

A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme November to December 2018

Sections 1 and 2 - Alconbury to the 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: Narrow lanes and a 40-mph speed limit remain in force on the A1 and both north and southbound carriageways will continue to be closed intermittently for the installation of gantry technology.

Section 3: There will be a closure of the A1198 at Ermine Street bridge at the end of November for the installation of lighting. We'll advise you of the exact date when it's confirmed. The next closures in this section will be for completion Conington Road Bridge, either at the end of 2018 or early 2019.



Sections 4 & 5: The A14 will be closed between junctions 26 (St Ives) and 29 (Bar Hill) during the weekend of Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 November for the demolition of the old bridge at Swavesey.

The week-night closures of the A14 between the Girton Interchange and Milton will end shortly as the works move into phase two. Intermittent night works are anticipated to continue until the end of 2018 and we'll give good notice of the dates.

You can contact us on our dedicated A14 Public Helpline 0800 270 0114
Scheme information is also available on our website
www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A14C2H and you can also follow us at:



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Construction Activities:

Section 1: We're still on schedule to complete the A1 north of Brampton Hut and open the new carriageway before Christmas. Since the new alignment of Wooley Road is reliant upon the completion of the new Ellington junction, the temporary access from Wooley Road onto the new A1 alignment will remain in place. This new route will link the new Ellington Junction and Brampton Hut.

Section 2: We have reached the end of an extensive and very productive earthworks season. You may see that most of the big earthmoving equipment is now at a standstill. Some vehicles will move to other projects, while others remain on site to undergo maintenance ready for use in spring 2019.

At the River Great Ouse crossing, pictured below, we've crossed the river and are heading towards the railway crossing.

We expect the bridge decking to be completed by the end of the year and early in 2019 both the viaduct and East Coast Mainline bridge will open, connecting sections 2 and 3 for the first time.

80% of the gantries have been installed on the A1 and these will be connected in the first few months of 2019. Using the latest sophisticated technology, these will display up-to date information for road users.



Section 3: Drainage installation continues in this section and the foundation of the carriageways are almost ready for asphalt to be applied in November. The top-soiled banks are being seeded with varieties of grasses and mixtures of wildflowers.

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Construction of the Offord Road and Conington Road bridges is progressing well and preliminary work has started on New Barns Lane in preparation for construction of the section's last bridge in the New Year. At the East Coast Main Line bridge, the carriageway-approach embankments have been built up behind the abutments.

Sections 4 and 5:

The new bridge at Swavesey (pictured below) will be open to traffic in the first week of November. The demolition of the existing bridge is scheduled to take place during a weekend closure on the 17 and 18 November.



Work on the new local access roads which will run from Oakington Road to Huntingdon Road and Girton to Dry Drayton is progressing well. We anticipate that traffic will be using these roads this winter (2018/19). Construction of the new road into Cambridge Crematorium is well underway.

A temporary junction from the westbound carriageway has been created for Lolworth village to allow works to start at the location of the old alignment.

The night works along the Cambridge Northern Bypass will end soon. We've removed the central safety barrier and resurfaced the road, allowing traffic to move across as we start to widen this section of the A14. During the next phase, most of the work will be carried out during the day.

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Section 6 Huntingdon Works:

Early preparatory work in this section will start later this year, but the removal of the viaduct cannot begin until A14 traffic is on the new road. The recent information we have shared about our work in Huntingdon can be found via this link:

[A14-Cambridge to Huntingdon- Preview of plans for Huntingdon](#)

Community Engagement

The A14 Mobile Visitor Centre will be at the following events/venues:

- Alconbury Memorial Hall, School Lane PE28 4EQ
Tuesday 6 November, 3pm to 6.30pm
- Wyton Primary School, Cambridge Square, Wyton on the Hill, Wyton, Huntingdon
PE28 2JB
Tuesday 27 November 2pm to 4.30pm

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

a14cambridgehuntingdon@highwaysengland.co.uk

Please note – For the safety of our visitor centre staff and visitors, during the winter months we will not be able to offer evening visits.

Volunteering:

The A14 team is always on the lookout for local volunteering opportunities. If you or your parishioners have any community projects we could help with, please call us on 0800 270 0114 or email Samantha.kedie@thea14.com

Ecology:



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Last spring our environment team discovered a colony of water voles in a watercourse in the path of critical A14 works. They were removed to a safe haven and cared for by ecological and veterinary experts.

During the nine months the water voles were there, the team created a bespoke habitat for this protected species, a task which would normally take between 18-24 months. This was quite a challenge during the long, hot and dry summer, but the team persevered, irrigating the new watercourse twice a daily, resulting in the rich oasis pictured above.

The little mammals bred and thrived well in captivity and in the last week of October, we released 'The A14 Twelve' along the clover-rich banks of their new home. Pictured above is one of the twelve ready for liberation. We hope this little colony will proliferate, going some way to reverse the rate of decline in the water vole population found elsewhere in the U.K.

Archaeology:

News of the discovery on the project of woolly rhino and mammoth remains, thought to have been deposited up to 130,000 years ago, has captured the attention of the national press, with widespread reporting of the story on local news channels.

Darren Hickman, pictured below, unearthed a woolly mammoth tusk while excavating in section 3. Interviewed by journalists, Darren described how he made this "once in a lifetime" find. "While excavating gravel, I did a trial load into the base clay and that's where I found the first mammoth tusk and the bones. At first it looked like a tree root or branch, but at the depth we were working, maybe five or six metres, I thought it was a bit strange to have that sort of thing so far down. I should think that you'll find something like that only once in a lifetime, so it's rare. It's a pretty good feeling."



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Dr Bill Boismier, consultant Palaeolithic archaeologist, pictured above with Darren, added, "The bones, together with other environmental evidence surviving from the Ice Age such as plant, insect, and microscopic pollen remains will help us to create a picture of the floodplain environment at the time when these remains were deposited."

These rare woolly rhino skulls (posterior view shown below the larger skull), will be cleaned, dated and preserved in London for eventual display in a museum.



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