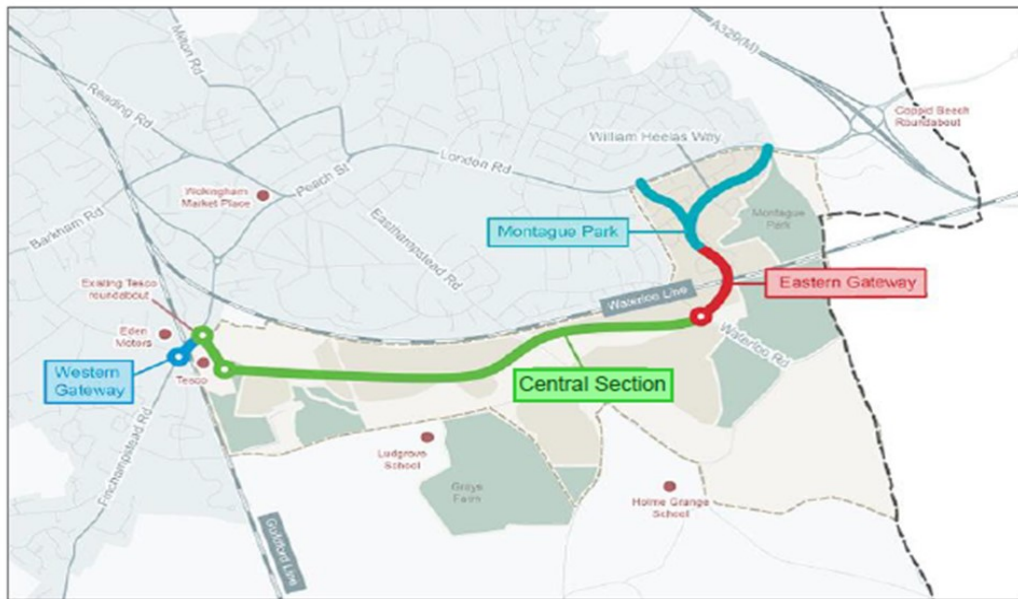


South Wokingham Distributor Road – Eastern Gateway Newsletter

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» Works Overview

The Eastern Gateway will provide improved access to planned new housing within the South Wokingham major development and help to reduce congestion within the surrounding area by providing a new railway bridge to replace the current Waterloo Road level crossing. It will also ensure a high-quality corridor for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport.

In the first quarter of the year we have continued to carry out enabling works to construct the new bridge over the railway, the new roundabout and road. The main works have also continued, with piling to construct the abutments, retaining walls and wingwalls to take the new bridge. A section of Waterloo Road between the level crossing and the Oakwood outdoor bounds centre has now been closed to through traffic. This is likely to remain closed until the beginning of 2022 to allow construction of the new road and roundabout. When complete, this will offer improved access to and from London Road via Heelas Way and over the new bridge. Which when completed will offer improved access to/from London Road via William Heelas Way over the new bridge. The diversion route is via Old Wokingham Road /Peacock Lane.

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» Waterloo Road Roundabout & Carriageway Works

On 8th March, a section of Waterloo Road and Clay Lane level crossing were closed as planned. The level crossing is to remain permanently closed as the new bridge will give a safer crossing point over the Network Railway tracks. These closures have enabled the construction of the new roundabout and the 4 arms that link to it. As part of the planned works, a section of Waterloo Road will also be realigned to complete the new layout.



Aerial view of Waterloo Road site works. Work is being carried out to construct a new stream that will better manage the water in this location, work on the southern arm of the roundabout is also being carried out.

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» Network Rail Bridge & Retaining Walls

The enabling and preparation works were completed at the end of 2020 and the main works have now commenced to build the bridge. These works comprise the construction of the North and South abutments on which the bridge beams will sit. The bridge beams are planned to be lifted into place in early May 2021 using one of the largest mobile cranes in the UK.



Installation of the reinforcement, the concrete pour to both the North & South abutment pile caps & wing walls has been completed.

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» Utilities Diversion Works

The Eastern Gateway project has enabled the overhead SSE HV supply to be installed underground, replacing the previous unsightly over head cables and pylons that supported them. New BT cabling has also been installed underground for future communication infrastructure.



Pylon tower to be removed to allow planned works to continue.



The last of the precast headwalls of the new stream has been installed

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» Innovative Technology



VACUUM KERB STONE INSTALLATION MACHINE

Distribution and installation in one manoeuvre, means efficient working practice as well as a healthier one for workers.

» Health & Wellbeing



A Strength and Wellbeing exercise programme has been instigated on site to keep workforce fit and healthy

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Did you Know?

Over 450m³ of structural concrete has been poured to date
Over 2,000t of various fill material imported on site since January 2021
Over 40,000 manhours worked to date, with no reportable incidents.

» Upcoming Works

These tables show planned works, between now and end of this project. Please note these are indicative dates and are subject to change at short notice.

Waterloo Road	
Brief Description of Works/Key Milestones	
Construction of Rail Bridge Abutments and Wingwalls	February 2021—July 2021
Installation of Bridge Beams	May 2021
Bridge deck construction and pour	May – June 2021
Rail Bridge—Main Structure	November 2020 – October 2021
Waterloo Road—New Roundabout	January 2021 - August 2021
Main carriageway construction	January 2021 - January 2022
Waterloo Road realignment and new road link main construction	March 2021 – March 2022
Landscaping and Planting	Seasonal through main works as
Expected Completion of Overall Scheme	March 2022

» Upcoming Traffic Management Works

Period	Peak/Off-Peak	Location	Section of Road
March 2021 - March 2022	Full Road Close	Waterloo Road	From Priest Ave Through to 'Oakwood Climbing Centre'

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Daily public safety will remain a priority, as will access to the Emergency Services. Additionally, access for local residents will remain open at all times.

Our construction site will be lit to allow us to continue working during darker hours, but lights will be turned off during the night. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience and kindly ask you to bear with us whilst these essential works are carried out.

Keep up to speed with the Council's traffic and travel social media

Wokingham Borough Council's 'Traffic and Travel' social media accounts are dedicated to keeping residents up to speed with the roadworks around the borough that may affect their journey times. You can follow the council's traffic and travel 'social' pages by visiting:

www.facebook.com/WokinghamRoadWorks and www.twitter.com/TrafficAlert



Also, for more information on roadworks you can visit one.network, an online platform which provides the latest information about upcoming works.

CONTACT US

If you know of anyone in your local community who does not have access to the internet but would like to receive this e-newsletter, please let us know. Wokingham Borough Council, in partnership with Balfour Beatty have a dedicated project team should you have any questions or concerns. E-mail us at SWDR@balfourbeatty.com or telephone 0800 121 4444.

For further information please visit:

www.wokingham.gov.uk/roadworks-and-outdoor-maintenance/major-new-roads/