



A249 Key Street Improvement Scheme

By

Kent County Council

Newsletter Issue 4 – June 2025



Works progressing on Sheppey Way south/Key Street north.

**We are considerate
constructors**



We are registered with the Considerate Constructors Scheme
Call: 0800 783 1423 visit: www.ccscheme.org.uk



GOOD WORKS



Dear Stakeholder,

Works on Sheppey Way south and Key Street north are progressing as planned. We are also making good progress on Chestnut Street.

Temporary traffic lights have been installed on Sheppey Way to allow our workforce safe access to the works area and to ensure the safety of road users.

Traffic Management

From **Monday 14 July 2025**, Chestnut Street will be closed from the Key Street roundabout up to the new roundabout at Chestnut Street for 12 weeks.

Diversion for this closure will be via Junction 5 and Danaway. We will send details of this closure and the diversion route in a separate traffic management update.

Progress update and upcoming works:

In June, on Sheppey Way south and Key Street north, we continued with ducting works, drainage, lighting, and utilities road crossings to the central island.

Due to the presence of Japanese knotweed, the landscaping and earthworks operations on the corner of Bobbing Hill/Sheppey Way have been delayed. Treatment and clearance works have started, and we will continue the footpath works when completed.

On Chestnut Street, we have completed the installation of edgings, the subbase and street lighting. Tactile paving and road crossing for cable ducting across the entrance to the Abbey Homes development has also been completed.

Project phasing plans

Phase 1c – Sheppey Way works – Raise gullies/manholes, trim subbase, landscaping, lay base and binder course, installation of street lighting and signs.

Phase 4 – Sheppey Way and Key Street works – Disconnection and removal of street furniture, drainage and associated works, installation of gully pots and kerbing.

Phase 2a and 2b – Keycol Hill and Bobbing Hill works – Northern embankment works, utility works and installation of gullies.

Phase 7 – New slip road and temporary slip road off line works.

Phase 8 – Chestnut Street – general clearance, installation of street lighting ducts and columns, kerbing and footpath works.

Phase 9 – Chestnut Street (Northside) – Vegetation clearance, disconnection and removal of street furniture, drainage works, kerbing and footpath works.

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In July, we will start surfacing the footpath on Sheppey Way, towards Key Street and complete the installation of street lighting and the remaining surfacing works on Sheppey Way south. We will then start on the removal of the island at Keycol/Bobbing Hill, and start the earth works, anchor installation and footpath works.

On Chestnut Street, we will be installing road crossings using 2-way traffic lights on Chestnut Street new roundabout, for the HV diversion. After the new footpath on Chestnut Street is completed, pedestrians will be diverted onto the new footpath to allow us to remove the old one. We will then be continuing with crossings and drainage installations during the upcoming road closure.

There will be lane closures on the Key Street approach to the Key Street roundabout. This will allow us to start constructing a new footpath and road alignment, as well as moving service chambers out of the carriageway.

Working in the community

In collaboration with our traffic management contractors, Core Highways, we donated barriers, cones and road signs to Grove Park Primary school for their construction zone in the school premises. This is to help improve their play area as part of the Outdoor Play and Learn (OPAL) programme.

On Tuesday 17 June, members of our team also visited the school to facilitate an assembly on safety around construction sites, and workshop sessions where we introduced the children to construction and engineering. The school said that the children loved trying on the PPE, learning about the works and seeing pictures of the A249 and our other current projects.

Kind regards,

The Project Team

For information about the Key Street Improvement Scheme, please visit Kent County Council website via the link:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/road-projects/planned-road-projects/a249-key-street-junction>

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