

Upham Road Essential Improvements Project Bulletin 3

GRIFFITHS
civil engineering and construction

Delivering on behalf of
Swindon Borough Council



Progress So Far – Phase 1

Despite our best efforts it has emerged that we are not going to complete Phase 1 within the anticipated 5-week time period. We have encountered several unforeseen problems which includes the impact of the prolonged and incredibly hot weather. The new concrete has cracked in some places due to the heat when drying, despite efforts to cool it, meaning it has had to be removed and re-poured. The desire to make progress caused us to pour concrete in the heat of the day when local temperatures on site were regularly above 30 degrees centigrade. Such temperatures were not anticipated over when the programme was developed. This additional cost has been covered by Griffiths.

Once we have finished pouring concrete in Phase 1, we must add a binding surface of tarmac (temporary road surface) before traffic can return onto this area.

As a consequence, we now anticipate that we will not complete Phase 1 until **Monday 13th August**. All side roads entering the Phase 1 works will reopen, with the exception of Parklands Road where our compound **will remain** until completion of Phase 2.

On Monday 13th August we shall move the road closure down to Phase 2, which will mean there is still no through road to Drove Road from Upham Road. Barriers will also be in place across Burford Avenue. **From this point on, residents in Phase 1 may return to their drives and refuse collections will be returned as normal.**

During Phase 2 the signed temporary diversion will be in place, which will direct traffic from Drove Road, along Cumberland Road, into Burford Avenue, where the traffic will be diverted along Walcot Road and onto South View Avenue. The **Bus Gate** off Queens Drive will **remain open** to all traffic until the conclusion of the works.

We apologise for the delay and thank you for your patience and understanding during this difficult time.

Project Details Phase 2 Programme and Access

Where: Drove Road to Immanuel URC Church

What is closed: Full road closure with no access at any time to residents. Access to the Church, OK4U, Holy Rood School will be maintained where possible during the works. We will inform you where access may be limited. Progress will mean the landscape will change daily.

When: Starting **Monday, 13th August** anticipated **6 weeks** (depending on scale of repair and unforeseen delays)

Hours of Work: 8am until 6pm Monday to Friday and half day some Saturdays

We require all vehicles removed from house holder's driveways in the phase 2 area of Upham Road only for the duration of the works, with the exception of **blue badge holders** on **MONDAY 13th AUGUST by 8am**.

Street parking only is available. Please remember that enforcement of yellow line or bus stop parking has been suspended for the duration of works **along Upham Road only**.

TUESDAY 14TH AUGUST - We shall be planing off the top surface of the entire Phase 2 area. This means There will be **no vehicle access to residents or businesses** on this day. Emergency Services have been advised and will always have access.

WEDNESDAY 15TH AUGUST – Engineers will have the first opportunity to inspect the concrete areas and will decide how much needs to be replaced.

THURSDAY 16TH AUGUST – Groundworks shall begin in earnest replacing the Eastbound half of Phase 2 first.

Businesses and Holy Rood School - We shall be speaking to each business individually to see how best we can manage their needs during the works. A further newsletter will follow when we have more details. As a consequence of the Phase 1 programme delays this may mean we are unable to fully complete Phase 2 by the return of the school term in September. As the end of school term approaches we want to make school staff and parents aware that when you return in September we shall make provisions to manage traffic so that entry is from Drove Road only and exit by turning right along Upham Road out of the Phase 2 area (a temporary one – way system). For those living outside the immediate works area please follow the council website for updates during the summer holidays. Signage will be in place. www.swindon.gov.uk/uphamroad

Phase 2 - continued

It is important to stress if you have any large delivery items or removals planned during this time to contact Jim Aitken to coordinate this with the Works Foreman. Please advise delivery companies of the road closure or available access to Upham Road via the Bus Gate for those living at the top end of Upham Road.

Phase 3

Phase 3 continues to remain budget dependant. This should be clarified shortly, and then this information will be made available on the council website.

Refuse Collection Weeks

During Phase 2: Upham Rd Phase 2 Residents Only - Remember to put your bins out at the nearest junction available to you for collection of rubbish and recycling every alternate **Thursdays**. Our workers will assist you if you need help. Drove Road collections are the same as Upham Road so those living **near** the Drove Road entrance please place on Drove Rod for collection. **Garden Waste** collection is on alternate **Fridays** and the same applies.

We shall move **Blue Badge Holders** refuse on **Wednesday Afternoons** and Garden Waste on **Thursday Afternoons**.

Please ensure you have your house number on any bin receptacle so you can identify it to return. We shall return them for Blue Badge Holders.



Perhaps you could help those neighbours who may struggle to carry heavy items, who we are unaware of this update. If you are able to help, please offer where you can to those who may need it.

Bus Gate Queens Drive

Many teething problems in the use of the bus gate have been resolved during Phase 1 but the following points are important to emphasise.



- The Council are monitoring the volume and flow using the traffic lights and will amend the sequencing should they need to onto Queens Drive.
- Queens Drive is a busy 'A' road and has priority due to the volume of traffic, **so please be patient**.
- Road users are reminded to drive right up to the stop line to ensure the traffic light sequence is activated.
- Do not use the bus lanes along Queens Drive.

Bus Service Update

In addition to the existing bus diversions, there will be a minibus service K4 put in place for the duration of the works, which will run from the Queens Park bus stop on Drove Road going to the town centre. Now there is change to this route to start at Burford Avenue, then visit Queens Park, Central Library and Swindon Town Centre. This service runs four times a day from Burford Avenue at 9.30am, 11.30am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm from Monday to Saturday.

Details of the works can be seen on the Swindon.Gov website www.swindon.gov.uk/uphamroad
This shall be populated and updated during the work.

Griffiths Public Liaison Officer Jim Aitken can be contacted:
T: 0330 041 4637* E: uphamroad@alungriffiths.co.uk

* Calls to this number are charged at national call rates and included in inclusive minute plans from landlines and mobiles.

