

Washwood Heath Aston Church Road Closure

From October 2024

Toolkit



Introduction

High Speed Two (HS2) is Great Britain's new high-speed railway. Once operational, HS2's British built bullet trains will provide zero-carbon journeys between Birmingham and London, with services continuing on to Manchester, the North-West and Scotland using the conventional railway network.

HS2's contractor Balfour Beatty VINCI (BBV) is constructing 90 km of HS2 track between Long Itchington in Warwickshire and the centre of Birmingham and from here on to Staffordshire.

Supported by **Transport for West Midlands (TfWM)**, **BBV**, **HS2** and **Birmingham City Council (BCC)** are working in partnership to make sure all communities and stakeholders are informed in advance and are aware of the traffic management arrangements

associated with the works.

This toolkit will enable you to find out more information and provide support to help you plan your journeys in and around the works taking place in the **Washwood Heath** and **Eastside** areas of the city.

What is happening in the Washwood Heath Area

In the Washwood Heath area of Birmingham, works to accommodate the arrival of HS2 will be ongoing over the next decade and will shortly be gathering momentum. These works include the demolition and reconstruction of both Aston Church Road Overbridge and Saltley Viaduct (B4114). The new bridges will span the high-speed rail line connecting Saltley, Washwood Heath and Nechells in Birmingham.

Aston Church Road Overbridge is located two miles north-east of Birmingham city centre. The original bridge will be demolished as extra space is needed for the HS2 rail line to pass through. Construction works on the new Aston Church Overbridge is now scheduled to start in Autumn 2024, with the work programme lasting 14 to 18 months.

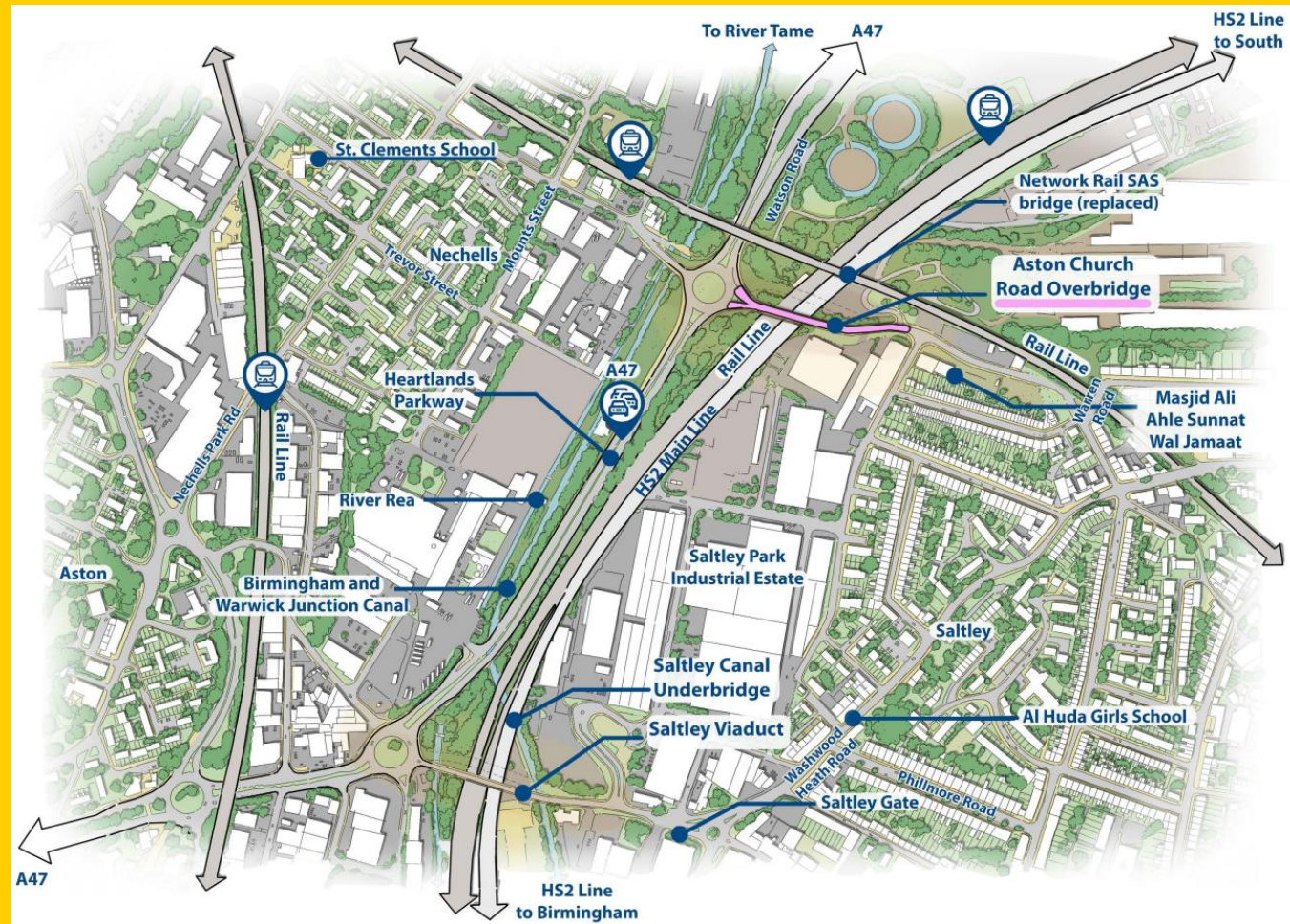
Demolishing the old bridge and replacing with a new bridge will involve the full closure of Aston Church Road to motorised traffic in both directions with signed diversions in place.

