



The Road Ahead

Keeping our neighbours in the know

DELIVERING
THE SOUTHERN
LINK ROAD

December 2023

Welcome to the latest edition of The Road Ahead with the most up to date news on construction of the SLR.

We hope these newsletters provide you with timely information so you know what is happening during this major project.

We welcome your feedback so please let us know if you have any concerns or want to check information. Our contact details are at the bottom of the newsletter.

What is happening in December?

Oxford Archaeology - Due to the relentless wet weather recently, large parts of the archaeology site (to the east of Hawton) have been under water. Oxford Archaeology will be monitoring the site and are hoping to resume their work in the new year. During the Christmas break there will be a security presence, based purely at the compound space, and maintained by Magpie Security.

Brehehy SLR site (Bowbridge Road to Farndon) - Additional delivery lorries may be noticed in the run up to Christmas as the first surfacing of the SLR commences. Approx. 10,000 tons of tarmac is being delivered and laid but delivery lorries should not be travelling through Hawton village. In general terms, you should see a lessening in the activity on site over the festive period, with security patrols maintaining a 24hr presence.

Piling mats for the bridge over the River Devon will also require some stone deliveries in this period, but these are very limited with the bulk of the material already on site. Substation and foul water pumping station works will continue, but should have very minimal impact on surrounding communities, as they are located in the middle of the construction site and not visible from nearby residential areas.

ECL SLR site (Staple Lane) - Work is expected to begin early around the Saint Gobain roundabout (between Staple Lane and Middlebeck) - this will include introducing temporary traffic lights in early December, which will be in place until Spring, but will be removed over the festive break to ease traffic movements. This work will enable the diversion of utilities and new drainage ditches to be created, allowing the roundabout construction to start.

You may notice some of the trees and hedgerow which sit along the boundary to ECL's SLR construction site (opposite Welcome Break services) have been removed, to enable the embankment to be re-aligned as part of the SLR works. Only vegetation which is essential for access has been removed, and all other trees and shrubs will be retained.



Working with County and Parish Councillors

In late November, Urban&Civic were part a very constructive meeting at the offices of Newark & Sherwood District Council, called with a view to developing and improving communications to affected communities during the construction of Newark's Southern Link Road. Representatives from the County, District and Parish Councils were in attendance, and we very much valued the input we received which will be crucial to making sure all information we give to the public is useful and timely.

We have committed to continuing these meetings as the road construction continues. Future activity will include, but is not limited to, consultation with local residents around the closure of Hawton Road in February 2024.

Closure of Hawton Road (North) in 2024

To enable the realignment and raising up of Hawton Road (north), between Riverside and the village of Hawton, a full road closure needs to be in place starting in February 2024. This closure will be maintained for up to 9 months, although we are hoping to reduce this to around 6 months pending approval from the relevant local authorities. We are also awaiting a specific date for the closure to start but it is likely to be mid-late February. It has to be a complete closure with no vehicular or pedestrian access for safety reasons.

As we get closer to the closure, we will be working to make sure we communicate regularly with local people as effectively as possible, particularly the Hawton/Riverside communities. We have installed three new noticeboards dedicated to updates on the road, which you'll find next to Hawton's All Saints churchyard, at the end of Grange Road near the shops, and on London Road opposite the junction to Staple Lane – please keep an eye on these for the latest information, or our website at <https://www.middlebecknewark.com/southern-link-road/>

We will also be consulting residents of Hawton in early January to plan for the impact of the road closure and to see what support we can put in place to minimise inconvenience during this time. We will be in touch!

All of us at Middlebeck wish you a happy and healthy festive period, and a prosperous 2024!

Connect with us

If you have a question that isn't answered by reading this newsletter you can visit us at TheView, Bowbridge Lane, NG24 3XP. We are located above Gannets café, accessible from the carpark and open Monday – Friday between 09.00 – 17.30.

Alternatively, you can email us at newark@urbanandcivic.com or call us on **07391 417 091**.

