

A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme April to May 2019

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

Traffic Management:

Sections 1 and 2: Overnight closures continue on the A1 for work on signage, lights and gantries and on the eastbound A14 at Ellington for gantry construction.

There will be a closure of the westbound A14 from 9pm on Friday 17 May until 6am on Monday 20, after which westbound traffic from Brampton Hut will be diverted over the new Ellington junction bridge before returning to the main carriageway.

Section 3: Further closures of the B1043 Offord Road are scheduled for Saturday 1 June and Sunday 2 June for the completion of junction surfacing works. Times will be confirmed nearer the time.

Sections 4 & 5: Construction work on the westbound exit slip at junction 28 will commence in mid-May. We will send you full details closer to the time.

Narrow lanes and the 40mph speed limit on the A14 between the M11 junction at Girton and Dry Drayton remain in place in preparation for construction works.

Construction Activities:

Sections 1 & 2: Good progress has been made on the new Ellington junction and a key stage will be reached on the 20 May, after the weekend closure above. From early on 20 May, traffic will be using the new Ellington bridge (which crosses the new A14) and the associated roundabout to continue the journey towards Kettering. Moving traffic in this way will release a further section of the new junction to the construction team.

The new access to the Mick George depot, High Harthay Outdoor Pursuits Centre and neighbouring properties will be from the new southern roundabout at this junction.

Eastbound A14 traffic will be redirected through the new Ellington junction in early June, allowing the temporary stretch of the A14 to be removed.

Section 3: Surfacing of the main carriageways on Huntingdon southern bypass is progressing well and is scheduled for completion by later summer. Drainage works are almost complete and highway communications work is well underway, with ducting and sign gantry installation continuing across the section. Safety barrier and traffic sign foundation works will start shortly.

Landscape planting has commenced and fencing works continue. We have planted certain shrubs and trees earlier than usual in selective locations, with the majority of planting scheduled to take place in the next autumn planting season.

You can contact us on our dedicated A14 Public Helpline 0800 270 0114

Scheme information is also available at our website

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Track construction is well underway, providing essential access for farmers and landowners whose land lies close to the road.

We're carrying out finishing work on side roads at bridge locations in preparation for the handover to Cambridgeshire County Council. The last bridge at New Barns Lane, is progressing well. The picture below shows the huge bridge beams being lowered into place in early April.



Sections 4 and 5: Construction of the new Bar Hill junction is progressing well. One half of the new junction will be opened to traffic in June, after which we'll demolish the old bridge. Further details will be shared closer to the date.

Just after Easter we opened the westbound on-slip at the new Swavesey junction. This uses part of the permanent slip road alignment as well as a short temporary cross-over section to take traffic onto the westbound A14 from the roundabout at Cambridge Services. The old entrance onto the A14 at this point is now closed.

Carriageway widening continues on the Cambridge Northern bypass at Milton. Work here includes modifying the bridge at Kings Hedges, with the installation of new beams to allow widening of this structure.

Construction of the embankments and road widening at the eastbound exit slip roads at junctions 32, Histon and 33, Milton, started in late March. Work at junction 32 will include constructing a retaining wall around the north-west side of the junction and

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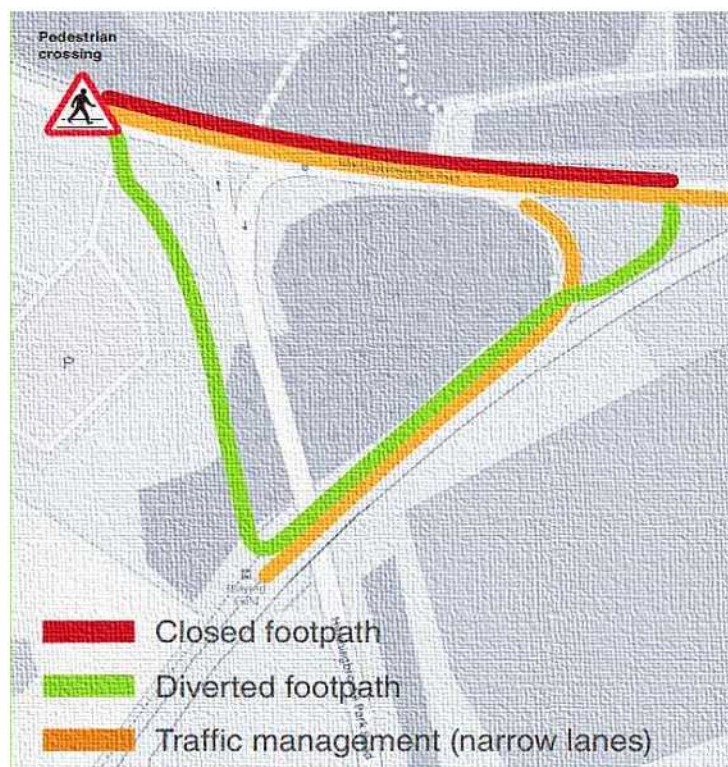
will take approximately eight weeks to complete. Cambridge Water diversion works on the B1049 at its junction with the A14 westbound entry slip continue