Pedestrians and cyclists will still be able to use the road during the closure.

This toolkit will ensure all impacts of the works on journeys in the area are clearly communicated and impacted communities and stakeholders are provided with the appropriate information to help travel in the area ahead of the works starting.

What is happening

Aston Church Road closed from October 2024

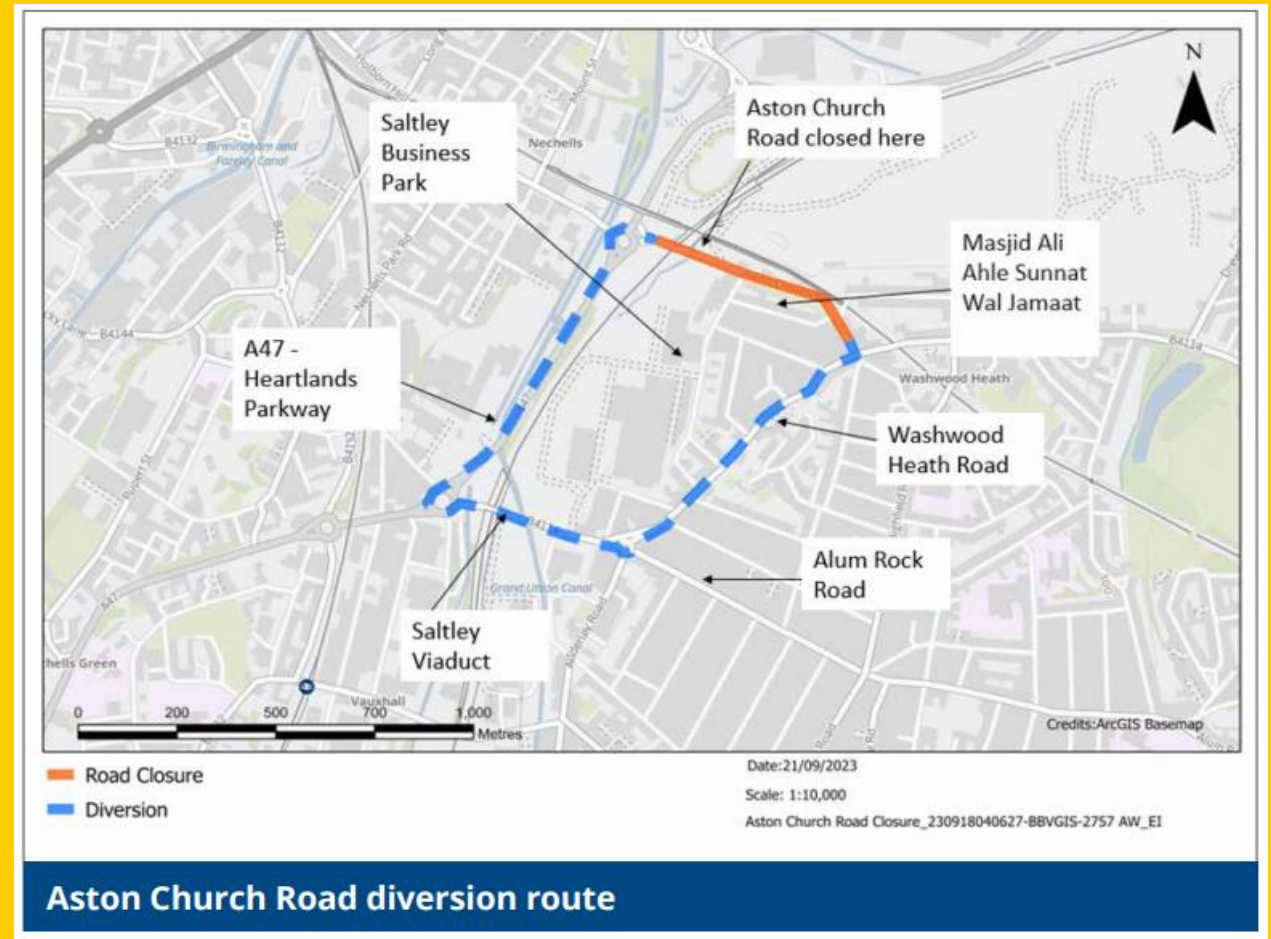


Recommended diversion route

During the road closure, a clearly marked diversion route will be in place via Saltley Viaduct (B4114)

The following roads will be impacted by Aston Church Road closure:

- Alum Rock Road
- Saltley Viaduct
- Washwood Heath Road
- Bordesley Green Road
- A47 Heartlands Parkway



How are we helping?

