



# A249 Key Street Improvement Scheme

By

**Kent County Council**

Newsletter Issue 9 – Nov/Dec 2025



*Aerial view of new Maidstone bound slip road at Chestnut Street roundabout*

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**GOOD WORKS**



Dear Stakeholder,

We have recently opened the new A249 Maidstone bound slip road from Chestnut Street roundabout as scheduled. Meanwhile, works continue on the other roads approaching the Key Street roundabout.

As we draw nearer to the end of the scheme, we will be carrying out the final Chestnut Street surfacing works in the new year. This will coincide with the final resurfacing works to the roundabout and all approaching roads.

Our aim is to complete these works between mid-January and mid-February 2026, subject to road space availability and other activity on the strategic network. We will continue working closely with Kent County Council's Streetworks team to minimise disruption and keep the project on track for our proposed end-of-February completion.

### **Traffic Management update**

We continue to operate under traffic light controls to minimise disruption as much as possible. With the southbound entry slip road to Maidstone now open, traffic using Chestnut Street roundabout to access the A249 is expected to increase. We kindly ask all road users to drive with care, as works are still ongoing on the verges and footpaths at Chestnut Street.

In the new year, short-duration road closures will be required to complete the remaining works on the roundabout and carry out final surfacing. These closures will impact all the roads approaching the roundabout but will be scheduled at different times.

Full details of the traffic management arrangements will be shared separately through our traffic management updates.

### **Progress update and upcoming works:**

As mentioned earlier, major works on the new Maidstone bound slip road are now complete, and the road is now open to traffic. We have also made progress on drainage, earthworks, barriers installation, surfacing, signages and white lining.

Works to the footpath on the corner of Bobbing Hill and Sheppey Way have now continued following the removal of the Japanese Knotweed.

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We are making progress on the footpath and utility works at Keycol Hill and Bobbing Hill. Bobbing Hill has also had a new King Charles III post box installed.

### Upcoming works

In the remaining days before we break up for Christmas, we will be completing work to the footpaths on Key Street north, Sheppey Way, Bobbing Hill and Keycol. This means we will be able to reroute pedestrians so we can start the realignment of Keycol Hill, Maidstone Road and the A249 exit slip road.

**Please note that we will be closing site for the Christmas break from Tuesday 23 December, and will return to continue works on Monday 5 January 2026.** We will ensure that all roads approaching the roundabout are open to traffic, however, traffic management barriers will still be around work areas.

In the new year, upcoming works include:

- drainage improvements
- utility works
- kerb realignment
- completion of new crossings and carriageway
- site-wide landscaping and fencing
- commissioning of pedestrian crossings at Chestnut Street, Keycol Hill and Sheppey Way.
- reinstatement and surfacing of Keycol hill island
- footpath works on the southern overbridge
- construction of a new footpath from Chestnut Street and across old slip road
- works to Key Street splitter island, including bridge joints, new island construction and resurfacing.

These activities mark the final stages of the scheme, and will help us to deliver a safer, more efficient network for all road users.

Regards,

**The Project Team**

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