

A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme August to September 2017

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

Traffic Management:

Section 1 & 2. Night closures at the end of July ensured that the main beams of the Grafham Road Bridge over the A1 were placed in position safely and successfully.

Night closures are now in place for the safe installation of the CCTV cameras which are required to monitor the road during late September, when we will narrow the lanes and set a reduced speed limit to allow work to progress safely. We will let you know the exact dates as soon as they are confirmed.

Section 3: Road closures will be necessary on the A1198 for the imminent opening of the new bridge and roundabouts. The first road closure will begin at 9 p.m. on Friday 1st September, ending at 6 a.m. on Monday the 4th September. This is for drainage works on the A1198 carriageway. The second closure will take place between 15th and 18th of September to configure the new alignment with the existing carriageway. Traffic lights will continue to operate at plant crossings at Hilton Road, Potton Road and Offord Road.

Section 4 & 5: Narrow lanes and speed restrictions continue on the A14 between Swavesey and the Girton interchange. Speed is limited to 40mph in the narrow lanes and speed cameras are monitoring compliance. Lane closures are in place on the eastbound A428 by the Madingley turn-off and on the northbound A1307 between Girton Road and the A14.

Construction Activities:

Section 1: Culverts under the A1 are being extended to allow for the next stage of road-widening on the east side, including the initial construction layers.

We are planning to divert Alconbury Brooke and the old bailey bridge has now been removed.

As part of the scheme's legacy, we are committed to establishing flood compensation areas to balance out the A14 works. These areas will remain to work with existing flood modelling. Before this mitigation work can commence, detailed archaeological investigations must be completed. Topsoil clearance has started to the west of the A1, north of Brampton Hut, to allow archaeologists to carry out their work.

Section 2: The Grafham Road Bridge's main beams have been lifted into place over the existing A1. These will support the new sections of the A14. The adjacent beams already in place to the west, will span the realigned A1. The new bridge will be completed before the old Grafham Road bridge is demolished. The new bridge will feature both pedestrian and equestrian pathways. To date on the River Great Ouse
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crossing, we have completed 70% of the piling work, 5 of the 16 supporting pier structures and 80 % of the west abutment, which is where the bridge structure lands on the embankment works. We have also manufactured and stored the bridge deck sections, ready for installation later in the year

Section 3: Structures continue to be the focus in this section, with extra efforts being made to open the realigned A1198 ahead of schedule. Work continues on the structure that will

carry the A14 over the East Coast Mainline and beams have been lifted at some of our smaller structures such as Silver Street. Progress on the bridges at Hilton Road and Potton Road continues. Once the traffic is on the newly aligned A1198 these bridges will quickly begin to take shape.

Section 4 & 5: The accommodation block area at Swavesey is almost complete and we expect it to be occupied in mid-September.

The bailey bridge across the A14 close to Swavesey junction was installed over two nights at the end of August, meaning there is no need for haulage vehicles to traveling on the A14 carriageway. Construction materials can now be transported from the borrow pit in Boxworth to the north side of the A14, via this temporary bridge. These materials will be used to build the new Swavesey junction.

Piling works continued next to the A428 in preparation for the construction of two new bridges. The image below shows some of the 36 columns, which will support the bridge deck, which have now all been completed, A concrete pour to create the deck itself will take place in September. The beams on the second bridge under constructed at Girton junction will also be installed in September.



Bridge columns under construction next to A428.

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Environmental

Section 1: Fourteen Water voles have been released back into Alconbury Brooke following their winter and spring stay in a local special habitat, under the care of our very experienced, licenced ecologists. The capture and release was undertaken with the blessing of Natural England and enabled us to undertake various water course diversions without harming these endangered animals.

Section 4 & 5: A water recycling unit is being installed near the borrow pit at Dry Drayton. This facility, which is made from recyclable materials, will enable our road sweepers to empty their tanks locally. The unit works by trapping sediment from dirty water and filtering out clean water which is then re-used. Without this facility, our sweepers would need to travel significant distances to another licenced facility to deposit waste water, so we have reduced dramatically their trips on the A14; which enables them to spend more time keeping the local roads clean. This unit will be fully operational early in September.

Archaeology

Section 1 & 2: As mentioned above, archaeological investigations will commence shortly in the flood compensation areas to the west of the A1, north of Brampton Hut.

Section 3: Over 100 archaeologists continue their ground investigations across the 13km span of this section, in the vicinity of the Offord, Conington and Hilton Roads

Section:4 & 5 A team of 14 archaeologists continues to working alongside the A14 close to Bar Hill. Another team of 30 is investigating excavations at Girton. We will be announcing details of their exciting finds later this month.

In total, we currently have over 200 archaeologists working on the project.

Community Engagement

In August, we took our mobile visitor centre to Willingham, Hemingford Market, Truck Fest at the Norfolk Showground and Perry.

Forthcoming visits include the following venues:

RAF Wyton Family Day - Thursday 31st August

Little Shelford Village Event - Saturday 9th September 1pm to 5pm

Graffham Shop - Saturday 16th September 10am to 2pm

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