

Perry Barr A34 Highways Works

Frequently Asked Questions – December 2020

The following FAQs have been created to provide a more detailed understanding of Phase Two of the A34 Highways Works and how these will be managed.

	Question	Answer
1	Why is this work taking place?	We are carrying out these works as part of the regeneration of Perry Barr, a £500 million-plus programme which includes the delivery of new homes and improvements to public transport infrastructure, as well as the revamping of the Alexander Stadium.
2	When was the go ahead made by the council for the A34 Highways improvement works?	The decision to construct the A34 Perry Barr highway improvement scheme was taken in December 2019.
3	How much is the entire scheme costing?	The cost of the entire scheme is £27m, which is being largely funded through Government Infrastructure Grant. This investment in infrastructure will help make Perry Barr one of the best-connected districts in the city.
4	When did Phase One start and what works were undertaken?	The first phase of works started in June 2020 and focused on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widening parts of Harrier Way and the A34, with a temporary road layout created to ensure safety. • Diversion of utilities and laying of new drainage at Harrier Way and Aston Lane/Wellington Road • Structural works for the new bridge at Birchfield Island.
5	When is Phase Two starting and how long will it take?	Phase Two works will start in January and complete in May 2021.
6	What do the Phase Two works include?	The second phase of works will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary works to enable the new traffic management arrangement; • Site clearance, including dismantling of the flyover; • Complete widening the carriageway for the new road layout; • Structural works to the new bridge at Birchfield Road, and • Infrastructure works throughout the area.
7	In addition to the A34, what other roads will be affected by the works?	A number of roads will be affected by the works, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4040 Aston Lane • A4040 Wellington Road • A453 Aldridge Road • Harrier Way; and • Birchfield Road.
8	How will traffic be managed during the works?	In order to construct the new infrastructure, we will be installing a new temporary road layout for the safety of both our site staff and the public. This will be in place for the duration of the second phase and will include the following measures:

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing the flyover; • Temporary signals at Harrier Way and the One Stop crossing; and • Changing the signal timings at the Harrier Way / Aldridge Road junction. <p>This new layout will be installed over the weekend of 8 January 2021 and will be in place for approximately five months.</p>
9	When will the flyover be closed to traffic?	The flyover will be closed from the weekend of the 8 - 11 January 2021.
10	How will the flyover be dismantled?	<p>The methodology for the dismantling of the flyover prioritises health and safety of road users and construction workers above all else. Every possible step will be taken to minimise disruption, with monitoring in place throughout construction.</p> <p>The flyover will be dismantled in stages, starting off with preparatory works such as the removal of railings and planning of carriageway surfaces.</p> <p>This will be followed by a weekend closure of the A34 Northbound to dismantle the main deck. Access to the One Stop Shopping centre will be maintained, as will southbound traffic movement.</p> <p>Once the main deck is dismantled, lower level structures will be removed, during which time the road will remain open and the usual Phase Two Traffic Management will be in place.</p>
11	How have you notified residents and road users of these works?	<p>Residents will receive a letter to notify them of the works and signs will be placed in the highway to notify road users of the upcoming changes to the road layout.</p> <p>With our partners at Transport for West Midlands (TfWM), we launched an awareness campaign at the end of November to provide advanced notice of these works.</p> <p>We will continue to use a range of channels of communication, including the media, social media and regular updates to our website.</p> <p>Additionally, a Travel Demand Management (TDM) campaign is being rolled out to help you plan journeys, including live updates through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WM Network website www.wmnetwork.co.uk/plan-your-journey • Radio adverts • Outdoor advertising • Adnozzles (Ads on petrol pumps) • Social media (paid campaign) • Webinars for schools and businesses

