

Northampton North West Relief Road: Strategic Road Integration



Overview

Heidelberg Materials UK partnered with Balfour Beatty to support the construction of the Northampton North West Relief Road, commissioned by Northamptonshire County Council. Valued at £2.1 million, our contribution involved the supply and installation of 19,400 tonnes of asphalt materials for a project designed to reduce local congestion and support future residential development.

The Northampton North West Relief Road is a newly constructed 2km single carriageway, connecting Sandy Lane & A5199 to Mill Road. The scheme was 90% offline, with 10% online tie-ins, and included installation of base and binder layers using CL.929 hardstone materials, capped with a HAPAS-approved thin surface course. The project featured mostly daytime works, with some night shifts required around roundabout areas.

Scope of works

Our scope focused on the partial planing and relaying of existing carriageways, tying them into the new relief road. This involved complex integration at level transitions, particularly where the new road connected with existing infrastructure, such as the newly constructed bridge. Extensive regulating work was required to ensure smooth alignment and long-term durability.

Programme

- Start Date: November 2023
- Completion: Weeks 3–4, 2024
- Final Account Closed: Q1 2025

Thanks to the project's proximity, our team maintained a strong on-site presence, which proved critical to efficient coordination and issue resolution.



Efficiency & collaboration

From the outset, this project was defined by strong collaboration between Heidelberg Materials UK and Balfour Beatty. Frequent site visits and close working relationships allowed us to address technical challenges early, most notably, the profiling of the planned road into the new carriageway and level alignment at the bridge section.

Outcomes

The relief road now plays a vital role in diverting traffic away from congested local routes, while also enabling access to future housing developments. Our timely delivery and attention to detail helped ensure the road was ready for integration into the wider transport network without delay.

Lessons learned

Rather than highlighting problems, this project reinforced a key success factor: early engagement, clear communication, and a unified team approach make complex projects far more manageable. The outcome here was a smooth delivery with minimal disruption, an example of how effective partnerships drive results.