

Highways England
Woodlands
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12 August 2019

Dear Occupier,

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

We are writing to keep you updated on progress and 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 the nearest residents to our scheduled work, so that you are aware of our plans and know what is happening and why.

While we analyse feedback from our recent public consultation, this programme is the next step in designing the scheme, and isn't the start of construction. The information will help us design the structures required 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 and will continue to liaise with landowners to ensure that 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 enclosed 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.

More details on each different technique being used, and when and where we're working, can be found in the enclosed guide. This is also available to download on our website (www.highwaysengland.co.uk/a428).

If you have a land interest which is impacted by these works, we will have already written to you with more information including the relevant contact details should you have any specific questions.

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 lane 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.

There is the potential for some of the drilling equipment to be noisy for those living within a few hundred metres of our work. Please be assured that where we think there will be an impact, we will take necessary measures to mitigate this as much as possible.

If you would like further information about the scheme, more detail can be found on our website www.highwaysengland.co.uk/a428. To receive an email alert when new information is published, click on 'subscribe here'.

Should you have any questions about our ground investigations and surveys, please contact us at info@a428.co.uk

Yours faithfully



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