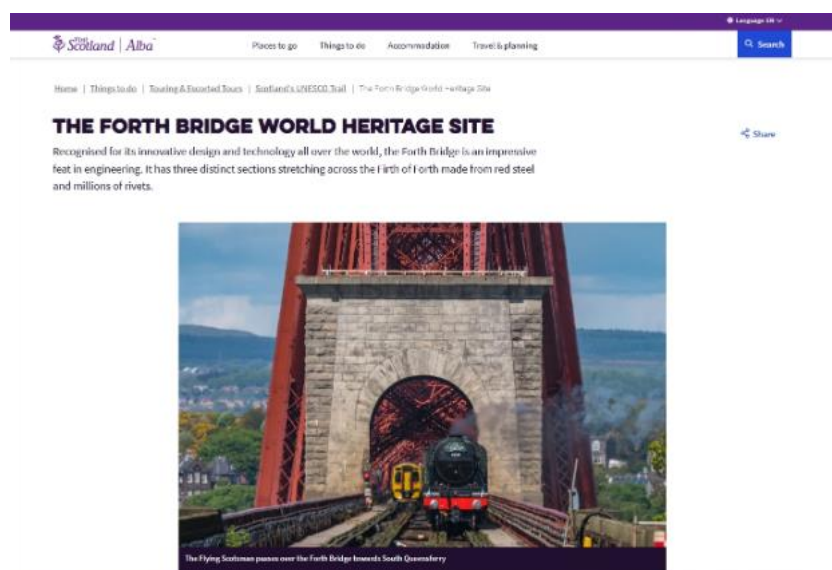
Example of tourism website page

E.1.4 National Initiatives Examples

E.1.4.1 UNESCO Trail

VisitScotland coordinated the launch of the World's first digital Trail across one country's World Heritage place-based designations. The award-winning UNESCO Trail features all 16 Scottish designations including the Forth Bridge.

Designed specifically to support ambitions to make Scotland a world-leading responsible tourism destination, Scotland's UNESCO Trail encourages visitors to stay longer, visit all year round, make sustainable travel choices, explore more widely and at the right time of the year, and in turn, contribute to the sustainable quality of life of those communities surrounding the designated sites.



VisitScotland published an [evaluation](#) of the UNESCO Trail in July 2025.

E.1.4.2 UNESCO UK WHS illustrated map

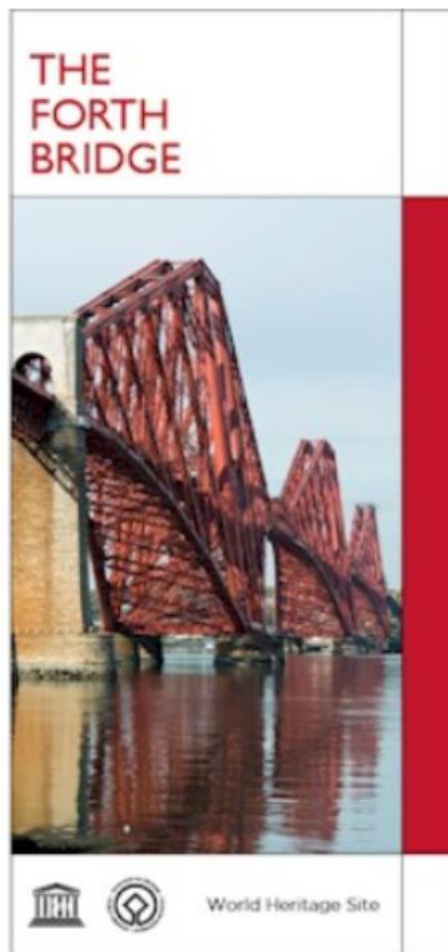
The UNESCO UK National Commission launched a new map in July 2023 covering all 58 UNESCO Sites in the UK. The aim was to raise awareness and encourage more people to discover the UK's extraordinary culture, nature and heritage.



Copyright UNESCO UK National Commission

E.1.4.3 Historic Environment Scotland Leaflet

Historic Environment Scotland produced a leaflet for all Scottish World Heritage Sites, and this is available online and at HES events.



[The Forth Bridge World Heritage Site Leaflet | Hist Env Scotland](#)

Appendix E.2: Forth Bridges Trail

Action Plan 2015 Actions references, Presentation (PRES):

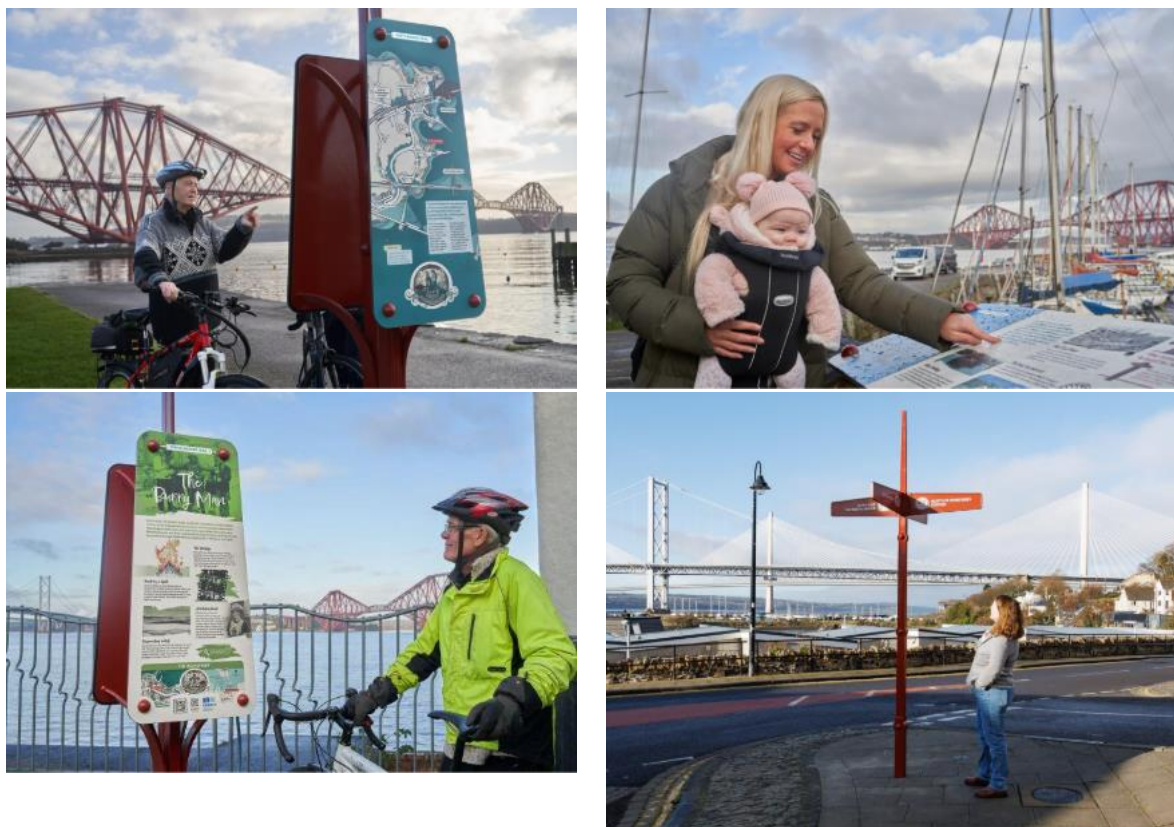
PRES-3: Develop a consistent site-wide signage and interpretation strategy.

PRES-7: Create interpretation panels for deployment at key viewpoints around the property.

Status: Complete (2022-2025), with ongoing promotion.

The Forth Bridges Tourism Group prioritised the provision of visitor signage as one of the key actions from the Tourism Strategy Delivery. With the support of the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Funding, partners invested funds to provide visitor interpretation and directional signage to support a new route, called The Forth Bridges Trail. The Trail invites visitors to take a train journey over the Forth Bridge, explore the local communities of North and South Queensferry, return via a walk or cycle across the Forth Road Bridge and stay longer in the area to enjoy a boat trip and other visits to local businesses.

The Trail supports sustainable tourist and travel, as well as local businesses.



Photography 1-3, Stephen Sweeney; 4 Andrew Beveridge, Fife Council

Appendix E.3: The Forth Bridges Website

Action Plan 2015 Actions references, Management (MAN) and Presentation (PRES):



MAN-5: The Steering Group to continue to manage the dedicated website at www.forthbridgeworldheritage.com.

