

A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme January to February 2019

Sections 1 & 2 - Alconbury to the East Coast Main Line
Section 3 - East Coast Main Line to Swavesey
Sections 4 & 5 - Swavesey to Milton
Section 6 – Huntingdon

Traffic Management:

Sections 1 and 2: Narrow lanes and reduced speed limits will remain in place on the north and southbound carriageways of the A1 until approximately Easter and both will be subject to further overnight closures.

Weekend closures of the B1514, Buckden Road will be in place on 2-3, 9-10 and 16-17 February. Traffic is scheduled to switch onto the new alignment, under the A14, by Monday 4 February. Two further weekend closures will be required to complete surfacing and other essential tasks and during this time, temporary traffic lights will be used

Section 3: Conington Road will be closed during the weekend of 9-10 February for Cambridge Water works. As the bridge nears completion, further weekend closures will be necessary in February and March.

Temporary traffic lights will be used at the new A14/A1198, Ermine Street junction, except on Fridays, when traffic increases. Traffic control will also be needed at the bridges on the B1043 Offord Road and Hilton Road for path surfacing and other completion works.

Sections 4 & 5: We have recently extended the narrow lanes and the 40mph speed limit on the A14 to include the section of the A14 between the M11 junction at Girton, to Dry Drayton. This is in preparation for construction activity.

Construction Activities:

Section 1: On the A1 at Brampton Hut, surfacing work continues on the carriageways in both directions with completion expected by mid-March, weather permitting. To minimise disruption, we're installing gantries during overnight closures. These gantries will use the latest technology to display the most accurate information available

Section 2: Beams have been installed on the last major bridge to be built in this section, which will carry the eastbound A1 to the A14 link road over the Brampton Interchange, marking another key milestone. Another significant achievement will be the traffic switch on to the new alignment of the B1514, Brampton /Buckden Road, using the recently-completed roundabout and A14 underpass. Earthworks can then continue over the old Buckden Road towards the new River Great Ouse crossing. The viaduct is now structurally complete and ready for carriageway construction.

You can contact us on our dedicated A14 Public Helpline 0800 270 0114
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Section 3: Concrete pours for the East Coast Mainline bridge have finished and permanent parapet installation is underway and due for completion in February. Traffic moved on to the Offord Road Bridge (B1043) before Christmas and work is progressing well on the Conington Road realignment and bridge, which should be ready for traffic in the spring. The bridleway at Mere Way now runs over the new bridge. At New Barns Lane, work is progressing well on the embankments and the foundation piling is underway for the bridge.

On the main line carriageway, adverse weather has limited surfacing work, but drainage work is nearly complete. Five gantries are now in place, with installation of the remainder continuing in February. Construction of the central concrete safety barrier between Ermine Street and Hilton Road is now largely complete and we have installed approximately 4.5 miles (7 km) of post and rail fencing.

Sections 4 and 5

The temporary slip road onto the A14 for westbound traffic leaving Bar Hill is now in operation. Closure of the original slip road has enabled us to continue working on construction of the new Bar Hill junction.

During an overnight closure, the huge beams pictured below were placed on the abutments (side panels) for the new bridge that will serve Lolworth Village. This operation required a 55-tonne mobile crane to erect an even larger 1000 tonne crane, to lift the beams. The team started at midnight, once a full closure was in place and the four beams, each weighing 100 tonnes and measuring just over 36 metres were installed by 7.00 am. The bridge deck will be completed in February during further night closures.



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Carriageway widening continues on the Cambridge Northern by-pass. This work includes hydro demolition work on the bridge which carries traffic over the guided busway. Once this activity is completed, we will modify the bridge to accommodate the two extra lanes of traffic. Work is now being undertaken in the verges for drainage and utility diversions.

Section 6 Huntingdon Works: Preparatory work continues, including archaeological excavations along the route of the Pathfinder Link road into Huntingdon. In early February vegetation clearance will start along a small stretch of Hinchingsbrooke Park Road. Virtually all work will be during the day, with only two night shifts required. Properties within 100m of the clearance works will be updated shortly.

Community Engagement: Our annual communications survey is now live. This is a useful way for us to understand what's working and how we can improve. Your participation in this survey would be really appreciated and your responses will help us to plan for how best to communicate with our customers about the scheme.

The survey can be found here - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/A14C2H18-19> - and takes about five minutes to complete.

Open Doors 2019

On 23 March we will be taking part in the national '**Open Doors – Get in to Construction**' annual event. This will be a second chance for you to see what goes on 'behind the scenes' on the U.K.'s largest highways scheme currently under construction and to find out about the diverse range of skills and professions needed on a major infrastructure project.

Further details of the event and how to book will follow in next month's newsletter (if not before).

Mobile Visitor Centre

The A14 Mobile Visitor Centre will resume visiting duties soon. If you'd like to book a visit for your village or town, please email:

a14cambridgehuntingdon@highwaysengland.co.uk

Please note – For the safety of our visitor centre staff and visitors, during the winter months we will not be able to offer evening visits.

Volunteering

The A14 team is always on the lookout for local volunteering opportunities. If you or your parishioners have any community projects we could help with, please call us on 0800 270 0114 or email Samantha.kedie@thea14.com

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Section 6 Archaeology Excavation Open Day:

Early last December, our archaeologists welcomed the public to excavations at Mill Common in Huntingdon. Mola Headland's excavations along the route of the new Pathfinder Link road have revealed Romano-British and Medieval remains and a possible Roman road, ditches and pits. Finds so far include pottery, animal bones and evidence of later activity.



More than 430 enthusiastic visitors were taken on free guided tours of the site and were thrilled to see the discoveries for themselves and to discuss the dig with the experts.



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