

From: Kearns Steve (ST C&E)

Sent: 20 October 2016 12:34

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Taylor Jessica; Mann Colin

Subject: A1 Closure News

Subject: A1 Holloway Road planned closures from 21 October 2016 – update

Dear Colleagues

As you know, closures on the A1 Holloway Road are planned to start from 22:00 tomorrow, Friday 21 October, between the junctions of Fairbridge Road and Wedmore Gardens. We are very sorry for the disruption the closures will cause and are doing absolutely everything we can to complete the work as quickly as possible.

You will find below a summary of:

- [The works to replace Upper Holloway Bridge](#)
- [When and where the closures will apply](#)
- Our [travel advice](#) – more detail is available from tfl.gov.uk/upper-holloway-bridge

I have also included an overview of the work we are doing to help people plan ahead and avoid disruption, and details of changes we are making at other sites in the area, for reference.

We will send this email on to the local ward councillors in Islington to ensure we are providing consistent information to everyone.

I hope you find the information useful but please don't hesitate to get in touch should you need any further details.

Martin – I understand that you would like to forward to Cllr Webbe and Cllr Watts directly. If this is not the case, please could you let me or Colin Mann know.

Kind regards

Steve

About the project

We are investing around £25m to replace the Upper Holloway Bridge which carries the A1 Holloway Road over the railway line at Upper Holloway station. Work began in 2014 and is due to be completed by spring 2017. Once completed, the new road bridge will be stronger and more durable – it should last over 100 years.

We have already installed a new service bridge adjacent to the road bridge, to hold major gas and water mains, high-voltage electricity cables and phone lines. While re-routing the pipes and cables to the new services bridge, we discovered unexpectedly complex utility services in and around the Upper Holloway Bridge which require us to undertake more work than we had originally planned. Other issues include difficult ground conditions and a leaking water main, which needed to be safely resolved before the transfer of utilities to the new services bridge and have delayed the project.

When transferred, the utilities will be more robust and laid in a simple and mapped way.

Unfortunately, whilst carrying out the works we have discovered an unexpectedly complex web of pipes and cables in and around the Upper Holloway bridge, some of which are in a poor condition and need more extensive works than originally planned. Difficult ground conditions and a leaking water main have added to the issues on site. These needed to be safely resolved before the transfer of the pipes and cables to the new service bridge can be undertaken and have delayed the project. In order to make up time and ensure that we are able to demolish and replace the bridge as planned at Christmas/New Year, we now need to undertake a series of road closures to allow the infrastructure to be safely moved. It is vital that this work is completed now so that the electrification of the railway running under the bridge – the Gospel Oak to Barking line – can complete on schedule, improving rail services and doubling capacity on this route in future. We have explored all options to prevent the need for the road closures but unfortunately they are unavoidable.

A1 Holloway Road closures – between the junctions of Fairbridge Road and Wedmore Gardens

Dates and times	Traffic changes
From 22:00 on Friday 21 October until 05:00 Monday 31 October	Closed to all vehicles, i
From 05:00 on Monday 31 October until 22:00 on 24 December	The northbound carriag closed.
From 22:00 on Friday 18 November to 05:00 on Monday 21 November	Closed to all vehicles, i
From 22:00 on Friday 25 November to 05:00 on Monday 28 November	Closed to all vehicles, i
From 24 December to 16 January	Closed to all vehicles, i

Travel advice summary

A summary of how journeys may be affected while the works take place is below. Please visit tfl.gov.uk/upper-holloway-bridge for more detailed travel advice.

Southbound

Drivers heading into central London travelling south on the M1, A1(M) and A1 should use the following alternative routes for a more reliable journey during the closure of the A1 Upper Holloway Road:

- Drivers on the M1 should join the A5 Edgware Road at Staples Corner
- Drivers on the A1(M) should travel eastbound on the M25 and join the A10
- Drivers on the A1 should join the A41 Watford Way at Five Ways Corner

Signage will also be in place at strategic locations advising drivers to use alternative routes further south on the A1, while a signed local diversion will be in place around the closure via Junction Road and Tufnell Park Road or Brecknock Road:

- Drivers heading towards Highbury should use Tufnell Park Road
- Drivers heading towards Kings Cross should use Brecknock Road

Northbound

Signage will be in place at strategic locations advising drivers to use alternative routes.

A signed local diversion will be in place around the closure via Tufnell Park Road and Junction Road.

Variable Message Signs are in place at strategic locations advising motorists to use alternative routes.

Contingency routes

Should any issues arise on the diversion routes, such as a burst water main, alternative diversions will be implemented.

Bus passengers

Bus stops on Holloway Road between Seven Sisters Road and Archway will be suspended, although a free shuttle bus service will operate southbound along Holloway Road to minimise disruption to passengers. It will run from Upper Holloway station to Nags Head every 10-12 minutes from 06:00-midnight during the full road closure from 21 October.

Routes 17, 43, 263, 271 and N41 will be diverted via Tufnell Park Road and Junction Road, while routes 4, 134, 390 and N20 are also expected to experience delays because of traffic diverted through Tufnell Park.

Live bus service updates are available from tfl.gov.uk/bus/status and [@TfLBusAlerts](https://twitter.com/TfLBusAlerts) on Twitter.

Pedestrians and cyclists

Pedestrian access across the bridge will be maintained during the works, except where absolutely necessary for a few days during the actual bridge demolition and replacement over the Christmas/New Year period.

An alternative cycle route will be signed, while cyclists will also have the option of dismounting at the road closure point and walking on the footway to continue their journey.

Communicating the closures

We sincerely apologise for the disruption these road closures will cause and are continuing to do everything we can to minimise the impacts of the works as far as possible. An extensive communications and engagement campaign is underway to help residents, businesses and others plan ahead and avoid disruption. While, to date, we have:

- Emailed more than 2 million road users, bus passengers, freight operators, taxi and private hire drivers and coach companies
- Written to more than 134,000 residents and businesses to provide information about the closures and travel advice
- Visited more than 750 businesses this week within the boroughs of Camden, Haringey and Islington to tell them about the upcoming closures and what they can do to reduce the impact
- Had travel advisors on-site this week during the morning and evening peaks at stations and bus stops in the area, advising people travelling through the area of the upcoming closures and their travel options

- Contacted other key local stakeholders including schools and colleges, places of worship, cycling groups, accessibility groups and residents' associations

Local press and radio advertising is scheduled while we will be providing our 880,000 [@TfLTrafficNews](#) Twitter followers and 240,000 [@TfLBusAlerts](#) followers with live travel updates during the closures – we are also encouraging our colleagues within the boroughs and elsewhere to share these updates more widely via their own online and social media channels.

Other works in the area

As you may be aware, we are also carrying out other improvement works at Archway and Highbury Corner. To minimise the disruption caused by the Holloway Road closures, we are re-planning aspects of these works to ensure that there will be:

- Two lanes open in both directions on Archway Road to the north of the gyratory
- Three lanes open around Archway gyratory
- Two lanes open on Holloway Road on the northbound approach to Archway gyratory
- No additional traffic management measures at Highbury Corner

We will continue to assess the impacts that the A1 closures are having on the road network and will be providing updates to the local community about works in the area.