

Zouch Bridge Newsletter July 2026



Newsletter edition 7



Welcome to the Zouch Bridge Newsletter

This edition will offer new aerial drone pictures of the new bridge, updates and insider information from the official opening and more.

What's inside:

- Social Value
- Opening event & project highlights
- Opening event photography
- Upcoming Works
- Thank you

Working in partnership with...



Social contributions to the Zouch community.

Alongside the construction of Zouch Bridge, the project has delivered lasting benefits for the local community.

The team engaged with 406 students through STEM workshops and site visits, working with five schools, colleges and universities. The project also supported five T Level students, provided one year-in-industry placement, and created four new local jobs.

In addition, £2.8 million was spent with local businesses and £2,000 was donated to local charities.

Environmental achievements included diverting 28,265 tonnes of waste from landfill, achieving a 99% recycling rate, and reducing CO₂ emissions by 20 tonnes.

These achievements demonstrate how the project has delivered social, economic and environmental value alongside the new bridge.

As shown below, these statistics highlight the significant achievements delivered since the start of the Zouch Bridge project.

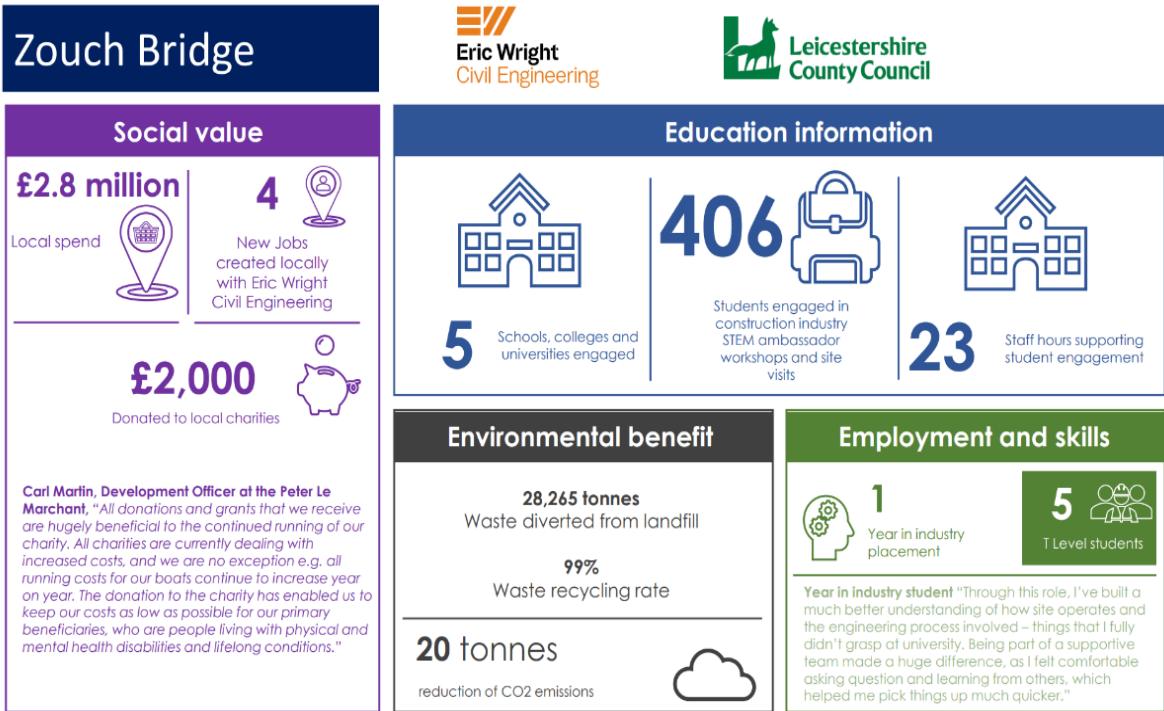
Opening event & project highlights

On 2 July 2026, the new Zouch Bridge was officially opened by Linda Danks, Chairman of Leicestershire County Council, Dan Harrison, Leader of Leicestershire County and Gavin Hulme, Managing Director of Eric Wright Civil Engineering. We were delighted that three young residents, who attend Hathern C of E Primary School, were able to join Councillor Harrison in cutting the ribbon.

Guests and members of the media attended speeches and a site tour, recognising the hard work and dedication of the project team in delivering this major infrastructure scheme.

The £19.6 million bridge, led by Leicestershire County Council, spans 82 metres across the River Soar and was constructed using 450 tonnes of steel and over 1,000 tonnes of concrete.

Due to nearby high-voltage power lines, the bridge's steel beams were carefully shunted and jacked into place rather than lifted by crane.



Opening event pictures



These photographs capture the special occasion of the Zouch Bridge Opening Day, marking a significant milestone for the local community and transport network.

Pictured are Mr Gavin Hulme, Managing Director of Eric Wright Civil Engineering, members of the Eric Wright site team, and Councillor Dan Harrison, Leader of Leicestershire County Council, who came together to celebrate the successful completion and opening of the bridge.



Out with the old, in with the new bridge.

Demolition of the old Zouch Bridge is progressing well, marking the final major phase of the replacement scheme. Working from both river and land-based platforms, the team is carefully dismantling the old bridge structure, removing the deck, piers and the supporting elements.

Importantly, traffic is now flowing smoothly over the new Zouch bridge and road layout, delivering the improved connectivity and resilience that the project team committed to from the outset.

The successful switch to the new alignment has allowed demolition works to proceed safely while maintaining this vital route between Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire.

Once demolition is complete, the project will move into its final landscaping and reinstatement works, bringing the transformation of this key transport link one step closer to completion.

As shown in the photographs below, demolition has now begun, with each section of the old bridge being carefully removed piece by piece.



Thank you

As we celebrate the official opening of Zouch Bridge, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the local community for their patience, understanding and support throughout the construction works.

We recognise that projects of this scale can cause temporary disruption, and we are incredibly grateful for the cooperation shown by residents, businesses and road users during the delivery of the scheme. Your support has played an important role in helping us reach this significant milestone.

The completion of Zouch Bridge marks the beginning of a new chapter for the area, providing an asset that will benefit the community for years to come. We are proud to have been part of delivering this important infrastructure project and hope that the completed bridge will be enjoyed by current and future generations.

Thank you once again for your patience and support throughout the project. Together, we have helped bring this important investment to life.

For more information on Eric Wright Civil Engineering please visit ericwright.co.uk

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