

This newsletter is your regular update on the scheme



The £1.5bn project includes a major new bypass to the south of Huntingdon and upgrades to 21 miles of the A14, boosting the local and national economy and cutting up to 20 minutes off journeys.



Where are we now?

Work on the scheme is progressing well. We've finished clearing the site, built our construction compounds and started the permanent works including earthworks and bridge building.

We've continued installing the narrow lanes on the A14. These allow us to gain the space we need to carry out work without closing lanes, minimising the impact on drivers.

Over the next few months, we will continue bridge building and archaeological excavations, and will be excavating and moving the materials needed to build the road.

Traffic management

Any work requiring lane or full closures will take place at night. Diversions have been agreed with Cambridgeshire County Council and will be clearly signposted.

Over the next few months, the following traffic management will be used:

- Overnight closures on the A1 between Alconbury and Buckden
- Overnight closures on both the A428 and A14
- Narrow lanes on the A14

The safety, of road workers and road users, is our priority and has been the main focus of the team in designing the traffic management we use.

Using 40mph speed limits through roadworks helps to minimise risks and ensure a safer working environment for our construction teams and the travelling public.

We are continually reviewing our approach based on work taking place and feedback from you.



www.highways.gov.uk/A14C2H



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Striving for excellence on the A14C2H scheme

The Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) is a non-profit organisation set up in 1997 by the construction industry. Construction sites, companies and suppliers can voluntarily register with the scheme and agree to follow a five point Code of Considerate Practice, designed to encourage best practice beyond the statutory requirements.

The five sections of the code are;

- Care about appearance
- Respect the community
- Protect the environment
- Secure everyone's safety
- Value the workforce

Twice a year, CCS visit sites and award a score out of 50 against the above list.

The top 10% of sites are invited to the annual national awards, with bronze, silver and gold awards presented.

Highways England and our A14 Integrated Delivery Team contractors (Balfour Beatty, Carillion, Costain and Skanska) are all members of CCS, fully supporting the drive to improve what can still be a negative view of construction. When we heard there was an opportunity to push ourselves and the industry further, with the CCS Ultra Site, we were keen to get involved.

In June we were formally accepted as the first road Ultra Site and over the next three years we will be working closely with our supply chain to set very high standards across the project. We'll report back in future newsletters.



Work on the River Great Ouse Viaduct is progressing well

Update on the A14 Community Fund

The A14 Community Fund launched a year ago and we've had some great entries.

The fund supports projects that reflect the changes the scheme will bring to the area, with up to £10,000 of funding.

So far, we have confirmed funding to 11 different projects, including:

- **The Countryside Restoration Trust** received £9005 to support water voles.
- **The Offords Recreation Hut** (Offord Village Hall) received £2,160 to provide a secure bicycle parking facility for village hall users.
- **Histon & Impington Community Orchard Project** received £1,752 to complete and maintain the orchard by providing some tools and an information sign.
- **Groundwork East** received £10,000 to improve confidence and skills in people furthest from employment by growing wildflower plugs for use on the borrow pit nature reserves created by the A14.
- **Alconbury C of E Primary School** received £5,000 for an artist to work with the community to update 5 murals in the school hall.

- **Cambridge Science Centre** received £9,780 to create a new cross-disciplinary workshop tying in the environment and engineering, using the A14 as a case study.
- **Great Paxton Parish Council** received £3,000 to conduct a feasibility study into options to provide a safe alternative to the hazardous B1043 for cyclists.

Gerard Smith, Head of Legacy, said: 'This scheme will bring positive change to this area and it's great to be able to encourage and support projects that build on that to improve life in local communities.'

For more information about the A14 Community Fund, visit www.cambscf.org.uk/A14.html



A day in the life of....Paul Curtis, Traffic Officer Team Manager



Tell us a bit about yourself

I've been working for the Traffic Officer service for 12 years, based at Whittlesford Outstation. We're the most northern outstation in the East and cover the M11, A14, A11 and A1(M).

For the last 27 years, I've also been a Station Officer in Charge of an 'on call' fire station in Saffron Walden, Essex. I find that both roles complement each other.

What is your role on the project?

My role is varied and interesting and, as a team, we've been involved in the A14C2H project from

the outset. We support the road work crews, the free recovery agents (for vehicles that break down within the road works) and our emergency service partners in the event of an incident on the road.

What does an average day look like?

There's no such thing as an average day. So far today, the team has attended a vehicle fire on the M11, three debris calls (two lounge chairs and a tyre), a couple of minor collisions and two pedestrians on the carriageway.

What's the most challenging part of your day?

It can be very unpredictable. We can find ourselves called to support critical incidents at very short notice. Yesterday, we had to manage a full closure of the M11 and A14 at Girton due

to an HGV fire. It took fire crews over 5 hours to extinguish it and the duty team manager spent the whole 8.5 hour night shift managing this incident alongside the fire & rescue service incident commander.

What in your job are you most proud of?

In the 12 years I have been a traffic officer I can honestly say I still enjoy coming to work (even on dark winter nights in sub-zero temperatures!) and playing my part in the team that keeps our roads moving. I work with a great team of people who are passionate about providing excellent customer service, and keeping road users and workers safe.

It's an incredibly rewarding role.

Thank you for your feedback!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our communications survey. Feedback from those who use the road helps us to understand how we can make our communications as effective as possible.

Nearly 70% of you heard about the survey via our website or social media. The results are therefore unlikely to reflect the views of those who don't use the internet, and may have a different perspective. Any changes made to our communications will be made with this in mind.

You said:

- 73% of you use the A14 to travel to and from work, or for business purposes, and more than 50% use the road every weekday.
- 96% of you said you wanted more information on road closures and diversions. 70% felt that general information about the scheme's progress is also useful.
- The most frequently used information sources are the local media, the scheme website and social media.
- When asked what channels we should use more, results shifted slightly. The top choice was the scheme website, followed by email alerts, social media and then the local press.

What's changed since this survey went live:

- We've launched our mobile visitor centre, which allows us to visit a much wider range of communities, businesses and other groups to update you about the scheme. Our current programme of events can be found on our website, www.highways.gov.uk/A14C2H, along with details of how to book the centre.
- We've started sharing traffic management information on our social media channels.
- We've created a series of diversion route maps to share with you.

What we're doing next:

- exploring ways to improve the information provided on our website.
- reviewing social media to improve both the quality of information shared and;
- looking for ways to broaden our reach.
- promoting our newsletter as widely as possible, so that people are kept informed on scheme progress. Progress stories will also be shared on social media.
- investigating other opportunities to keep people informed about traffic management.
- promoting our email alerts, which you can sign up to at www.highways.gov.uk/A14C2H

Keep in touch:

Visit our website
www.highways.gov.uk/A14C2H

Send us an email
A14CambridgeHuntingdon@highwaysengland.co.uk

Give us a call
0300 123 5000

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