

This newsletter is your regular update on the scheme.



The new River Great Ouse crossing

Preparatory work to build our construction compounds has already started and we expect to begin main construction work later this year. The new A14 will open to traffic in 2020, with some work, such as removal of the Huntingdon viaduct, continuing beyond that.

To find out more about the scheme and how it affects you, come along to one of our public information exhibitions.

Public information exhibitions

Offord Village Hall

Tuesday 27 September,
2pm – 8pm

Hilton Village Hall

Thursday 29 September,
2pm – 8pm

Bar Hill Village Hall

Saturday 1 October, 10am – 4pm

Madingley Village Hall

Tuesday 4 October, 2pm – 8pm

Alconbury Memorial Hall

Wednesday 5 October,
2pm – 8pm

Brampton Memorial Centre

Saturday 8 October,
10am – 4pm

Milton All Saints Church Hall

Tuesday 11 October, 2pm – 8pm

Oakington Pavillion

Saturday 15 October, 10am – 4pm

Swavesey Memorial Hall

Wednesday 19 October,
2pm – 8pm

St Ives United Reform Free Church

Thursday 20 October,
2pm – 8pm

Judith's Field Hall, Godmanchester

Monday 24 October, 2pm – 8pm

(please note this change of venue, which was previously advertised as Godmanchester Town Hall)



1st Swavesey Rainbows try on some personal protective equipment



The A14 team will be building a badger sett

Constructing new habitat for protected species

A number of construction activities will be taking place soon. This includes creating habitats for badgers, great crested newts and water voles. We aim to complete key areas this year, so that construction can continue as planned across the scheme.

We will be building in an area where a badger sett is located. Badgers and their setts are protected by law. Before any badger sett can be closed, a badger licence needs to be issued by Natural England to define what is allowed and at what times of the year.

The sett will then be closed by licenced ecologists. As there is no alternative nearby sett for the badgers to migrate to, the A14 project team will be providing an artificial badger sett to house the badgers.

An artificial badger sett recreates, as far as feasibly possible, a real badger sett. The most common arrangement is for a group of nesting chambers to be excavated and for these to be connected together. These will then have a series of tunnels which connect the chambers to the outside world. Some of the underground tunnels will be specially constructed to allow the badgers to expand the sett in due course.

Introducing the project team Carol Hardingham



Tell us a bit about yourself

I live in Lincolnshire at the moment but have spent a few years living abroad in Australia and Scandinavia. When I'm not at work, you'll find me outdoors, either in the Lake District, the Peak District, or my back garden.

What is your role on the project?

I am the Environmental Manager. My main role is to ensure that all environmental constraints and opportunities for the scheme are taken into account, from complying with all of the relevant legislation, to suggesting sustainable approaches for construction work.

What is the biggest challenge?

Due to the scale of the project, coordination between all of the different construction teams, specialist disciplines and partners presents a sizeable challenge.

What did your last job involve?

I was an Environmental Manager for Anglian Water, as part of a joint venture that included seven different partners. I helped the organisation move from one five year plan to another with minimal disruption.

What do you like most about your role on your project?

The chance to protect the environment and to, potentially, leave an even more favourable environment for nature than was previously there.

Out and about in the community 1st Swavesey Rainbows become engineers for the day

Nicole Preston, Head of Benefits and Improvement for the A14 project team, recently visited the 1st Swavesey Rainbows to help the girls, aged 5-7, earn their Engineering Challenge Badge.

Nicole told the Rainbows all about the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme and why it needs rebuilding. The girls all knew that the problems were due to too much traffic, vehicles breaking down and accidents.

The badge covered three key areas:

- Learning about construction by building structures with spaghetti and marshmallows.
- The importance of safety. Nicole brought along her personal protective equipment and explained why each piece of equipment is important. The girls designed safety posters, which will be displayed on site once work gets under way.
- Design and build. Nicole showed the girls pictures of large structures around the world, such as the tallest building and the longest bridge. The girls then formed teams to design and build their own structures.

Nicole said "It was really nice to teach young children about how infrastructure contributes to communities. It is very important we inspire young people, by showing what the engineering industry has to offer, opening doors and opportunities."



Learning about the local ecology

Local Environment Management Plans

We are working closely with the local authorities to finalise our Local Environment Management Plans (LEMPs).

These outline how we will work to minimise the impact of construction on the local environment and communities.

Work to protect the local ecology has already started and we have been creating new habitats, trapping species for relocation, and clearing sites.

The plans are currently with local authorities for signing off and will be made available to the public shortly. We are also finalising the location of temporary haul roads and compounds, and arranging for air quality monitoring to be set up.

Plans will be made available from the Requirements Register on the publications page at www.highways.gov.uk/A14C2H

Leaving a positive legacy – relieving flooding

One of our main objectives is to leave a positive legacy for the local area. During consultation, flood risks were identified as a key concern for local residents.

We have been working with the local authorities, the Environment Agency and local drainage boards to assess opportunities created by construction and bring potential solutions to fruition. Anything we can do, in addition to mitigation already planned, could bring significant benefits to local communities.

We have carried out an initial options assessment and have identified nine schemes to take forward for feasibility studies.

The team has been successful in securing funding for the studies, and aim to complete these over the summer.

The potential schemes span locations across the route from Brampton in the west to Histon in the east. Once the studies have been completed we will share the results with you, with the aim of delivering a number of projects during the construction of the road.

Keep in touch:

Visit our website
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