

Gipsy Patch Lane closure

Gipsy Patch Lane will be closed at the railway bridge to all road users from **Thursday 5 March** for approximately eight months. However, Network Rail and its contractor Alun Griffiths will be working towards re-opening a route for pedestrians and dismounted cyclists beneath the new bridge as soon as possible. We will update the wider community when this is available.

This closure is needed so the new wider railway bridge can be moved into place and for the associated roadworks to be completed.

The new wider bridge will provide room for new bus lanes in each direction and shared use cycle and pedestrian pathways, as well as general traffic lanes.

The current bridge creates a traffic bottleneck causing queues on Gipsy Patch Lane. The new bridge will relieve this pinch point, allowing for reliable bus journey times, as well as providing improvements for pedestrians, cyclists and private vehicles.

All shops and businesses on and near Gipsy Patch Lane will be open as normal.

Diversion route

There will be a signed diversion route throughout the closure. This diversion route will take motorists via Bradley Stoke Way and the A38.

Additional signage will also be placed on the wider road network informing motorists of the Gipsy Patch Lane closure and advising them to use alternative routes.

A number of pedestrian and cycling diversion routes will also be available. More information on these can be found on our project website www.southglos.gov.uk/cpmetrobus.

Shuttle Bus

During the closure of Gipsy Patch Lane Network Rail will operate a shuttle bus for pedestrians needing access either side of the bridge. The shuttle bus will start operation on Thursday 5 March and will run weekdays, weekends and will also be available overnight.

This service will be free of charge and will operate for the duration of time the railway bridge is closed to pedestrians.

Further information will be provided in due course.

Rail line closure

To enable the new bridge to be moved into place the railway will need to be closed **between Saturday 11 April and Sunday 19 April**. During this time, train services between Bristol and South Wales will be amended, with buses replacing trains between Bristol Parkway and Newport. Some trains will be diverted adding extra time to journeys, while others will stop short of their usual final destination.

Further information will be available soon. Please check before you travel at www.nationalrail.co.uk or www.GWR.com/Bristol.

Station Road junction closure

As part of the bridge replacement work Station Road will also need to be closed to all vehicles at its junction with Gipsy Patch Lane from Thursday 5 March for approximately eight months.

A diversion route for vehicles, to reach Station Road via Clay Lane and Little Stoke Lane, will be in operation and will be fully signposted throughout the junction closure. Please be aware that access to businesses to the southern end of Station Road is restricted by a footbridge with a height restriction of 4.2 metres.

Pedestrians and cyclists will still be able to access Station Road via Gipsy Patch Lane during the closure.

All businesses on and near Station Road, including Patchway Train Station and the Sort It Centre, will be open as normal.

Other major roadworks in the area

As part of the CPME, work is being carried out at the San Andreas roundabout, Cribbs Causeway, where a new bus only road link will be added and the roundabout will become signal controlled. San Andreas roundabout is at the junction of Hayes Way and Highwood Road with Merlin Road. To enable this work to be carried out there will be lane closures for approximately 12 months.

We are also working on a scheme to increase capacity at nearby Great Stoke roundabout, as well as improving safety for cyclists and pedestrians.

The roundabout, known locally as 'rabbit roundabout', is at the junction of Bradley Stoke Way and Great Stoke Way with the B4057 Winterbourne Road. The £2.9million scheme is being funded by the West of England Combined Authority and Local Enterprise Partnership through the Investment Fund, administered by the West of England Combined Authority.

Work has already started on Great Stoke roundabout and will take up to one year to complete. Most of this work will require the use of narrow lanes which will be in place 24 hours a day and lane closures which will be restricted to times when traffic volumes are lower.

Further information

Dates and timeframes may be subject to further change and we will continue to keep the community up to date via social media and the council's website. Any updates will be posted on social media via www.facebook.com/sgloscpme and the project webpage at www.southglos.gov.uk/cpmetrobus.

Whilst we are doing everything we can to minimise the impact of this work, we apologise for the inconvenience that the Gipsy Patch Lane closure may cause and any effect on journey times.