Thank you for the opportunity to share the views of the Newton Community Council regarding the Forth Road Replacement crossing project.

The FRC South Community Forum keeps the community representatives updated on progress with the bridge construction and provides an effective forum to discuss issues and receive feedback from the project team.

Newton Village is not in the immediate vicinity of the bridge construction, however, lorries from the Niddry bing (a maximum of 200 per day during the period when planning permission was given for additional lorries) moving the shale oil material to the bridge construction site travel through the village. This results in the road and pavements being covered in red dust. Measures are taken to clean these areas and the lorries are required to be covered. If these requirements are not met the forum is responsive in resolving the issues through liaison with the contractor.

Pollution monitoring equipment has been installed in the village, thought he data from the equipment is not always easy to find and interpret. Traffic monitoring is also in place to asses any changes in traffic numbers during and after the bridge construction. The remodelling of junction 1a on the M9 has resulted in a significant reduction in HGV's travelling through the village.

Traffic mitigation measures in the form of traffic lights have been installed in the village in an attempt to mitigate the impact of the high volume of traffic which passes through the village to and from the existing bridge. It is not clear whether this has been achieved and the speed of a significant proportion of the vehicles travelling though the village is still excessive.

Whilst I appreciate this opportunity to provide feedback, it is difficult to consult with members of the community council then collate and provide feedback in only eight days, which was the time scale given for feedback to be provided.

Regards,
Janet Thornton
Chair, Newton Community Council

10 February 2015