BBV is working with HS2, Birmingham City Council (BCC), Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) and key transport providers to plan and deliver these works safely and on time.

Our main aim is to provide consistent and joined up messaging for all those people travelling in and around the area and to encourage them to plan their journeys and help reduce congestion.

This toolkit contains some useful information which will help you communicate the closure with your colleagues, customers, students and clients and compliments a bespoke social media marketing campaign.

Please share this toolkit with your marketing and communications department to help us inform

people of the Aston Church Road closure works.

If you don't have a specific department, consider what information you will need to use from this pack, to communicate with your staff, customers and students:

Included in this toolkit:

- Content and images suitable for digital channels
- A4 Poster
- A5 digital flyer
- Screensaver
- Link to HS2 Advanced Works Notification
- QR code to access quick links
- Incentives for sustainable travel for your organisation

Suggested copy for your material

Messaging for newsletter:

Aston Church Road is closing on 5 October 2024 for approximately 14 months. If you travel in and around the Washwood Heath area you will need to allow for more time for your journey. A signed diversion route will be in place via Saltley Viaduct. Local bus routes will not be affected but journeys on services 14, 94 & 95 may take longer. Aston Church Road will remain open to pedestrians and cyclists so for local journeys, consider walking and cycling to your destination.

Stay up to date with any changes on www.tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath & use a journey planner to keep moving.

Text messaging:

From 5 October, Aston Church Road is closing with traffic diverted around Saltley Viaduct. Please allow more time for your journey and stay up to date on www.tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath

Up-to-date information regarding traffic management will be shared on the [HS2 In your area](http://www.hs2.org.uk/your-area) website, as well as at www.tfwm.org.uk

To receive updates about the closure, subscribe to HS2 in Birmingham at <https://www.hs2.org.uk/birmingham>

Key travel advice

TfWM have provided the following travel advice to help you get where you need to go during the closure:

- **Plan ahead and leave more time for your journey:** If you travel in or around the Washwood Heath area you will need to allow more time for your journey.
- **Public Transport:** Bus routes will not be altered during this closure but journeys on 14, 94, 95 bus services may take longer so plan your bus journey and allow more time for travel.
- **Cycling & Active Travel:** Think about your options and if you are travelling locally for a short distance, consider walking or cycling to your destination.
- **Can you change the time you travel?** Avoid peak times where possible especially between 08:00-09:00 and 14:00 – 16:00 to avoid school hours.

Key messages

Please allow extra time for your journey. Check latest traffic conditions before you leave and plan your journey

Allow more time for your journey - traffic will be busier on Washwood Heath Road, Alum Rock Road and Saltley Viaduct (B4114)

Journeys may take longer if travelling by bus so please plan your journey and allow extra time for travelling

For shorter journeys, could you walk or cycle to your destination?

Screensaver

Aston Church Road

Road Closure from October 2024

Journeys may take longer

Stay up to date

tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath



Balfour Beatty VINCI  Working in partnership with HS2

 Transport for West Midlands

Please [click here](#) to download screensaver asset

Screensaver can be used on reception screens or in public areas on your site

Flyer

Aston Church Road will be closing from October 2024

HS2 works are taking place in Washwood Heath in Birmingham. Replacement bridges are being built over the new rail line and Aston Church Road will be closing in October 2024 for 14 months.

During the road closure, a clearly marked diversion route will be in place along Washwood Heath Road, Saltley Viaduct (B4114) and the A47 Heartlands Parkway. Pedestrians and cyclists will still be able to use Aston Church Road throughout the 14-month closure.



— Road Closure — Diversion

Key travel advice

- **Plan ahead:** If you travel in or around the Washwood Heath area you will need to allow more time for your journey.
- **Public Transport:** Bus routes will not be altered during this closure but journeys on 14, 94, 95 bus services may take longer so plan your bus journey and allow more time for travel.
- **Cycling & Active Travel:** Think about your options and if you are travelling locally for a short distance, consider walking or cycling to your destination.
- **Allow more time for your journey:** Traffic will be busier on Washwood Heath Road, Alum Rock Road and Saltley Viaduct (B4114).

Keep up to date with these works

Visit tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath or scan the QR code below.