PRES-6: Develop mobile interpretation using guidebooks and digital media.

Status: Complete, with hosting and content updates ongoing.

Under direction from the Forth Bridges Forum, Transport Scotland developed a new website to promote the Queensferry Crossing, Forth Road Bridge and Forth Bridge under a single banner, www.theforthbridges.org. Each bridge has its own section covering history, construction, facts and figures. The Forth Bridge information includes the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The other key components on the website cover the education programme and extensive content developed to support the visitor experience at the bridges and local area, a What's On guide and news and blog.



Appendix E.4: Public Events

Action Plan 2015 Actions references: Presentation (PRES) and Transmission to Future Generations (TRA):




PRES-10: Co-ordinate presentation of the property with promotional activities and events supporting the Forth Road Bridge and the Queensferry Crossing.





TRA-1: Bring together community groups around the property (on both sides of the Forth) and develop an integrated programme of activities and events.

Over the life of the previous Management Plan which was published in 2013, public events can be grouped into the following categories: bridge anniversaries, Doors Open Days and charity event access.

E.4.1 Bridge Anniversaries and Occasions

The Forth Bridges Forum partners have organised events celebrating the following occasions:

Forth Road Bridge 50 th 4 th September 2014	Photo: BEAR Scotland 	Significant Public 10-day Event Queen and Prince Philip visit – new plaque, Forth Bridges Festival; ceilidh and torchlight procession with 5,000 participants, flotilla, artist in residence, love locks, major fireworks display on FRB, 2,014 tower top trips.
Forth Bridge 125 th 4 th March 2015		Over 500 Bridge visits and £160,000 raised for charity; flypast of two iconic aircraft, a Spitfire and a RAF Typhoon; Queensferry Museum exhibition; Fireworks; Commemorative banknotes.
Forth Bridges Festival 25/26 July 2015		Details of this Festival are to follow.
Queensferry Crossing Opening 4 th September 2017		Significant Public Event Queen & Prince Philip open – plaque, bronze sculpture, 'Queensferry Crossing Experience' event with 50,000 members of the public walking over the QC

Forth Bridge 130 th 4th March 2020		Activity included a visit from some of the Arrol family, evening presentation, children's event, birthday cards and other events just prior to lockdown.
Forth Road Bridge 60 th 4th September 2024		Public exhibition and in person/online civil engineering lecture (attendance figures to follow); family event with vintage bus bridge crossings; education activities; 60 tower top trip competition.
Forth Bridge 135 th 4th March 2025		Public exhibition and in person/online engineering lecture; education activities 249 people attended the public exhibition and 67 attended the lecture (25 in person/42 online) Total 316 people.
Forth Bridge world Heritage Site 10 th anniversary 5 th July 2025		Public exhibition and in person/online industrial world heritage lecture; education activities. Lecture 148 (49 in person/99 online) Exhibition Visitors 219 over all days Total 367 people

E.4.2 Forth Road Bridge

Annual BEAR Scotland Doors Open Day

Transport Scotland's operating company, BEAR Scotland, has held annual events since 2022 supporting their charity of the year to allow public exclusive access and tours of the Forth Road Bridge on the Edinburgh Doors Open Day in September.

Since 2022, 1000 members of the public have enjoyed guided tours over the Forth Road Bridge and a trip to see the anchorage, normally hidden from public view.

These 'Doors Open Days' build on similar events organised by the Forth Estuary Transport Authority between 2009 and 2015 and the previous operating company Amey between 2015 and 2020.

During the Doors Open Days, the Contact and Education Centre is open with educational activities for children, an exhibition, competitions, and other stalls/tables for the public to



see. In 2025, everyone who attends on the day can enter a raffle with a prize of a trip for two one of the Queensferry Crossing towers.

Each year the event is hugely oversubscribed showing what an interest the public have in the Forth Bridges. Feedback on the Doors Open Days is always very positive.

Over £6,000 has been raised in three years for the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SSPCA), Alzheimer Scotland and Macmillan Cancer Support (the charity of the year for each of the years undertaken).



Forth Road Bridge Supernova

In 2024 GSi Events delivered the inaugural Forth Road Bridge Supernova 5K running event that takes place at night and is illuminated by lights and entertainment. Over £250k was raised for various charities. The 2025 event is planned for 1 November 2025.

E.4.3 Queensferry Crossing

Debut Doors Open Day at Queensferry Crossing

In September 2025 BEAR opened the doors to the Queensferry Crossing box girder deck for the first time for 180 people, with over 28,000 applications into the ballot for places. Guided tours took them into the abutment, through the north approach viaduct into the interior of the deck and then up onto the central reserve. This event was hugely oversubscribed, and it raised over £2000 for BEAR Scotland's national charity partner of the year 2025, Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland.



E.4.4 Forth Bridge Charity Events

The Forth Bridge is not open to the public as it is an operational railway. Network Rail and its maintenance contractor have supported two key charity events to allow access to the maintenance platform at the top of the Fife cantilever, and from the south under-track walkway for abseiling.

Barnardo's Your View, now in its seventh year in 2025 (after taking a break due to the Covid-19 pandemic), utilises the bridge hoist to take small groups to the top of the Fife cantilever. This memorable experience has afforded members of the public a unique experience to explore and enjoy the iconic structure whilst raising money for a charitable cause. Between 2017-2024, over 6,300 visitors have raised over £375,000 for the charity, raising much needed funds to help support children, young people and their families throughout Scotland. The event in September 2025 attracted over 900 participants, raising £70,000 for Barnardo's in Scotland.

Whilst many of the visitors are from the surrounding local authority areas, the event attracts an international audience, with visitors from across Europe, USA, Canada and Australia to name but a few.





The Forth Bridge charity abseil, managed by Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland (CHSS) was first launched in 2003. The abseil takes place on the southern under-track approach span, descending to the beach below in South Queensferry.

Since the event launch in 2003, it has raised over £3m - 142 charities have taken part in the abseil and benefitted from the event.





Photography Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland

Appendix E.5: The Forth Bridges Education Programme

Action Plan 2015 Actions references, Transmission to Future Generations (TRA):

TRA-2 Widen existing educational activity relating to the property in support of local schools and colleges.

TRA-3 Develop education modules for inclusion within Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence, and within SCRAN (Scottish Cultural Resources Access Network).

Status: Launched in 2013 and continues today

In addition to the above points in the Action Plan, the Management Vision for the Forth Bridge includes the objective: To develop opportunities for education and learning, especially in the context of the adjacent road bridges

The following is a summary of key educational activities.

E.5.1 School Education Programme

E.5.1.1 School Education Programme Background

The School Education Programme was established by Transport Scotland in 2013 as part of the Social Value for the build contract of the Forth Replacement Crossing, later named the Queensferry Crossing after a public vote.

The Programme is open to all schools across Scotland and comprises a mix of in-person school visits to the Contact and Education Centre adjacent to the Forth Road Bridge, online classes (since 2020) and other online resources.

The Programme was put on hold during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, and after a soft launch, it was fully relaunched in May 2023 by the then Transport Minister and is run by BEAR Scotland on behalf of Transport Scotland.

The Contact and Education Centre is a purpose-built facility which served as a focal point for community engagement and education during the construction of the Queensferry Crossing. The centre provides an excellent learning environment with detailed bridge models, audio-visual resources, interactive learning challenges and spectacular panoramic views of the Forth Bridges and Forth Estuary.





School pupils engaging with engineering education briefing at Forth Bridge 135th anniversary event



School pupils replicating the famous cantilever proof of principle photography at the Forth Bridge 135th event.

Photography: John Andrew, Transport Scotland

The centre is now open for pre-booked school groups and offers a wide range of free, fun and engaging Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) activities for primary and secondary school pupils, from Primary 3 (age 7/8) to Secondary 6 (age 17/18). Schools need to arrange and pay for their own transport to the centre. Use of public transport is encouraged, with good access to regular bus services across the Forth Road Bridge and local buses from Edinburgh, and a 20-minute walk to the nearest train station.

The main objective for the Programme is to increase awareness of all aspects of the role of an engineer. As well as focussing on engineering and bridges, topics include Climate change/Net zero / Carbon Capture, Road Safety, Flooding and management of water, new technology and future of transport.

E.5.1.2 School Education Programme Demand

The schools programme moved online during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020. From June 2023 the programme has been delivered 4-days a week in person, and 1-day a week online. This has extended the reach to encourage participation by schools located further away and for those who do not have funding for transport.

