

Railway Upgrade Plan work in and around Bristol

Update: February 2016

Easton Road Bridge

Network Rail's 'orange army' is reminding residents across Bristol, that the essential work required to electrify the line between Bristol and London is well underway. Work started at Easton Road on Christmas Day with the installation of a temporary service bridge to allow essential utilities in the original bridge to be moved (see below). Now work is being undertaken to prepare the bridge for demolition later in the year.

The team will be demolishing and rebuilding the bridge as part of the company's Railway Upgrade Plan, creating the additional space needed for the overhead lines that will power the faster, longer, greener and quieter electric trains to run underneath. See here for more info:

<http://www.networkrail.co.uk/asp/12273.aspx>

To carry out the reconstruction, a single lane closure has been in operation since Monday, 18th January 2016. This will remain in place for three weeks until Monday, 8th February 2016, ahead of a full road closure for the following nine weeks.

Network Rail has tried to minimise disruption to lineside neighbours by using a partial road closure, but further work on moving essential services on the bridge will require a full closure of the road. Diversions in place as follow:

Vehicle diversion is Easton Rd, A4320, A420, Russell Town Ave.

Pedestrian diversion is Brixton Rd, Midland Rail Bridge, Russell Town Ave, with a subsequent pedestrian diversion over the service bridge once this is complete

The road will then re-open fully between Friday, 8 April, 2016 to Monday, 8th May 2016, prior to the main bridge demolition and reconstruction. Project due for completion in the new year.



Midland Railway Bridge

Work will start on the Midland Railway Bridge, near Russell Town Avenue on the 8th February 2016 and continue until 8th April 2016 (finish night working 7th May). The following working hours will be undertaken during this period:

Monday to Friday; 08.00hrs to 18.00hrs
Saturday night to Sunday morning; 20.00hrs to 08.00hrs

During the work, Network Rail will be closing a single lane of the bridge cycle path for the duration of the work to allow the extension of the existing parapets, bringing them up to the required standard for future electrification of the railway.

Temporary fences will be installed to form a safe and segregated work area allowing for the continued use of the bridge by cyclists and pedestrians.

Boiling Wells Underpass

Work will start on the Boiling Wells Underpass in St Werburgh's week commencing 29th February 2016 and will continue for 10 weeks. The following working hours will be undertaken during this period, during which access through the underpass will be closed (access will be permitted from 12:00hrs – 13:00hrs each day):

Monday to Friday; 08.00hrs to 12.00hrs and 13.00hrs to 18.00hrs (access available before 8.00hrs and after 18.00hrs).

The work is necessary to extend the working life of the structure and comprises raking out and re-pointing the brickwork, drilling into the structure and injecting a waterproofing system. A pedestrian diversion will be maintained for the duration of the work, however we advise this diversion may affect journey times.

To find out more, please come to a drop-in session being held on **Wednesday 17th February at Wild Goose Space, St Werburgh's, Bristol BS2 9YP (near the Boiling Wells underpass), 17.45 -19.45.**

Temporary Period of Disruption

Don't forget the railway line between Bristol and Bath will be closed from 2 April - 10 April 2016 to allow for essential work to be undertaken as part of the electrification programme. Rail replacement services will be in operation by Great Western Rail. Please check before you travel, for more information visit www.gwr.com and www.nationalrail.co.uk.