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12	Will there be any additional traffic management required for phase two?	A weekend closure of the A34 Northbound will be required to dismantle the main deck of the flyover and there may be other slight modifications to the traffic management to open up works areas and keep the staff working on site safe.
13	How can I find out about any changes to the traffic management?	The weekly traffic management bulletin informs of any future traffic management changes for the scheme and is available at www.birmingham.gov.uk/perry-barr-regen .
14	How do you intend to manage congestion during the works?	<p>A range of measures will be implemented both locally and in the surrounding area to minimise disruption across the network for all users.</p> <p>These measures will be informed by real time data that allows us to efficiently target our mitigation responses. They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real time monitoring of journey times via CCTV and ANPR Cameras • Optimisation of traffic signals along A4 and in the area around Perry Barr to allow for reactive network management. • Variable Message Signs at key decision points. • Travel demand management plan and messaging. <p>The Travel Demand Management (TDM) plan will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep people informed about what's happening in the area. • Make people aware of travel options available. • Support people to make changes to how they travel, where they can. <p>This will be complemented by media and social media activity to promote the works.</p>
15	Have you engaged with local schools to make them aware of the works?	Yes. As part of the TDM plan, with are engaging with schools and other education venues to help them with travel advice.
16	Was there consultation on installing ANPR and CCTV and how will these be used?	Working with West Midlands Police, all residents within 100m of a new CCTV and ANPR camera have been consulted in accordance with national guidelines. With these in place, we will be able to minimise disruption by providing live updates and faster, targeted responses to any issues arising.
17	Will One Stop Shopping be open as usual?	Yes.
18	Will I be able to enter and leave One Stop Shopping in the usual way by car / on foot?	Access to One Stop Shopping will be maintained at all times.
19	Will the works affect deliveries to the One Stop Centre?	No. Access for deliveries will be maintained.

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20	Will businesses be affected by the works?	We are keeping access open to all businesses throughout the works and implementing a significant programme of mitigations to minimise any impact on journey times. More broadly, the regeneration of Perry Barr will present significant benefits and opportunities to businesses.
21	Will the bus services operate in the normal way?	There will be some changes to bus services during the weekend when the Northbound A34 is closed. Any changes to the services will be notified in the usual way. For more information on timetables go to www.wmnetwork.co.uk/plan-your-journey/timetables
22	How can I plan my journey to work?	To better plan your journeys to and from Perry Barr, visit www.wmnetwork.co.uk/perrybarr
23	How will cyclists be affected by the works and what steps are being taken to ensure cyclists are kept safe?	Cyclists who wish to travel on the highway will be able to continue to do so. Once complete, this scheme will extend the A34 cycle route to Perry Barr centre, with ambitions to continue the route further north.
24	As a pedestrian, will I be able to cross the A34 at all times from the One Stop Junction through to Aldridge Road?	Yes. Pedestrian crossing facilities will be available at all times. Where necessary, pedestrian diversions will be introduced.
25	There are lots of construction projects in this area, won't this work put their completion dates at risk?	All works that form part of the regeneration of Perry Barr have been carefully planned and coordinated to ensure the timely completion of all schemes.
26	What steps are being taken to work during the COVID-19 pandemic?	The works will continue to comply with Government advice relating to construction works and social distancing amidst the COVID-19 restrictions.
27	Have you carried out an Air Quality assessment?	An Air Quality assessment has been carried out for the full scheme and was included in the Full Business Case. It showed that the scheme would drive air quality benefits to local residents.
28	What accessibility provisions have been made for people with disabilities?	The A34 Perry Barr highway improvement scheme will provide significant improvements to those with disabilities by improving step-free access and making footways wider.
29	What happens once Phase Two works are completed?	The final phase of work will take the scheme to completion and is expected to have less of an impact on through traffic.
30	Who do I contact if I have a query about this work?	Should you have any queries about the works, please e-mail transport.projects@birmingham.gov.uk
31	How can I find out more about Perry Barr's regeneration plans?	Please visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/perry-barr-regen

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32	How often will you be updating us on these works and how?	We will continue to provide regular weekly updates on our website and are working closely with Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) to keep people informed about what is happening in the area and provide advice on the various travel options available during the works.