The demand from schools for the Programme is high and in-person visits are oversubscribed. As such, a waiting list is in operation.



Selection of images from Schools Education Programme – used with permission from schools attending.

Since it began in 2014, the programme has reached over 125,000 learners in Scotland. There has been at least one school visit from every Scottish Local Authority Area.

In 2024/25 academic year, over 10,000 learners engaged with the Programme across 257 schools across Scotland. 54% of the learners attended an in-person visit to The Forth Bridges and 46% participated in the online programme. Teacher and learner feedback is extremely positive with all teachers rating the programme as fantastic or exceptional.

[Forth Bridge Education Centre](#)

E.5.1.3 School Education Programme Operation

There is one engineer running the programme covering advertising, booking, content development, delivery and follow-up. The engineer is employed on a contract basis through Transport Scotland's road-bridge operating company, BEAR Scotland.

The Contact and Education Centre is a Transport Scotland owned and operated facility. It is only open to school visits and specific public events.

E.5.2 Further Education



Further education groups have also had visits to the Contact and Education Centre. The road and rail operating companies also organise engineering visits to the bridges, separate to the school programme.

Transport Scotland's trunk road operating company in the Southeast of Scotland actively hosts many visits from further education institutions. Through its strong links with organisations including ICE, CECA and Universities across Scotland, it welcomes many visits.

In 2024/2025 there were five University visits from Heriot Watt, Edinburgh, Strathclyde and Napier universities. A cohort of the CECA Scotland Academy has also visited the Forth Road Bridge.

Additionally, BEAR takes on summer placements from universities and has a graduate training programme. Team members are also involved in mentoring programmes with undergraduate civil engineers.

Details of other further education engagement activities to follow.

E.5.3 Institution of Civil Engineering (ICE)

The Institution of Civil Engineering maintains a small Museum at Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh.

The ICE Scotland Museum is located at the Riccarton Campus of Heriot-Watt University, to the West of Edinburgh, and appropriately within the William Arrol Building, celebrating one of the icons of Scottish Civil Engineering. One of the original members of the museum committee is Professor Roland Paxton, a renowned and celebrated authority and author on civil engineering heritage. Professor Paxton is now Curator Emeritus having previously been Chairman of the museum committee and previous Chairman of the now disbanded Forth Bridges Visitor Centre Trust.





Hydraulic Riveting Machine – William Arrol
circa 1888

Key to the collection are a number of significant items previously held by the Forth Bridges Visitor Centre Trust and now on display at Heriot Watt. The Museum also has a number of significant exhibits on loan from other collections. Two items of particular note are an original hydraulic riveting machine designed by William Arrol and used on the construction of the Forth Bridge and an original pin assembly from the Forth Bridge. Both items are on a renewable loan under a formal agreement from the National Railway Museum in York. The collection also includes dedicated displays on the Forth Bridge that include a quarter scale model of a skewback and also an original illustrated engraving showing the key participants involved in the promotion, financing, design and construction of the Forth Bridge.



Forth Bridge Model Skewback - circa 1990



Forth Bridge Original Pin Assembly – Circa 1890



Forth Bridge Engraved Portrait - circa 1890

At special events, the Forth Bridges Forum partners have worked with the Institution of Civil Engineers to deliver free presentations e.g. the Forth Bridge 135th anniversary in March 2025 and the Forth Road Bridge 60th anniversary in September 2024.

E.5.3 Other Community Education

Local community groups are very active in supporting events with displays and talks using archive material e.g. North Queensferry Heritage Trust and the Queensferry Heritage Trust. The “Briggers” group also has a local school visit programme about the history and construction of the Forth Bridge.



Volunteers from local heritage group, The Briggers, demonstrating riveting at The Forth Bridge 135th anniversary event.

Photography: John Andrew, Transport Scotland

E.5.4 3D Model



3D laser scanning of the Forth Bridge was completed in 2016, providing a baseline record and also the basis of virtual access as well as educational and interpretation digital resources.

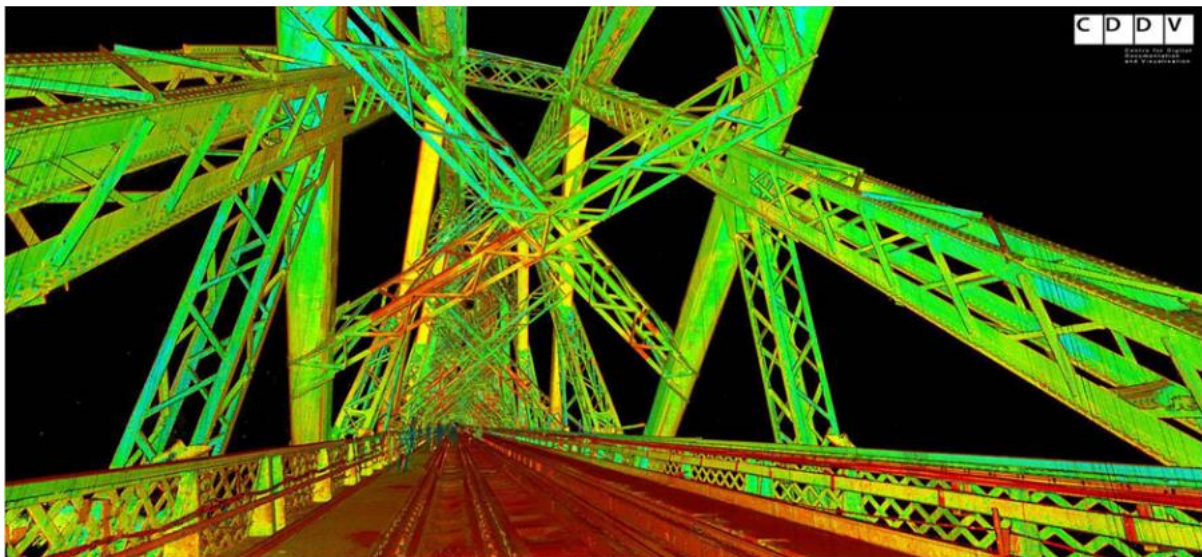
The 3D model of the Forth Bridge was created to be included in the Scottish schools social studies curriculum by the Centre for Digital Documentation and Visualisation LLP (a partnership between Historic Environment Scotland and The Glasgow School of Art), with the assistance of a digital learning consultant.

It forms part of a package of educational resources created by Scottish digital heritage experts, also including design and coding resources, a location-based app, real-time interactive models for virtual headset tours and video flythroughs all aimed at developing STEM skills among pupils in Scottish schools.

It uses data gathered by the Forth Bridges laser scanning project, one of the most challenging and complex 3D digital documentation projects undertaken anywhere in the world. This involved detailed laser scanning from a number of locations all over this iconic structure to provide the mapping required to digitally model the detailed features of the Forth Bridge.

The resulting digitised model enables the construction of the Forth Bridge come to life as part of a unique downloadable game-based learning activities.

The model is now also being used by the Network Rail Engineering and Asset Management Team to assess the condition of the structure and to inform future maintenance requirements.



Visual of part of the 3D scan of the Forth Bridge

Appendix E.6: Commemorative Plaques

Action Plan 2015 Actions reference, New Actions (NEW):

NEW 4: Erect World Heritage commemorative plaques on both banks of the Forth

Status: Complete

To date, 3 commemorative plaques have been placed at key viewpoints, and additional tourism signage for the Forth Bridges Trail was installed close by. There is a possibility of installing further plaques as locations are agreed with local community stakeholders.

North Queensferry – Albert Hotel bus stop



Photography: (L) Karen Stewart, Fife Council; (R) Stephen Sweeney

South Queensferry – Forth Bridges Viewpoint and High Street Steps





Photography: Top left: Garry Irvine & Karen Stewart, Fife Council, All others Stephen Sweeney

Appendix E.7: Forth Bridge Writer in Residence

Action Plan 2015 Actions references, Transmission to Future Generations (TRA):

TRA-2 Widen existing educational activity relating to the property in support of local schools and colleges.

Status: Complete/Ongoing

The Forth Bridge World Heritage and Tourism teams worked with the Forth Bridge's first writer-in-residence, Barbara Henderson. A children's author specialising in historical fiction, Barbara started the position at the Barnardo's Your View event in September 2022 and concluded her residency at the 2023 event. The Your View event is where participants enjoy the amazing views from the top of the Forth Bridge in North Queensferry; while donating to the charity Barnardo's.

The year-long residency resulted in two books, twelve months of blog posts, many articles and several thousand miles as Barbara travelled to share the Forth Bridge story with children and adults at almost thirty live events in schools, libraries, book shops and even the Edinburgh International Book Festival.

The idea of a Forth Bridge Writer-in-Residence developed during the author's research for her children's book, *Rivet Boy*. Frank Hay, a local historian, helped with her research and commented: "When Barbara contacted us, The Briggers, requesting help writing a children's book about the Forth Bridge, we were so pleased as this is not an easy task. The author must invest so much time and energy learning about this unique Victorian industrial environment - but we were happy to help. Barbara is a whirlwind of activity and an obvious candidate for our first-ever Forth Bridge Writer in Residence."

Since publication, *Rivet Boy* has been reprinted in the UK and secured an Australian publisher.

Barbara collaborated on a second book, *Made From Girders*, with local photographer, Alan McCredie. This non-fiction book featured 26 different members of the wider Forth Bridge Community with portraits and insights into the individuals' connections to the Forth Bridge.





Cranachan Publishing



Luath Press Limited

Photography Barbara Henderson

Other local groups, such as The Briggers, also make school visits to explain the historical significance of the Forth Bridge.

APPENDIX F - SUMMARY OF PRE-DRAFT ENGAGEMENT

Overview

An online engagement exercise was undertaken 2nd-30th June 2025 using Citizen Space hosted by Fife Council on behalf of the Forum partners. Stakeholders were informed of the engagement by direct email, a press release and through social media. Posters were made available for local community noticeboards with a QR code to link to the engagement.

There were many social media posts through the Forth Bridges, partners and stakeholders' channels during June 2025.

There were 139 responses to the online survey. A summary of the responses and key themes is below.

The Citizen Space software produced a summary report showing the number of responses and graphs against each quantifiable question. All the responses were downloaded to read the open text comments.

Initially, Copilot was used to summarise the themes and points to maintain neutrality. As some of the nuance was lost or incorrectly attributed, all responses were read by the project manager and collated to ensure nothing was omitted.

1. Introduction to the online engagement as found on Fife Council [Citizen Space](#)

We are looking for your input into the next Forth Bridge Management plan. This opportunity is for everyone who has an interest in the bridge. You do NOT need to live in Fife to take part.

The Forth Bridge achieved UNESCO World Heritage Site status in 2015 by satisfying the following two criteria regarding its Outstanding Universal Value:

Criterion (i): The Forth Bridge is a masterpiece of creative genius because of its distinctive industrial aesthetic, which is the result of a forthright, unadorned display of its massive, functional structural elements.

Criterion (iv): The Forth Bridge is an extraordinary and impressive milestone in the evolution of bridge design and construction during the period when railways came to dominate long-distance land travel, innovative in its concept, its use of mild steel, and its enormous scale.

UNESCO World Heritage Sites maintain a Management Plan. The Management Plan for the Forth Bridge is now 10 years old and is being reviewed and updated. This questionnaire will help direct the contents and priorities for the updated future Management Plan.



If you would like to read the full Management Plan from 2015, please use this link.
[forth-bridge-world-heritage-nomination-management-plan.pdf](#)

The purpose of the Management Plan is to support the future management needs of the Forth Bridge, to coordinate the interests of associated organisations, groups and individuals, and to maximise the benefits and minimise any negative impacts from World Heritage Site status. This questionnaire explores themes and activities identified in the original management plan.

The 2015 Management Plan had 5 elements for a Management Vision for the Forth Bridge World Heritage Site:

To manage the Forth Bridge in a sustainable manner which conserves, enhances and promotes its Outstanding Universal Value both within and around the Site itself, but also at a national and international scale.

To carefully balance the requirements of protection and conservation against the need for access to the Forth Bridge, and the interests of the local communities in encouraging sustainable economic growth.

To engage with and deliver benefits to the local communities around the Forth Bridge whilst also minimising any negative effects that might follow inscription.

To develop opportunities for education and learning, especially in the context of the adjacent road bridges.

To generate income and employment that adds value to the local economy and can contribute to the conservation and promotion of the Forth Bridge.

The update to this plan is being managed by the Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Group. Members of this group include Historic Environment Scotland, Network Rail, Transport Scotland, VisitScotland, Fife Council, City of Edinburgh Council, West Lothian Council, Crown Estate, local Community Councils, History Groups and Heritage Trusts.

Why your views matter

This questionnaire is open to anyone between 02/06/2025 and 30/06/2025. Further consultation on the draft management plan will take place later in the year.

No personal data will be collected during the completion of this questionnaire. Any comments used as examples in the analysis as examples will be anonymous.

[Privacy Policy](#)



Fife Council is hosting this questionnaire on behalf of the partners in the Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Group. It is likely to take about 20 minutes if all questions are completed.

What happens next

Updates on the development of the new Management Plan will be available on the Forth Bridges website.

2 Questionnaire

There were 29 questions, with a mix of multiple choice and open text responses.

The initial questions asked about the area of residence, age group, proximity to the bridge, frequency and purpose of travel over the bridge, attendance at events, reason for interest in the bridge, use of walking and cycling routes.

The themes for the wider questions built on themes from the 2015 Management Plan and covered opinions on: state of conservation of the bridge, levels of safety felt in crossing the bridge and in the surrounding areas, bridge appearance, climate impact, safety and access at nearest train stations, access to the areas around the bridge, views of the bridge and development in the area, visitor interpretation materials and experience, impact of the World Heritage Site inscription, school education programme, focus for next plan.

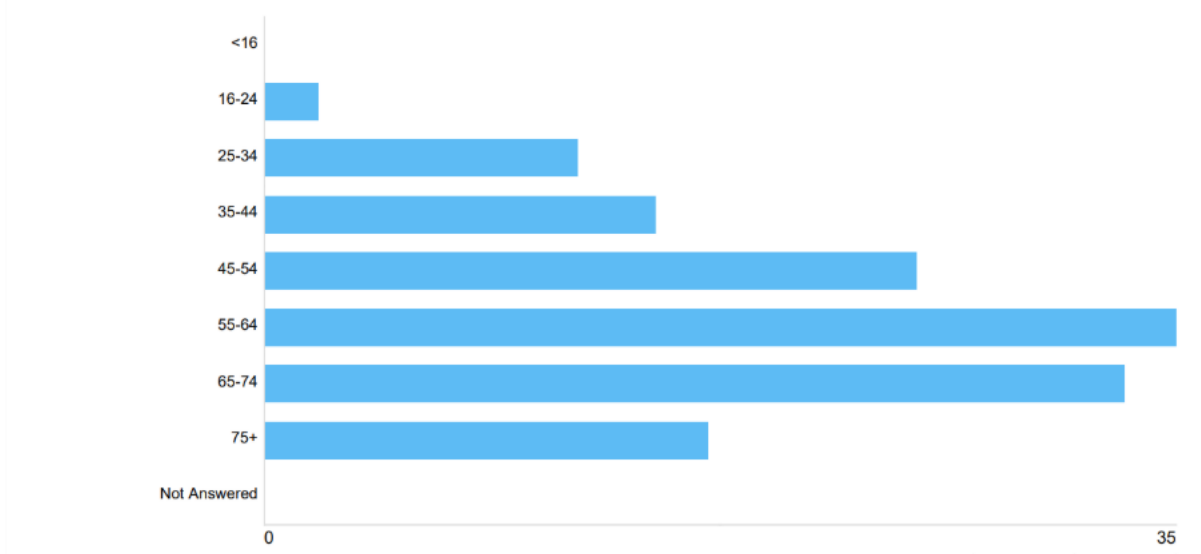
3 Profile of respondents (questions 1-7)

135/139 respondents were individuals, with 4 from groups/organisations.

There was a good spread of responses by age group, with the biggest cohort being 55-64 (25%). 21% were aged 44 or under and 36% 65+.

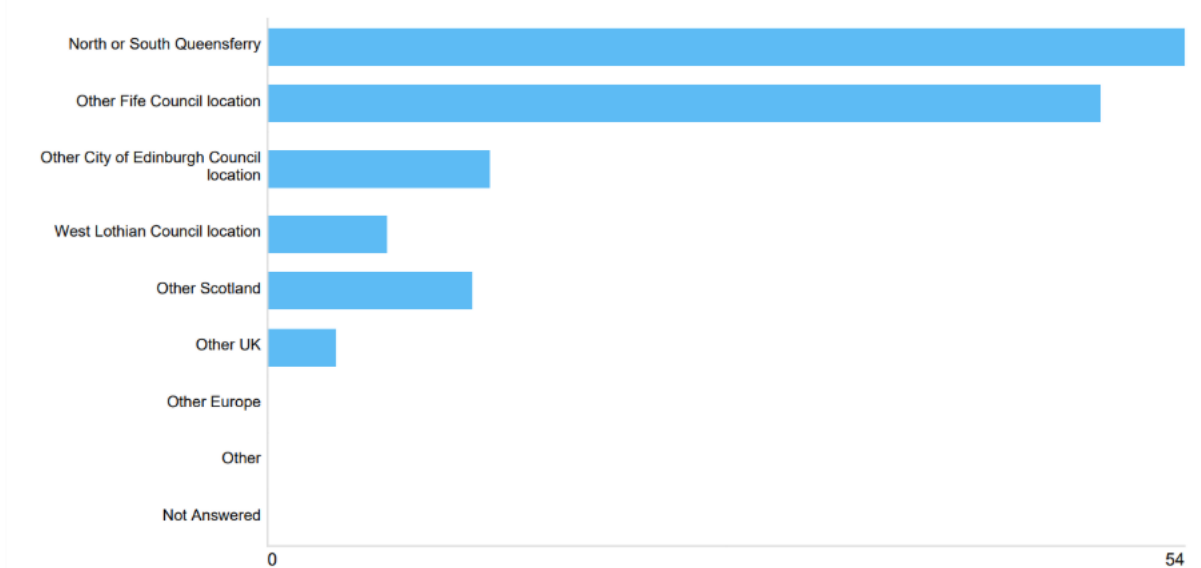


What is your age group?



39% of respondents live in North or South Queensferry.

Area of residence



83% of respondents live close enough to visit the Forth Bridge easily.

55% of respondents occasionally take the train over the Forth Bridge.

77% of respondents said the main reason for taking the train over the Forth Bridge was for leisure, with 12% stating work as the reason.

56% of respondents said they had taken part in an event at the Forth Bridge, with the top answers being 100th anniversary in 1990 (25%), 125th anniversary in 2015 and Barnardo's Your View (20%).



Summary: there was a good response in terms of numbers compared to similar World Heritage Site pre-draft engagement questionnaires (e.g. Old New Town Edinburgh 350+ in 2023).

Most respondents live very close to the Forth Bridge, taking a train across the Bridge occasionally, mainly for leisure reasons. Slightly more than half of respondents had attended a Forth Bridge event. Overall, the respondents were summarised as predominantly an engaged and local audience.

4 Interests and Activities (Questions 8-10)

69% of respondents agreed that they were interested in the Forth Bridge because of an interest or hobby. Respondents could tick multiple answers from the selection that and add their own reason. The top 5 categories were: Scottish History (64%), Engineering (53%), Industrial Heritage (41%), World Heritage Sites (39%) and Photography (39%).

In terms of walking and cycling routes, nearly 80% of respondents said they had used one of the walks or routes listed. The most common answer was the Fife Coastal Path (70%), followed by the Forth Bridges Trail (34%), John Muir Way (26%) and Fife Pilgrim Way (24%). From the “other” category, walks around the local estates and canal tow path were also mentioned.

For those wanting to find out more about the Forth Bridge, 90% said that they would use the internet, 44% a book, 35% a museum and 29% social media. Respondents acknowledged multiple sources of information including the Briggers, North Queensferry Heritage Trust and Queensferry History Group, the Forth Bridges website, the Briggers book, and suggestions for more school education activities and more access to the Contact & Education Centre (CEC) and longer opening hours for the Queensferry Museum. Adding pictures with QR codes to the graphics around the car park at the CEC was also put forward as an idea.

Summary: The answers to these questions will help direct the website and social media content on the Forth Bridges channels, as well as being considered for future applications, such as events and activities. It was noted that the Forth Bridges Trail had been so widely used given its launch was only 2.5 years ago.

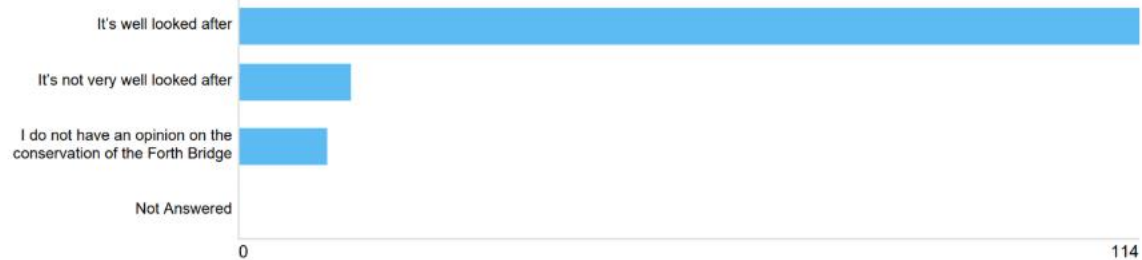
5 OUV related questions (11 - 16, 19 – 21)

(11) Considering the state of conservation of the bridge as a piece of transport infrastructure, 82% of respondents said that they felt the bridge was well looked after, 10% not very well looked after and 11% no opinion.



Question 11: The Forth Bridge is maintained as part of Scotland's transport infrastructure. Which of these statements best describes your attitude to the current state of conservation of the Forth Bridge?

The Forth Bridge is maintained as part of Scotland's transport infrastructure. Which of these statements best describes your attitude to the current state of conservation of the Forth Bridge?



(12) 92% of respondents said they had no concerns or comments about their safety in crossing the bridge by train, 4% did not answer this question and 4% said they had concerns. There were 8 comments provided referencing: the state of fencing keeping people off the line in North Queensferry, a concern about erosion of the foundations, two comments regarding wind protection and one about potential shipping collisions.

Question 12: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train?

Do yo have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



(13) 84% of respondents said they did not have any concerns or comments about safety in the surrounding area. 15% or 22 people had concerns which are summarised as: 14 people identified issues with dirty water and debris falling from the bridge and 4 people raised concerns about the connectivity of the bridge to the paths, specifically mentioning Jacob's Ladder in South Queensferry and the steps at North Queensferry Station.

Question 13: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to safety in the surrounding area to the bridge?

Do yo have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



"It's not the best with Jacob's ladder to the base being in such a bad state. Also, not nice that there's shipping containers and high fences - it's not very welcoming."

"There has been a long issue of items and debris falling from the bridge onto residents' land, roads and pedestrian areas. NR do not appear to take this fully seriously and matters have had to be pushed using Fife Council and the ORR which should not have been needed."



Wastewater is ejected from the bridge onto the local area including residential homes, cars & gardens. Again, Network Rail have had to have their hand forced to do anything about the issue."

(14) 76% of respondents had no comments or concerns with regards to the conservation of the bridge. For the 24% (33) who commented, the following themes were noted:

8 comments involved requests for the bridge to be continued to be looked after

4 comments on the architectural lighting deteriorating

3 comments expressing concern about minimal or reduced maintenance due to the economic downturn

"The downturn in the economy could put a strain on finances which could adversely impact the upkeep of the bridge."

"Living nearby I fear there are so many trains crossing the bridge that it must take its toll and so hope that this process ensures everything possible is done to maintain its amazing structure."

"The bridge itself is well maintained but areas around it are forgotten."

"Lights which were a big tourist attraction on the evening have been poorly maintained and only partially on for years now"

"It MUST be conserved not only as a national treasure but the rail link whether on the bridge or a separate structure must be maintained, or it would be devastating for many Fife and Kinross communities."

Question 14: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to conservation of the bridge?

Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



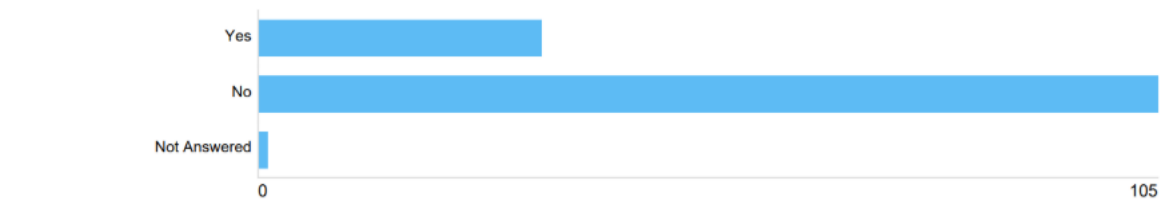
(15) 76% of respondents did not have any comments or concerns about the appearance of the bridge.