Balfour Beatty VINCI Working in partnership with **HS2** **Transport for West Midlands**

Please [click here](#) to download flyer assets

Flyer can be distributed to cascade the information

A4 Poster

Aston Church Road will be closing from October 2024

HS2 works are taking place in Washwood Heath.

Replacement bridges are being built over the new rail line and Aston Church Road will be closing in October 2024 for 14 months.

Stay up to date with these works and get travel advice:

 Scan the QR code or visit tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath





Please [click here](#) to download poster asset

A4 Poster can be printed and distributed to cascade the information

Social media posts – Facebook



Suggested text

Aston Church Road will be closed from 5 October 2024
Please visit for more information

Please [click here](#) to download
social media assets

Social media posts – X (Twitter)

Suggested text

#RoadClosure on Aston Church Road from 5 October 2024. Please visit

www.tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath for more information

Aston Church Road

Road Closure

Signed diversions in place



Plan ahead to keep moving

Please [click here](#) to download social media assets

In person information events

The following events will be taking place prior to the closure of Aston Church Road.

Come along to find out more about the works due to take place and the travel support available to the communities impacted by the road closure

You can sign up to attend via the following link: [HS2 Community Events Events](#)

- Tuesday 10 September Nechells POD 28 Oliver Street, B7 4NX 1500 - 1800
- Saturday 14 September Star City 32 Watson Road, B7 5SA 1200 - 1800
- Monday 16 September Free@last 49 Nechells Park Rd, B7 5PR 1600 - 1900
- Tuesday 17 September Rockwood Academy Naseby Rd, B8 3HG 1700 - 1900
- Monday 23 September Ward End Fire Station Washwood Heath Rd, B8 2HF 1400 - 1900
- Thursday 26 September The Fort Shopping Centre 20 Fort Parkway, B24 9FP 1200 - 1800

Community, School and Business Travel Offers

TfWM support organisations to help those travelling to and from their sites to make sustainable travel choices.

We can provide:

- Bespoke journey planning support
- Bus, Rail and Metro ticketing advice and incentives to promote sustainable travel options
- Travel disruption advice
- Downloadable resources to support sustainable travel at your organisation.
- Cheaper travel to work for new job starters [Get cheaper travel to work | Transport for West Midlands \(tfwm.org.uk\)](https://www.tfwm.org.uk/get-cheaper-travel-to-work)
- Various cycling initiatives including maintenance classes and cycling support for new riders [Cycling Activities | Transport for West Midlands \(tfwm.org.uk\)](https://www.tfwm.org.uk/cycling-activities)

Please contact the team at: behaviourchangehub@tfwm.org.uk for further information

Useful contacts

For up-to-the-minute travel information and help planning your journey, please see below:

Plan a journey	Transport for West Midlands	https://journeyplanner.tfwm.org.uk/	@TransportForWM
Plan a journey	National Express Bus	https://nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands/journey-planning	@nxwestmidlands
Plan a journey	Google	https://www.google.co.uk/maps/	
By train	National Rail	nationalrail.co.uk/Contact-Us	@nationalrailenq
By bicycle	Cyclestreets	https://www.cyclestreets.net	

Most up to date project information can be accessed via:

TfWM



HS2



If you require any materials in an alternative format, get in touch: customerservices@tfwm.org.uk

HS2

HS2 is a new high-speed railway that will link up the North, the Midlands and South-East, serving eight of Britain's 10 largest cities. It is critical for the UK's low carbon transport future and will provide much-needed rail capacity across the country. It is integral to other rail projects in the North and Midlands – helping rebalance the UK economy. For more information about HS2, please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk, or for more information about the works we are doing in the Birmingham area please visit <https://www.hs2.org.uk/birmingham>



Balfour Beatty VINCI is responsible for designing and building part of the most exciting and challenging railway project in Europe: HS2. We are building the West Midlands section of HS2's Phase One route, spanning approximately 90km from Long Itchington in Warwickshire to Handsacre in Staffordshire. We will be employing thousands of people in the area to design and build the civil infrastructure for HS2 through the West Midlands area.



National Highways operate, maintain, and improve England's motorways and major A roads. Our roads network is vital to the running of the country and our customers, and their safety remains our priority. We are committed to working with HS2 Ltd and other partners to plan and co-ordinate our works programmes where we can. While HS2 carry out these works we will make every effort to keep road users updated and informed in advance of works to help you plan your journeys and help support a better-connected future.

Email: info@highwaysengland.co.uk

General enquiries: 0300 123 5000



Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) is part of the **West Midlands Combined Authority**. We work with bus and train operators to make sure that public transport is safe, reliable, affordable and accessible for everyone [Transport for West Midlands | Journey planning, tickets and help \(tfwm.org.uk\)](https://www.tfwm.org.uk)



Local Government for Birmingham, England. Birmingham City Council, based in The Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BB, is the largest local authority in the UK. Serving a population of a million citizens daily. [Birmingham City Council Homepage](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk)