

Road Maintenance in Your Area

Road Surface Improvement



A26 High Street, Hadlow

What we are doing

In October and November 2022, we will be carrying out work to the A26 High Street in Hadlow to improve the road surface.

This improvement will involve the removal of the paving blocks that fall within the running lanes of the highway which will subsequently be replaced with a bituminous/tarmac surface. The paving blocks positioned within the parking bays and outside the village shops will not be removed as part of this work.

A dedicated webpage has been created to allow us to continue to provide you with up to date information on the planning and progression of these works. This webpage can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/a26

Why we are doing this

The A26 is a strategically important route which receives a high quantity of traffic daily. It has become increasingly challenging to keep the section which runs through Hadlow in a good condition.

Over the years, with the rising levels of vehicles on our roads and the number of utility reinstatements that have taken place, the block paved surface has suffered. Each time repairs or utility reinstatements are made to a block paved road, the strength offered becomes weakened and the finished work is either completed in tarmac or the new blockwork used does not match the existing. This results in poor aesthetics and ride quality.

We have concluded that the use of a bituminous/tarmac surface is the most effective and cost-efficient way of ensuring that the road surface is best prepared to withstand traffic movements over the coming decades. This will also result in a smoother, quieter running surface.

The completion of this work will also bring the road surface in line with modern asset management principles and specifications, wherein block paved road surfaces are not considered suitable outside of lower trafficked areas.

The significant investments in this section of the road will mean that it will be significantly quieter than the one it is replacing, and it will not need to be maintained for many years to come which is good news for residents, businesses and road users alike.

Road closure, dates and durations

For the safety of our workforce, highway users and residents of Hadlow village, it will be necessary to **close the A26** to undertake these works. The positioning of our closure points will be dependent on the stage of works, as per the following:

First Weekend – 8pm on Friday 21st October to 5am on Monday 24th October

Over the first weekend, the road will be fully closed between the Hadlow College entrance until shortly before 'The Square', where the shops are located.

We will be removing approximately half the area of block pavers in the High Street and replacing them with one layer of asphalt. This layer will not be at the finished road surface height but will be safe to use on an interim basis once the road is reopened.

From Monday morning until the next Friday evening, the road will be fully open for use.

Second Weekend – 8pm on Friday 28th October to 5am on Monday 31st October

On the second weekend, the road will be fully closed between Carpenters Lane and 'The Two Brewers' Public House.

There will also be a need for two phase temporary traffic signals between Carpenters Lane and Hadlow College. This is to allocate an additional storage area for our works whilst still allowing for access to and from Carpenters Lane.

We will continue with the removal of the remaining block pavers in addition to the section of asphalt where the traffic signals are located. Again, we will subsequently apply one layer of asphalt and the road will reopen for use between Monday morning to the Friday evening

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Third Weekend – 8pm on Friday 4th November to 5am on Monday 7th November

During the third weekend, the road will be closed between Hadlow College and 'The Two Brewers' Public House.

On this weekend, some time will initially be spent preparing the road to receive the final layer of asphalt in addition to ensuring all areas of the road within the site extent are of a good standard.

Once the final layer of asphalt is removed, the site will be cleared and the road will be open for traffic during Monday daytime.

Some limited, managed access may be available beyond our closure points during this weekend, but this will depend on our works progression at any given time. Please speak to our on-site operatives for guidance.

Weeknights – Monday 7th November (8pm to 5am) & Tuesday 8th November (8pm to 5am)

For the final aspects of work, which take place over two weeknights, the road will be closed between Hadlow College and 'The Two Brewers' Public House.

Works over these two nights will focus on upgrades to drain and inspection covers in the road to offer better longevity, in addition to the application of an anti-skid surface at the signal controlled pedestrian crossing for safety purposes.

The reapplication of any road markings which remain outstanding within our work area will also be completed over these two remaining nights.

Some limited, managed access may be available beyond our closure points during these weeknights, but this will depend on our works progression at any given time. Please speak to our on-site operatives for guidance.

The road will again be open to daytime traffic during Tuesday daytime. If our anticipated progression of works is accurate and not impacted by weather or unforeseen events, from Wednesday morning, the scheme will have reached completion.

Diversion route

The primary diversion for through traffic is A26 Tonbridge Road / B2016 Seven Mile Lane / A20 London Road / A227 Wrotham Bypass / A227 Borough Green Road / A227 Western Road / A25 Borough Green Road / A227 Tonbridge Road / A227 Shipbourne Road / Yardley Park Road / A26 Hadlow Road / A26 Tonbridge Road and vice versa.

How you can help us

Please ensure vehicles are not parked on the road or pavement as this could cause delays to our work and an increased disruption period. We will place out yellow cones within the parking bays to define the location of parking restrictions over specific weekends.

If you reside within the active work's area or within our site storage areas, there may unfortunately be restrictions in obtaining vehicular access to your property during the times of our closure. If this applies to you and you are aware of any upcoming journeys you'll need to make, please do park your vehicle elsewhere before our works commence to avoid issues in exiting your property or parking location.

If you do have any requests or issues whilst the road is closed, please approach our on-site operatives who will be able to offer guidance and make efforts to resolve issues whenever possible. Please do be patient with our staff in these situations as we will genuinely make every effort to minimise disruption all the while safety is not impacted upon.

For your safety and the safety of our workforce, please drive carefully and slowly when close to the area

How to contact us?

If you need more information, you can visit the scheme webpage at www.kent.gov.uk/a26 to view the most up to date details. If you have a specific query which has not been addressed, you can let us know via our online reporting tool, <https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>, by selecting 'resurfacing - information required'.

You can also view our diversion/permit details at www.one.network. Alternatively, you can call us on **03000 418181**.