For the 33 people (24%) who commented, the key themes on appearance were lighting at night 19 comments, maintaining its original appearance 5 comments, and fading/peeling paint.



Question 15: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to appearance of the bridge?

Do yo have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



“Modern LED lighting should be installed. The type that can be used to mark world events, such as that used on the Eiffel Tower or London Bridge.”

“When it was declared a world heritage site the bridge was beautifully lit up and very impressive. Since then, it has been depressing to observe the lights gradually go out with only a few lights remaining in operation. All too often we see a major effort being made to achieve something worthwhile and then no regard being given to carrying out regular maintenance.”

“The lighting of the bridge has declined over the years.”

(16) 83% of respondents did not have any concerns or comments regarding any climate change impact on the bridge. 22 people (16%) left a comment, across a spectrum of issues: wind and frequency of extreme weather events, corrosion due to acid rain, metalwork and stone piers, rising sea levels.

Question 16: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to climate change impact on the bridge?

Do yo have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



“Purely from a heritage point of view, it would be interesting to hear reports on how climate change is impacting the bridge, and what conservation/repair work is being done to prevent this.”

“I’m concerned that the structure and appearance are protected from increasingly more adverse weather.”

“It is possible that rising sea levels and climate change generally will affect structure and safety.”

“Alleged climate change will not have any impact, or better said nothing we in UK can do to make a worthwhile impact anyway.”

(19) 75% (104) of respondents did not have any concerns or comments regarding access to the area around the Forth Bridge. There were 36 comments.



There were 4 comments on traffic congestion and 9 on lack of parking. There were 4 comments noting the appearance of the sheds in the work compounds and maintenance of the picnic area to the north. There were 2 comments requesting better viewing areas, 1 on overgrown vegetation and 1 on the condition of the Jacob's Ladder steps.

"Not much space to park cars. Maybe a park and ride minibus at Dalmeny and North Queensferry in peak tourist seasons?"

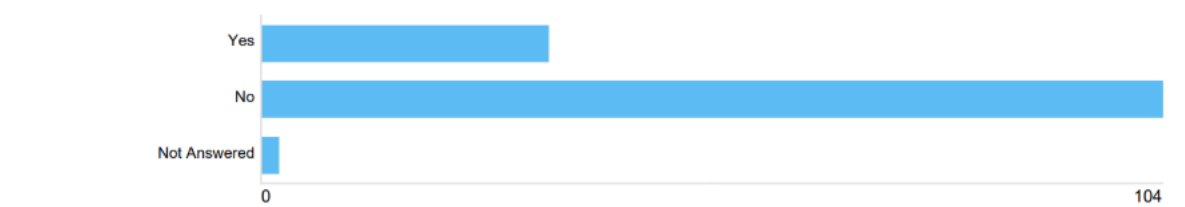
"At the North Queensferry side the area round the viaduct and the base of the bridge looks like a "shanty town" with portable accommodation units and fencing round the pillars and the base of the bridge. Things get worse when maintenance is in progress the whole area becomes impossible to access."

"Traffic levels can be an issue, especially with all the bikers, and all the visitors and buses when a cruise ship is in."

"I am concerned that shorelines with views of the Bridge which are currently accessible to all are coming under pressure to be developed which will reduce amenity and enjoyment of the Bridge both in terms of viewing it and views from it - current shorelines and sight lines must be protected"

Question 19: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to access to the area around the Forth Bridge?

Do yo have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



(20) 79% of respondents did not have any comments or concerns regarding views of the Forth Bridge. There were 30 concerns or comments in this question with multiple answers on trees on pathways and viewpoints, housing developments, lighting on the bridge and the Hound Point tanker.

"I would hope that the views of the Forth Bridge would not change and that it remains a dominant feature in the land/ seascape and that any new structure would not detract from it."

"It's a fantastic view from a wide range of viewpoints and especially Queensferry."

"Some trees on the cycle path could be chopped a bit to improve cyclists and walkers' views."

"It would be nice to have more places to photograph the bridge from. A floating pontoon?"



“Keeping the area clear of litter and accessible pathways for disabled visitors, would allow people to view the bridge at its best without compromise.”

Question 20: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to views of the Forth Bridge?

Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



(21) 67% of respondents did not have any concerns about development near the Forth Bridge, with 44 comments given. This was the question that attracted the highest number of comments in the OUV section.

The main areas covered include the desire to protect the views of the bridge from the shoreline and other viewpoints from being obscured by new housing developments (particularly in South Queensferry). The impact of increased traffic from the additional housing on key roads was mentioned e.g. by Dalmeny Station. Comments on strict planning regulations protecting the area and limiting development at height. The new toilets near Hawes Pier had two negative comments regarding design and location. There were two comments about the proposed development of the Albert Hotel in North Queensferry.

“The current expansion of South Queensferry where hundreds of houses are being built is a major worry with regard to its impact on local services and traffic.”

“Urbanisation is ruining once great vistas, the drive for ever more expensive housing with views is frankly beyond comprehension.”

“It would be great if the viewing platform went ahead and the cafe that was talked about as this would help bring visitors to the towns and surrounding areas.”

“The Albert Hotel should really be saved. It is a fantastic opportunity for guests, tourists and fans of the incredible bridge. The current owner is trying to get this into flats. The support from the Scottish Government has been disappointing. The local community have made it very clear they wish for this to be a pub/restaurant once more and the more people we can get behind this, the better.”

“Keeping clear visibility of the bridge is important for its setting and sense of place.”

“Development in the local vicinity of the bridge should be better controlled. The recently installed WC building at South Queensferry is aesthetically completely inappropriate to its setting and a complete disgrace.”



“Just don't. It's our heritage and should be left to be seen in its glory. No flats, no houses, no development whatsoever.”

“It would be great to see development which compliments the area and presents a green access at all levels.”

“Protection of St Margaret’s Marsh and the pilgrims trail and lack of attention paid to Rosyth Castle.”

Question 21: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to development near the Forth Bridge?

Do yo have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



6 Train stations

There were two questions about the stations adjacent to the Forth Bridge.

(17) 85% (118) respondents did not have any comments or concerns about safety at these stations.

From the 15% (20) of respondents who commented, these were the points:

There were 6 comments on the safety of the steps and condition of the footbridge(s).

Step access from Dalmeny to the shore very unsafe.

One general concern for women’s safety when stations are unmanned (especially after dark).

Suggestion of defibrillators, but issue reported getting permission to instal from Scotrail.

Access to Platform 2 from ticket machine not obvious.

Better fencing to prevent access to the tracks.

2 comments about trains being busy at peak times so issues over congestion.

Comments praising Dalmeny car park, but also its busyness and surfacing.

“The North Queensferry station steps are not the safest. They really need checked and replaced.”

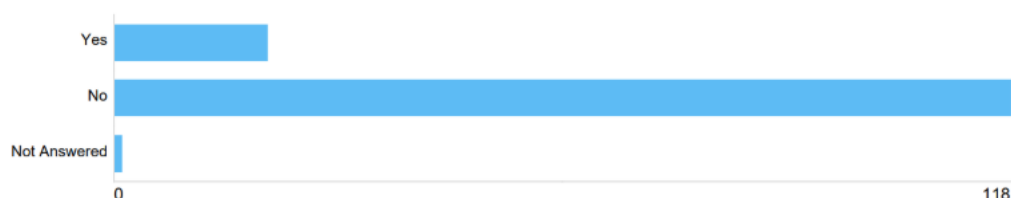
“The steps on the Northbound side are extremely steep and shallow, although there is an alternative exit on this side it is still dangerous. This is made worse by the fact that the top layers of the steps often become loose, perhaps a review of the structural stability of the steps is in order rather than quick fixes.” (assumed Dalmeny station but not stated).



“Car park at Dalmeny is so busy, that accidents are bound to happen.”

Question 17: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to safety at the nearest train stations? These are North Queensferry and Dalmeny.

Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



(18) 76% (105) of respondents did not have any comments or concerns about access to these stations.

From the 34 comments made, the following were the key themes.

Some of these points came up in question 17 as well.

Improved access and waiting areas.

2 comments on access for disabled at Dalmeny

5 Parking congestion/provision

2 comments on signage to Dalmeny station.