Section 6: Preparatory work continues, including archaeological excavations on Mill Common along the route of what will be the Pathfinder Link Road into Huntingdon. A substantial amount of our archaeology has been completed, allowing us to prepare areas closest to the ring road for the diversion of utilities. (See below for details of the Mill Common Archaeology Open Day). Trial holes dug in the Landro car park have helped the team understand the ground conditions beneath the viaduct.

We are preparing an access road in Hinchingsbrooke Loop to allow for the construction of a drainage pond.

The footpath between the traffic lights opposite Hinchingsbrooke school and the crossing near Brampton Road but will be closed temporarily in mid-May, when the utility companies begin work to excavate and divert the utilities cables which are buried beneath the footpath. The footpath will be re-routed and the lanes of Hinchingsbrooke Park Road and Brampton Road will be narrowed during this work, which should be completed within twelve months. Access to Hinchingsbrooke estate, Hinchingsbrooke School, Hinchingsbrooke Hospital and for emergency services will always be maintained under traffic light control.

Please refer to the diagram below:



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Archaeology

The beautiful Iron Age gold coin pictured below was amongst the discoveries made by our archaeologists from MOLA Headland (MHI) during last year's excavation of a site beside the A14. The dig revealed a complex settlement occupied from the middle Iron Age to the end of the Roman period.

This rare coin was lost more than two thousand years ago before being uncovered in a field boundary ditch by a delighted archaeologist.



The design, a stylised horse, made up of smooth curved lines, with the head to the right, is typically Celtic and reminiscent of the Uffington White Horse on the high chalk downland in Oxfordshire, pictured below.



It's a remarkably well-preserved example of a Gallic War Uniface made between 57 – 55 BC by the Ambiani tribe who lived around what is now Amiens in the Somme area of modern-day France.

Thousands of similar gold coins were minted by the Ambiani to fund a resistance to the invading forces of Julius Caesar during his Gallic Wars

campaign. When Caesar invaded Britain for the second time in 54 BC, British tribes would have imported the coins from the Gauls for the same purpose.

This is the only gold coin of this particular mint found on the scheme or in Britain. It's unlikely it would have been used as currency after the emperor Claudius' troops invaded Britain in 43 A.D., as after 97 years, its monetary value would have diminished, but it would have been valued as bullion.

Its modern value for archaeologists lies in what it can tell us about precise dates and who occupied or passed through a site, providing information about trade networks, belief systems and leadership

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If you'd like to find out more about Archaeology on the A14, why not come along to our **Open Day** on Saturday 18 May 2019 from 10 am to 3 pm at Mill Common, Huntingdon. There will be free guided tours of the site every 30 minutes between 10 am and midday and from 1pm until 2.30pm. Visitors should wear sturdy shoes or boots.

Following our successful open day last December, we will reveal findings in the southern part of the site, including a cobbled road, ditches and pits, Romano-British, Medieval and Post Medieval pottery, animal bones and evidence of later activity.

Visitors to the site will be able to see more of the finds and meet our archaeologists.



For further information, please contact:

Steve Sherlock, A14 Archaeology Lead A14 on 07804 698322
or the A14 public helpline (0800 270 0114).

Please note there is no parking available on site

A14 Mobile Visitor Centre

Our mobile visitor centre will be open for visitors at Truckfest Peterborough on 5-6 May and the Street Chilli Fest in Huntingdon on 18 May. We'll also be at Bar Hill Tesco on 23 and 29 May to answer local residents' questions about the scheme's progress in this area.

If you'd like to book a visit to your village or town, please email:

a14cambridgehuntingdon@highwaysengland.co.uk

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