



**Detailed Route History
M8 Motorway**

Contracts listed in order of completion

Contract Title	Main Designer	Main Contractor	Scheme Extents (Current Junction Nos.)	Construction Start Date	Official Opening Date	Scheme Cost (2022 Cost)	Notes
Harthill Bypass	Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners	Whatlings (Civil Engineering) Ltd.	4 to 5	September 1963	20 th November 1964* 1st December 1965**	£2 million (£30.2 million today)	<p>* Four mile offline section from Hirst Road to J4. Opened by E.G. Willis MP</p> <p>** One mile online section from Hirst Road to J5</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gibb & Partners appointed in January 1961. Harthill Services constructed in 1969 by Whatlings at a cost of £303,926. Harthill Footbridge replaced in 2008 at cost of £5.1 million. Design work by Buro Happold. Construction by Raynesway Construction Ltd. Scheme oversight by Scott Wilson. Junction 4a constructed as part of Heartlands development in September 2013. Designer Dougall Baillie Associates (motorway bridge by Fairhurst), construction by Balfour Beatty. Cost £9.1 million.
West of Harthill to Newhouse	Lanark County Council W.A Fairhurst & Partners*	Whatlings (Civil Engineering) Ltd.	5 to 6	June 1965	24th August 1967	£3.8 million (£54 million today)	<p>* Bridges and structures only</p> <p>Partial online upgrade of existing single carriageway Kirk o' Shotts Bypass.</p>
Renfrew Bypass	Crouch & Hogg	Peter Lind Co. and Marples Ridgeway Ltd.	26 to 29a	October 1965	18th March 1968	£5 Million (£68.1 million today)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Peter Lind constructed Hillington (J26) to Barnsford Road (J29). Marples Ridgeway constructed Barnsford Road (J29) to A8 Bishopton (J29a). White Cart Viaduct superstructure by Sir William Arrol & Co. J29a closed November 1975, reopened December 2019. Design by Dougall Baillie Associates, Construction by Morgan Sindall. Connected to CITRAC system in 1993/94. Barnsford Road Footbridge demolished mid-1993. Hillington Footbridge replaced 2015. Design by Briton Fabricators, construction by Graham Construction. Cost £2.5 million.

<p>Glasgow Inner Ring Road Townhead Interchange and Woodside (Stage 1)</p>	<p>Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Partners</p>	<p>Marples Ridgeway</p>	<p>15 to 16</p>	<p>1st November 1965*</p>	<p>7th April 1968</p>	<p>£3.1 million (£42.2 million today)</p>	<p>*Official ceremony on 3rd December 1965.</p> <p>1. Construction of Woodside (Stage 1) added as a variation on 3rd April 1967. 2. Monkland Canal piped in advance. Works (Pinkston to Blackhill) started May 1964, completed April 1965. Design by Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick, construction by FJC Lilley Ltd. Value £260,000.</p> <p>Townhead Interchange (Stage 2) completed 1983.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced contract let to Lilley Constryction Ltd. in 1979 to divert services and construct 160m of anchored retaining wall and 700m of ramps. Value £1.64 million. Main contract let to Whatlings (Civil Engineering) Ltd. in 1980 to construct northern section of interchange (E/B off slip to A803 included) as well as 2nd Castle Street bridge and Loop U. Four retaining walls, service diversions and sign gantries also included. Value £4 million <p>Townhead Interchange (Stage 3) completed 21st December 1987.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main contract let to Whatlings (Civil Engineering) Ltd. in 1985. Work included two bridges, one footbridge, sign gantries, lighting and five retaining walls. Value £4.6 million. Excavated material was used at the Glasgow Garden Festival site. <p>J15 to 16 capacity improvements completed mid-1990s. All design by Strathclyde Region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Westbound Contract 2A (preparatory work) construction by Norwest Holst. Completed Summer 1994. Cost £0.43 million. Westbound Contract 3 (alterations to J16 off slip) construction by Barr Construction Ltd. Cost £0.95 million. Completed 1994. Westbound Contract 4 (additional running lane J15 to 16) construction by Balfour Beatty. Cost £4 million. Completed Autumn 1996. Eastbound Contract 3A (extension of running lane past J16 on slip) construction by Strathclyde Roads. Cost £0.9 million. Completed 21st May 1995.
<p>Dechmont to Whitburn</p>	<p>Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners</p>	<p>Whatlings (Civil Engineering) Ltd.</p>	<p>3 to 4</p>	<p>September 1967</p>	<p>23rd September 1969</p>	<p>£5.1 million (£66 million today)</p>	<p>1. Gibb & Partners appointed in January 1961. 2. J3a constructed during 1988/89 at a cost of £1.8 million. Contractor may have been Shanks & McEwan - TBC. 3. Sawtooth Ramps completed in 1994 as part of M8 Art Project. Concept by Patricia Leighton.</p>

