





A249 GROVEHURST ROAD SCHEME BY KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2













Dear Stakeholder,

Following our first newsletter, we are writing to keep you updated on our progress so far. Since arriving on site, we have been doing our best to fully integrate and carry out the works in line with the programme.

Please be aware that different construction activities will be taking place throughout the length of the scheme. These include construction of one new vehicular bridge, construction of new slip roads and a gyratory, re-alignment of Grovehurst Road junction, Swale Way, and installation of new infrastructure for associated utility diversion works.

The proposed traffic management measures required to implement the scheme will affect the following roads:

- The A249 between Bobbing junction and the Cowstead Corner roundabout on the Isle of Sheppey.
- The Grovehurst Road junction slip roads.
- Grovehurst Road (north) between Cormorant Road and the A249.
- Grovehurst Road (south) between Brambling Road and the A249.
- Swale Way between the Sittingbourne to Sheerness Rail link and the A249.

Challenges and Considerations

Currently, the re-alignment of Swale Way at the south of Grovehurst Road require overnight and weekend closures. The existing roundabouts also require closures to install additional temporary running lanes. We have identified solutions through redesign of drainage, traffic signals and through static traffic management to minimise these closures and their impact on the travelling public and major stakeholders such as the Kemsley Fields Business Partnership and Ridham Docks. We will advise stakeholders nearer the time when these closures are to be implemented.

The A249 does not have a hard shoulder and so space needs to be created for the safe installation of the bridge abutments and deck. This safe working space will be created from a mixture of lane one and slip road closures.











There is no alternative traffic routing for the industrial estates at the Kemsley Paper Mill and Ridham Docks. As such, slip road closures need to be sequenced so there is always at least one slip road to access and exit the A249. These traffic management changes and updates will be given as notices in advance to stakeholders.

Project Phases:

Construction operations are in three phases. Traffic management plans for each of these phases will be communicated in advance to stakeholders through signage, emails and letter drops to help everyone plan their journeys. Below is a summary for each phase.

Phase 1

Key construction operations requiring traffic management include:

- Construction of the northern quadrants of the gyratory (Land east of Iwade) and a new northbound on slip (towards the Isle of Sheppey).
- Construction of the developer roundabout.
- Construction of the southern quadrants of the gyratory (land owned by Nicholls and Great Grovehurst farmland)
- Construction of the new vehicle bridge.
- Works to divert utility supplies to ensure an uninterrupted supply to local homes and businesses.

Phase 2

Key construction operations requiring traffic management include:

- Continuation of works in phase 1.
- Construction of Swale Way tie-ins, utilities, and drainage.
- Install crossings on Swale Way
- Works to the south of Grovehurst Road
- Installing the bridge deck
- Southbound (towards Stockbury roundabout) slip road works.











Phase 3

Key construction operations requiring traffic management include:

Tie-ins, signals, signs, and lighting.

Progress Update:

We are already hard at work by clearing vegetation, relocating reptiles and Water Vole, conducting searches for existing ground material, relocating stockpiles, excavating sub formation and placement of general fill for earthworks, trialling holes to locate existing utility pipes and putting up traffic management – lane closures on Great Grovehurst Road north and Swale way.

Planned works for September.

- Vegetation clearance for the north and south abutments.
- Continued reptile relocation.
- Continued searches for existing ground material.
- Excavation of sub formation and placement of granular fill for earthworks' operations.
- Trial holes to locate existing utility apparatus.
- Install traffic management on National Highways network (A249 and associated slip roads).
- Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) surveys.
- Earthworks.
- Installation of monitoring systems.
- Construction of permanent compound location.
- Site clearance works.
- Excavation to formation and construction of working platforms for piling operations on the north & south abutments.

For more information about the Grovehurst Road Project, please visit: A249 Grovehurst Road and Key Street - Kent County Council on the KCC website.

For further enquiries, please send an email to <u>GrovehurstRoad@jackson-civils.co.uk</u> or call the Jackson PLO on 07811941681



