

Solving the problem of cracks on fen roads

Common Lane, Broomfleet.

East Riding, UK

To solve the problem of severe movement on fen roads in Broomfleet, Tensar's Glasstex asphalt interlayer product was installed. This process was completed during resurfacing to reinforce the bituminous layer and prevent water from penetrating into the sub-base. The Glasstex will also control cracking on the surface course.

CLIENT'S CHALLENGE

East Riding Council, in Yorkshire, UK, had a problem with severe movement in some of its fen roads which was causing rollercoaster type conditions for motorists due to the unstable ground they were originally built on. An increase in extreme weather including droughts, heatwaves and flooding had caused the soil to shrink and expand leading to significant buckling, deep cracking and subsidence. The challenge with this project was to resurface the failing asphalt but also to reinforce the bituminous layers and stop water penetrating to the sub-base layers.

B E N E F I T S

- Tensar's solution doubled the life expectancy of the road
- Significantly reduced the need for costly reactive maintenance in the future
- Durability and quality of the road surface improved

Tensar®

A Division of CMC

PROJECT DETAILS

Application

Paved Roads | No. 573

Constructed in

2025

Client

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Consultant

Pell Frischmann

Contractor

Tarmac



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TENSAR SOLUTION

The Tensar solution was a Glasstex reinforcement material saturated with bitumen to create an impermeable layer that stops water ingress if any cracks were to appear on the surface course. Once installed, the Glasstex solution provided both reinforcement and stress relief between the different layers of asphalt materials and the barrier to stop the water penetrating further down into the sub-base.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Fen roads fail twice as fast as those on stable ground requiring maintenance up to four times as often during the lifecycle of the road. Interlayers act as a water barrier stopping the foundation and sub-grade from weakening. In addition, they will help to absorb horizontal and vertical movements preventing cracks from tearing through the new surface course.



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