

Residents, Neighbours and Businesses

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Our Ref.:HoNM/3/J/10/C/AnkerValley

Dear Occupier

### **B5493 Ashby Road Closure – Information for the Community**

As you may be aware, there are works currently being undertaken in the Ashby Road area of Tamworth in connection with a large permitted development site off Ashby Road that is situated just north of the railway bridge. This development site will see the provision of an estimated 535 homes and a new school. The size of the development means that not only will changes need to be made to the highway to provide a new access including resurfacing but additionally, it requires an investment into local utility services and assets across the area to ensure that not only the new homes can be serviced but that this is achieved without compromising the essential existing supplies to the local community.

This letter is to provide information to the community about an important phase of the programme involving a road closure and explains why it is needed and details about accessibility during the works.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 Ashby Road will be closed to through traffic for a month. The closure is necessary for complex works in the vicinity of the bridge which all of the utility supplies need to cross as well as be connected to existing infrastructure. Working in collaboration with all of the utility companies and their contractors, a joint programme has been established for this phase which will see all works undertaken in the same time 'window' as the road closure, which we hope will reduce the need for further repeat visits of works and disruptive traffic control.

The information provided overleaf aims to explain and answer frequently asked questions during such activities.

If you have a question not answered by the contacts and websites listed below then your local county councillor, Ben Adams, asks that you email him at [ben.adams@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ben.adams@staffordshire.gov.uk)

We all hope you find it informative and thank you for your patience during these essential works.  
Yours sincerely,

The Joint Delivery team

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is happening?**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 the B5493 Ashby Road, Tamworth will be closed to through traffic.

### **Why do you have to close Ashby Road?**

There are many new utility services being laid across the Ashby Road railway bridge involving the placing of numerous ducts, steel pipes and new sewer connections crossing the highway. These works require the carriageway in the location of the bridge to be closed due to their number, depth and complexity. Through collaboration between all asset owners which is essential to deliver the works safely, all teams are looking to deliver as much work along the Ashby Road whilst the works at the bridge are being undertaken.

We estimate that this approach will not only assure public and roadworks safety but additionally could save a further months' worth of work on the network and help avoid a further 5 number separate visits of temporary traffic signals.

### **How can I access Landau Forte Academy?**

Access to the Academy will be maintained from the direction of the Comberford Road/Upper Gungate junction at all times. Please be mindful that there may also be works in this location but these will not prevent access to the Academy.

### **I live on Ashby Road; how will I access my property?**

Access to frontages will be maintained from the direction of the Comberford Road/Upper Gungate junction at all times. Numerous works may be underway along this length of Ashby Road and we urge members of the public to support us in our aim of keeping everyone safe when providing this access; both for the public and the workforce.

### **What is the alternative route for through traffic?**

We expect that many drivers will choose to utilise the A5 trunk Road and M42 via junction 10 however, as such a route is not suitable for all traffic types legally, we are unable to sign this on site as the suggested alternative route. Information signs at strategic locations are being factored into the signage plan though to ensure we provide plenty of advance warning to avoid driver confusion on Ashby Road.

### **How will I know if the closure has finished?**

We encourage the public to monitor [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org) for up-to-date information about works in progress. We will also strive to ensure information signs on site are kept accurate throughout the works.

### **Why has this been planned for March?**

Unfortunately there are further phases of work that risk affecting an even larger volume of traffic on Upper Gungate which we expect needs to be delivered during Easter. Further details will be communicated to the public but in the meantime, it is imperative that this essential work on Ashby Road is complete before this time.

### **I have a concern about the safety of open works; who do I inform?**

If you see something that looks dangerous, such as fallen/missing barriers or open unprotected excavations, please tell us via one of the teams on site or by the telephone number we provide on our site courtesy boards. If you can't find this information or a team's not about, call Highways on 0300 111 8000.

### **Will my water, gas, electricity, broadband or phone be interrupted by the works?**

It is unlikely but if necessary, you will be updated directly by the utility company in question if your supply may be interrupted. Please retain this information so you have direct and useful contacts to handle any queries about supply.

### **I have to travel further than I would normally due to this closure; can I claim compensation for these expenses?**

All of the works being undertaken are being delivered under statutory duties. Complying with these duties creates the consequence of having to affect traffic and as such, compensation is not required to be paid. Should you suffer a financial loss as a result of a loss of service supply, you may wish to discuss with the individual utility company.

For more information, visit [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org) or email [highways@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@staffordshire.gov.uk)