Further comment as (17) on: 1 quantity of trains, 2 “Jacob’s Ladder” steps condition, 2 North Queensferry station steps.

“Both stations are quite far apart from their centres.”

“The steep approaches to Dalmeny station make it difficult to access for the less able. The Edinburgh platform disabled access is not clearly signed and obscure.”

“The staircase, from near to the Hawes pier up to Dalmeny station, is not as safe as it should be, and is even more dangerous if it’s been raining.”

“Brilliant access I have mobility issues so I go under the bridge and up the side path when travel to Edinburgh and use the hill for fife”

“Access to North Queensferry Station from North Queensferry requires a steep climb, which is rather tiring, similar for Dalmeny it also requires a steep climb or a long walk to get to it from South Queensferry.”



Question 18: Do you have any concerns or comments with regards to access to those train stations?

Do yo have any concerns or comments with regards to safety of crossing the bridge by train



6 Tourism (22-23)

There were 2 questions about tourism.

(22) 68% (95) of respondents were not aware of any visitor interpretation material, and there were 34 comments left.

There were 23 comments made about boards at viewpoints/Forth Bridges Trail. 3 noted the Briggers monuments. There were singular mentions of the Forth Bridges website, private collections, Doors Open Days, North Queensferry station waiting room and mural.

“The existing interpretation signs have been refurbished and additional signs added.”

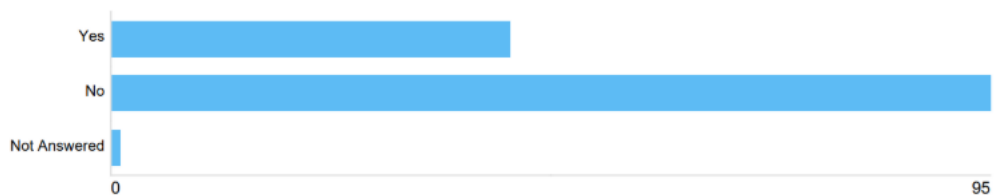
“I’ve seen the maps/sign on the Forth Bridges Trail in North Queensferry”.

“Monument to those who lost their lives and information boards on the shorefront promenade.”

“Information boards and Queensferry Museum displays, though the museum is often closed.”

Question 22: Are you aware of any visitor interpretation material for the Forth Bridge?

Are you aware of any visitor interpretation material for the Forth Bridge



(23) There were 87 responses to the open question about improvement to the Forth Bridge visitor experience.

Question 23: What measures could be taken to improve the Forth Bridge visitor experience?

What measures could be taken to improve the Forth Bridge visitor experience?

There were **87** responses to this part of the question.

Top Themes Identified



Visitor Centre – Many respondents suggested establishing or improving a dedicated visitor centre to enhance the experience.

Viewing Platform – A recurring idea was the creation or expansion of a viewing platform to allow better visual and physical access to the bridge.

Parking – Concerns about limited or inadequate parking facilities were frequently mentioned.

Accessibility – Suggestions included improving access routes, signage, and facilities for disabled visitors.

Lighting – Several responses highlighted the need for better night-time illumination of the bridge.

Interpretation Materials – Respondents asked for more educational and historical information, such as boards, signs, or interactive exhibits.

North Queensferry & South Queensferry – Both locations were mentioned often, with ideas for development, better facilities, and balanced tourism.

Tourism Infrastructure – Ideas included guided tours, cafes, souvenir shops, and better integration with local transport and attractions.

“The Your View charity event should be extended into a full-time event I know plans have been submitted but this should be made a priority as it would generate much needed funds to preserve the bridge.”

“We must have a visitor centre that covers all 3 bridges. We have a unique situation with 3 adjacent estuarial crossings from 3 separate centuries, and nothing has been done to develop this potential for the benefit of visitors and beneficial impact that such a facility could have on the local economy.”

“A properly planned visitor experience celebrating the history and iconic status of the bridge, to replace the piecemeal approach of a few signs and initiatives. This would need to be matched by appropriate infrastructure to avoid negative impact on existing communities.”

“Keep on looking after it, keep maintaining views along the Forth Valley, keep on with the shared bridges site & social media.”

“I am glad the planned Visitor Experience was not built, nor the viewing arrangements on the south cantilever. The Bridge should not be changed in any material way.”

“Kiosk selling souvenirs. A link to a webcam showing footage from the track level for rail enthusiasts. Exclusive or priority access to Bridge events for local residents who bear the brunt of tourism disruption.”

“Readily accessible sign posting and information boards. Outreach to schools and community groups. Information on public transport and improved routes/sign posting from Dalmeny station and bus stops.



Creation of an information hub which would provide history and context to the bridge and the whole Firth of Forth area. Provision of parking outwith High Street and waterfront with connecting bus link."

"Queensferry needs investment in;

Developing and delivering a car parking strategy!

Queensferry should be a LEZ!

The Forth Road Bridge viewing platform should be the destination point for visitors! It should be made visitor-friendly and suitable for all weathers. The location should be made more welcoming, with facilities to cater to the visitors. The CEC should be a visitor's centre as was the original intention when the QC was built. Trips up the tower of the FRB were to be offered along with events from the bridge."

"Significant work has been undertaken in the past to develop a Forth Bridge tourism strategy and a set of dynamic visitor experience projects, all to no avail.

Proposals for the "Forth Bridge Experience" were developed by Network Rail, working with local architects WT Architecture and engineering firm Arup. This would have created:

1. A bridge climbing reception centre based in South Queensferry, giving thrill-seeking tourists the chance to scale the Forth Bridge (in a similar way to Sydney Harbour Bridge). Fully costed and approved plans are in place, along with a robust tourism and business strategy. The most recent scheme received planning consents in March 2023.

2. A world-class visitor centre based in North Queensferry. This would have been a full visitor experience centre telling the story of the Forth Bridge. Part of these proposals included a passenger lift and viewing platform atop the north cantilever tower.

Together these twin proposals would have created the most important new cultural and tourism contribution to Scotland in a generation, likely surpassing that of the V&A Dundee.

The mothballing of the Forth Bridge Experience was a travesty and demonstrates a lack of political vision, will and competence. A fundamental obstacle to its realisation is that the project remains in the portfolio of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport. This is not a railway station or a motorway - it is one of Scotland's most important cultural heritage and tourism assets. The Forth Bridge Experience project, and its associated considerations for budget and net value contribution to Scottish economic and cultural life, should be transferred to a joint portfolio of the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy, and the Cabinet Secretary for Culture."

"The "Forth Bridge Experience" should be taken forwards."

7 Education

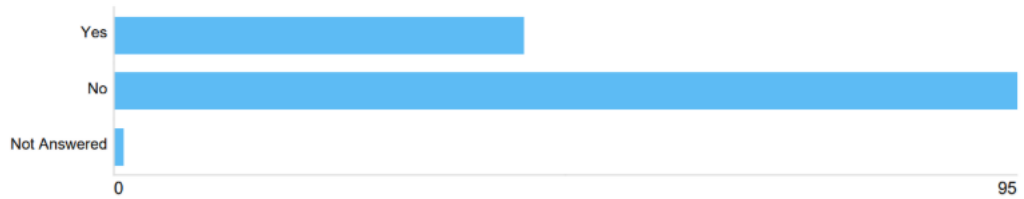
There were 3 questions about awareness of the School Education Programme.

(25) 31% (43) of respondents were aware of the education programme



Question 25: Are you aware of the school education programme for the Forth Bridges?

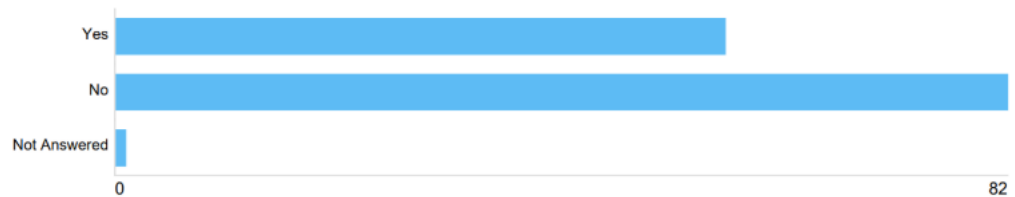
Are you aware of the school education programme for the Forth Bridges



(26) 40% of respondents were aware of Contact & Education Centre facility.

Question 26: Are you aware of the educational facility, the Contact and Education Centre?

