

From Highways England (Info@a428.co.uk)

A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet improvements: next steps in design

We are writing to keep you updated on progress on the scheme and to let you know we'll shortly be carrying out a programme of ground investigations and surveys along the route. These are important and will give engineers a clear picture of the type of soils, rock and groundwater along the route of the proposed dual carriageway.

As the work may be visible to those living and working in the area, we felt it was important to share more details with you and your constituents.

While we analyse feedback from our recent public consultation, this is the next step in designing the scheme, and isn't the start of construction. The information will help us design the structures needed for the road including bridges and viaducts, embankments and cuttings.

What is happening and where?

We'll be carrying out nearly 400 investigations along the route of the proposed dual carriageway, including almost 100 boreholes, ground water sampling and monitoring, over 200 shallow trial pits and a wide range of unobtrusive geophysical surveys. For all of these we liaised with landowners to ensure we are able to access their land where necessary.

A map showing the broad area where our investigations will take place is included in the attached guide which explains the role of ground investigations and surveys and their importance to the project.

We aim to start our ground investigations in late August and finish in December 2019. We also take care to carry out initial archaeological surveys. These will take up to 8 months to complete and are likely to begin in late September 2019.

[Find out more details on each different technique being used, where and when, on our website.](#)

Working in the community

Our priority is to carry out this work in a way that will have the smallest possible impact on the nearby community and environment.

The majority of our work will be carried out during normal working hours (8am – 6pm), between Monday and Friday. We are not planning to work on weekends. However, should it be necessary, this will be restricted to Saturday (8am – 1pm).

There will be some short-term single-lane closures around the Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet junctions so we can safely access work sites and move equipment. These closures will take place at night (8pm – 6am) to minimise disruption to those travelling.

There is also the requirement for some off-peak traffic management to allow work on side roads across the scheme in the day time. Throughout the works we will avoid any full road closures, traffic restrictions around the junctions, and diversions.

Since there is the potential for some of the drilling equipment to be noisy for those living within a few hundred metres of our work, we will be liaising with these residents and parish councils to let them know what is happening and why.

If you would like further information about where and when we're working, and what we're doing, more detail can be found on our website www.highwaysengland.co.uk/a428.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lee Galloway', enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Lee Galloway
Programme Leader - Complex Infrastructure Programme (CIP)