

A14 junction 47a Haughley to 49 Tothill reconstruction scheme

e-Bulletin – May 2024

Upcoming resurfacing work and overnight closures

What have we done so far?

Despite higher than average rainfall over the winter months, we've continued to make great progress with reconstruction of the A14 between junction 47a and 49.

In the coming weeks, we will be completing installation of the safety barrier, refurbishment of the filter drains, asphalt surfacing and road markings on the westbound carriageway. We are also planning some overnight road closures, which will allow us to complete final resurfacing, line marking and finishing works, and begin removal of traffic cones and barriers as we prepare for completion in the summer.

In the meantime, the carriageway is still reduced to one lane in both directions, and the speed limit remains at 50mph to ensure the safety of our workers and other road users.

What's happening next?

As we move into the final stages of the scheme, we want to let you know about some planned overnight closures in the coming weeks which will allow us to carry out the final resurfacing, line marking and finishing work on both the eastbound and westbound carriageways. We apply the final road surface at the last stage to ensure it isn't damaged during the construction work. This also maximises the life of the road surface and ensures a better quality of finish. In the meantime, you might experience some unevenness or bumps on the temporary surface.

We understand the impact that full road closures can have on road users and the local community. Our aim has been to plan this work to reduce these impacts as much as possible, and with the least possible disruption. With this in mind, we have worked closely and collaboratively with the J43-47a resurfacing scheme to ensure that, where possible, we share our closures to reduce the impact on those travelling in the area. Our closures are also planned overnight, as this is when traffic levels are lighter. So, if you don't see us working on the road during the day, this is why.

During our closures, we urge customers to:

- Plan ahead
- Follow the diversion routes and signage in place and not sat nav's
- Allow more time for your journey when travelling in the area

Once complete, our project will extend the life of the road, improve safety, and create smoother, quieter journeys.

When is this work happening?

Between Friday 31 May and Saturday 29 June 2024, we will be undertaking a series of overnight closures on the A14. You may also notice some lane closures in place overnight while we carry out our improvement works.

Lane closures create a safe area for our work force and live traffic while allowing the road to remain open. Where it is safe to do so, we will install lane closures instead of full closures to minimise disruption.

A list of our planned full closures are listed in the table below:

Westbound Carriageway Closures	Eastbound Carriageway Closures	Diversion Route
Between 8pm and 6am	Between 8pm and 6am	
Friday 31 May Saturday 1 June (contingency date – may not be required) Saturday 8 June Sunday 23 June Friday 28 June Saturday 29 June (contingency date – may not be required)	Friday 7 June Monday 10 - Saturday 15 June Monday 17 - Saturday 22 June Monday 24 June - Thursday 27 June Saturday 29 June (contingency date – may not be required)	Westbound traffic will be diverted to exit the A14 at junction 51, before taking the A140 towards Diss and then the A143 towards Bury St Edmunds to re-join the A14 at J43. Eastbound traffic will exit at junction 43, then take the A143 and the A140, before re-joining the A14 at junction 51.

The dates listed above will be subject to factors including weather and work progress. For all of the above closures, fully signed diversion routes will be in place.

To keep updated on our work and to see our interactive diversion maps for these closures, please visit our scheme webpage: <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/east/a14-junction-47a-haughley-to-49-tohill-reconstruction-scheme/>

We know there's never a good time to close a busy road like the A14 and understand closures can cause disruption to journeys, for which we apologise.

We would like to thank all customers and local residents for their patience while we carry out this important work.

Rat running

We're aware of the concerns voiced by local residents about some motorists using smaller, local roads during our closures. Not only do local roads have lower speed restrictions, they also aren't meant for large vehicles or high volumes of traffic, and they often have weight restrictions in place. It can also lead to more congestion, increasing the risk of accidents for both motorists and pedestrians. With this in mind, we ask drivers to follow the diversion routes in place and not use 'rat runs' during our closures, as this can impact local communities.

Keep in touch

If you have any questions about this work, you can contact us by calling our 24/7 Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000, or by emailing info@nationalhighways.co.uk. Alternatively, please visit our website to learn more about this project: <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/east/a14-junction-47a-haughley-to-49-tothill-reconstruction-scheme/>

You can also keep up to date on road closures by visiting our Traffic England website at www.trafficengland.com or by following our X feed: [@HighwaysEAST](https://twitter.com/HighwaysEAST).

Yours faithfully,

Mindy Bhogal
Project Manager, National Highways



Litter kills
3 million
animals
a year*

Discarded roadside rubbish and food lure wildlife to their death.

 **Lend a paw**
 **Bin your litter**

* Estimate based on Keep Britain Tidy, Journal of Litter and Environmental Quality

 national highways

The poster features a photograph of a squirrel standing on a road next to a discarded apple core. In the background, a white car is visible on the road. The text is set against a dark green background on the left side of the image.