Glasgow Inner Ring Road Kingston Bridge and Approaches	W.A Fairhurst & Partners	Duncan Logan Ltd. and Marples Ridgeway Ltd. Joint Venture	19 to 20	28th April 1967*	26th June 1970	£11 million (£135 million today)	*Official ceremony 15th May 1967. 1. Bridge and approaches extensively refurbished during the 1990s and 2000s. Refer to Kingston Bridge articles for detail. 2. Anderston Footbridge completed July 2013. Funded by Sustrans. Design by URS, construction by Raynesway Construction. Cost £1.3 million.
Newbridge to Dechmont	Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners	A.M. Carmichael* Tarmac Civil Engineering Ltd.	2 to 3	November 1968	30th November 1970	£4.7 million (£57.4 million today)	* A.M Carmichael replaced by Tarmac during construction due to collapse of company. 1. Gibb & Partners appointed in January 1961.
Bishopton Bypass (Stage 1)	Freeman Fox & Partners	Whatlings (Civil Engineering) Ltd.	29a to 30	August 1968	27th December 1970	£2.1 million (£25.6 million today)	Part of Erskine Bridge South Approaches contract.
Glasgow Inner Ring Road Woodside (Stage 2)	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Partners	Balfour Beatty Ltd.	16 to 17	6th January 1969	7th May 1971	£4 million (£45 million today)	1. No formal opening ceremony held. J16 to 17 capacity improvements completed mid-1990s. All design by Strathclyde Region. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eastbound Contract 1 (extension of Charing X merge to Craighall) construction by Amec Ltd. Completed June 1994. Cost £2.87 million. Westbound Contract 2M (additional running lane J16 to J17). Design by Strathclyde Region and Scott Wilson. Construction by Miller Civil Engineering. Cost £3 million. Completed November 1995.
Glasgow Inner Ring Road Charing Cross Section	W.A Fairhurst & Partners	Whatlings (Civil Engineering) Ltd.	17 to 19	1st August 1969	4th February 1972	£6 million (£63.3 million today)	Tay House constructed on Podium Deck in early 1990s.
Monkland Motorway (Stage 1)	Corporation of the City of Glasgow	Costain Civil Engineering Ltd.	12 to 15	August 1972	30th May 1975	£7 million* (£48.4 million today)	*Figure of £10.6 million inc. land costs reported in 1980. 1. Completion delayed by six months due to industrial disputes and material shortages. 2. Contract included construction of Blochairn Link Road, Alexandra Parade diversion and Castle Street Bridge. 3. Monkland Canal piped in advance. Works (Pinkston to Blackhill) started May 1964, completed April 1965. Design by Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick, construction by FJC Lilley Ltd. Value £260,000. 4. J13 to 15 widened to dual five lanes in Spring 1992 by RJ McLeod (Contractors) Ltd. Westbound Contract 1 and Eastbound Contract 2. Contract value £1.5 million.
Bishopton Bypass (Stage 2)	Freeman Fox & Partners	Tarmac Civil Engineering Ltd.	30 to 31	October 1973	18th November 1975	£4.4 million (£30.4 million today)	

Renfrew Motorway (Stage 1)	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Company (Scotland)	Balfour Beatty Ltd.	20 to 26	17th September 1973	15th October 1976	£20 million (£120 million today)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connecting ramps to M77 brought into use August 1981. 2. Seaward Street Loop at J22 constructed in 2007. Design by Glasgow City Council, constructed by Luddon Construction. 3. Connection to M74 completed June 2011. Additional lanes added J23-25 in 2010 to accommodate additional traffic.
Renfrew Motorway (Stage 2)	W.A Fairhurst & Partners	Leonard Fairclough Ltd.	24 to 26	8th January 1974	15th October 1976	£15 million (£90 million today)	J25a opened in 1998 as part of Braehead Development. Design by Dougall Baillie Associates (Structures by Sweco), Construction by Balfour Beatty.
Monkland Motorway (Stage 2A)	Strathclyde Regional Council	Whatlings (Civil Engineering) Ltd.	11 to 12	August 1976	29th June 1979	£9.5 million (£41.7 million today)	Advanced earthworks contract completed by Costain in October 1974.
Monkland Motorway (Stage 2B)	Strathclyde Regional Council	W.C French*	9 to 11	27th February 1978	25th April 1980	£12.5 million (£47.8 million today)	<p>*Became French Kier during construction.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extensive mining consolidation works completed in November 1976 by GKN Foundations Ltd. 2. J10 eastbound offslip remodelled in 2004 as part of Glasgow Fort Development. Design by Atkins and Halcrow, construction by Laing O'Rourke Ltd. 3. J8-10 eastbound widened to four lanes as part of Baillieston to Newhouse project.
Glasgow City Boundary to Baillieston Interchange	Babtie Shaw & Morton	Cementation Ltd.	8	April 1977	25th April 1980	£6.5 million (£24.8 million today)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Also known as Baillieston Interchange (Stage 2) 2. Baillieston gateway feature lighting installed in 1990 as part of City of Culture celebrations. Sponsored by Scottish Power hence purple/green colours.
St. James Interchange Improvement	Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick	Balfour Beatty	28a	September 1991	17th August 1993	£27.5 million (£52.7 million today)	First Design & Build contract in Scotland.
Edinburgh City Bypass to Newbridge	W.A Fairhurst & Partners	Balfour Beatty	1 to 2	February 1994	11th December 1995	£39.7 million (£72.7 million today)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design of Claylands Interchange structures by Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick. 2. Completed two months ahead of schedule.
Baillieston to Newhouse	Amey RPS JV	Ferrovial Lagan Joint Venture	6 to 8	14th April 2014	April 2017**	£180 million* (£215 million today)	<p>*Estimate - individual sections not priced after scheme combined with other projects.</p> <p>**Eastbound/westbound off-line carriageways opened on different dates.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design Build Finance and Operate contract awarded to Scottish Roads Partnership for 33 year period.