Are you aware of the educational facility, the Contact and Education Centre?



(27) 14% (23) of respondents or one of their family members had experience some element of the programme.

The education programme has been running since 2014, with at least one school from every Scottish Local Authority area having been involved, and a total of 125,000 learners over this time. The education programme separately records feedback from its participants and is expected to be fully subscribed again for the coming school year.

Question 27: Have you or a family member used/attended/received any or all of the following?

Have you or a family member used/attended/received any or all of the following



8 General questions (24/28/29)

(24) 64% (89) of respondents chose the “no change” answer to the question about the impact of world Heritage Site status, 23% (33) positive change and 3% (4) negative change.

From the 24 responses, representative comments related to increased awareness of the World Heritage Site:

“I’ve become more aware of the structure.”

“Positive recognition of the OUV and in public knowledge”

“Increased buzz and increased visibility globally. World Heritage status is shorthand for an independently assessed significance beyond subjective local campaigning”

“Some positive change but not enough. Other World Heritage Sites have done much better.”

“Additional promotion of the bridge as an iconic site”

However, for those indicating no or negative change, there were comments expressing a lack of change and frustration with the expectation of positive changes anticipated with the WHS status.

“Nothing has changed because nothing is being done to promote the attraction.”

“More cruise ships, which have a negative effect on our town and one of its main road arteries.”

“South side seen a big increase in boy racers, condition of high street road nothing short of a national disgrace, shops empty, visually dull and uninteresting”

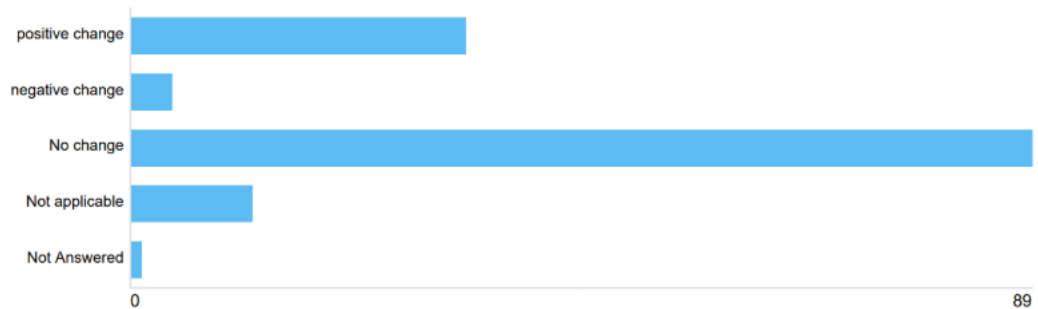
“Expectation of high-level maintenance is poorly represented by failure of lighting and no attempt to rectify”

“Visitor numbers are increasing, with no improvement to the infrastructure to support tourism. Parking is a real issue at peak times, and the roads are unpassable. Parking on the Hawes Brae at weekends is oversubscribed. I no longer visit the Hawes promenade during the summer months as it's unpleasant! Being local, I should be able to enjoy the locality I live in, but that option has been taken from me. The James Rebank report outlined the pitfalls. I contend the report has generally been ignored.”



Question 24: The Forth Bridge became a World Heritage Site in 2015. Have you noticed any impact or change because of achieving World Heritage Site status?

The Forth Bridge became a World Heritage Site in 2015. Have you noticed any impact or change because of achieving World Heritage Site status?



(28) What do you think should be the main areas of focus for the Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Plan over the next 10 years, in relation to achieving its vision?

There were 103 responses to this question. Here are the key themes identified, along with representative quotes:

Conservation & Maintenance

Mentions: 21

Focus: Preserving the bridge's structure and appearance, addressing climate impacts, and ensuring long-term upkeep.

Examples:

"Maintenance and appearance."

"Maintenance in terms of conservation and the effects of climate change is crucial."

"Generating income from tourists without impacting nearby residents in a negative way. Thus helping with costs of conservation."

Tourism & Visitor Experience

Mentions: 35

Focus: Enhancing the visitor journey through attractions, events, and facilities.

Examples:

"Provision of a visitor centre for the 3 bridges."

"Providing an all-round visitor experience."

"Events to boost tourism from Edinburgh and further afield – fringe events around the bridge, etc."



Education & Awareness

Mentions: 9

Focus: Promoting learning about the bridge's history and engineering, especially among young people.

Examples:

"Every school pupil in Fife should have the opportunity to visit and tour the bridge and learn about history..."

"Education and tourism."

"Series of online programmes documenting the history/engineering significance..."

Community Engagement

Mentions: 17

Focus: Involving local residents and ensuring benefits are shared with the community.

Examples:

"Sustainable tourism, conservation, local involvement."

"Encouraging Scottish children, especially girls, to engage with engineering as a potential career."

"The bridge and the area are an untapped national resource... share it."

Sustainability & Climate

Mentions: 11

Focus: Addressing environmental impacts and promoting sustainable practices.

Examples:

"To manage the Forth Bridge in a sustainable manner which conserves, enhances and promotes its Outstanding Universal Value..."

"Sustainability, and setting it apart as a symbol that spans not just the Forth, but also spans centuries and generations..."

Access & Infrastructure

Mentions: 16

Focus: Improving physical access, signage, and facilities around the bridge.

Examples:



"Improving access to the area immediately around and below the bridge in North Queensferry."

"Visitor Centre and visitor access to the bridge."

"Try to establish a visitor centre with good facilities at the existing Hawes Pier buildings..."

(29) Is there anything else you would like to add in relation to the next Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Plan?

There were 45 comments left for this question.

Bridge Conservation & Maintenance

Mentions: 42

Focus: Preserving the bridge's structure, appearance, and historical integrity.

Examples:

"The bridge."

"Maintenance in terms of conservation and the effects of climate change is crucial."

"Regular upkeep and planned maintenance."

Income Generation & Economic Value

Mentions: 5

Focus: Using tourism and events to fund conservation and support the local economy.

Examples:

"Generating income from tourists without impacting nearby residents in a negative way."

"To generate income and employment."

"Generate income and employment that adds value to the local economy."

Sustainability & Climate Resilience

Mentions: 10

Focus: Addressing climate change impacts and promoting sustainable practices.

Examples:

"To protect the bridge itself from the changing elements in the weather."



"To manage the Forth Bridge in a sustainable manner which conserves, enhances and promotes its Outstanding Universal Value..."

Tourism & Visitor Experience

Mentions: 4

Focus: Enhancing the visitor journey and promoting the bridge as a destination.

Examples:

"Forth Bridge is a well-known landmark that attracts locals and tourists..."

"Promote the 3 bridges more on social media... generate more income for the businesses..."

Education & Community Engagement

Mentions: 3

Focus: Involving schools and local communities in the bridge's heritage.

Examples:

"Every school pupil in Fife should have opportunity to visit and tour the bridge and learn about history..."

"Encouraging Scottish children, especially girls, to engage with engineering as a potential career."

Question 28: What do you think should be the main areas of focus for the Forth Bridge World Heritage Management plan over the next 10 years, in relation to achieving its vision?

Tell us here

There were **103** responses to this part of the question.

Question 29: Is there anything else you would like to add in relation to the next Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Plan?

tell us here

There were **45** responses to this part of the question.



APPENDIX G – ABBREVIATIONS

CA	Conservation Area
CHSS	Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland
CP	Control Period
DCMS	Department of Digital, Culture Media and Sport
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EC	European Community
FBWHMG	Forth Bridge World Heritage Management Group
FRB	Forth Road Bridge
GIS	Geographic Information System
GWL	Global Warming Level
HEPS	Historic Environment Policy for Scotland
HES	Historic Environment Scotland
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
ICE	Institution of Civil Engineers
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
LBC	Listed Building Consent
LDP	Local Development Plan
MP	Member of Parliament
MSP	Member of Scottish Parliament
NPF	National Planning Framework
NQCC	North Queensferry Community Council
NQHT	North Queensferry Heritage Trust
ORR	Office of Rail and Road
OUV	Outstanding Universal Value
PMA	Partnership Management Agreement
QC	Queensferry Crossing
QDCC	Queensferry and District Community Council
QHG	Queensferry History Group
QHT	Queensferry Heritage Trust
QR Code	Quick Response Code
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SOUV	Statement of Outstanding Universal Value
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSPCA	Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
SWT	Scottish Wildlife Trust
TS	Transport Scotland
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
WHS	World Heritage Site

