

Whittlesey traffic update

17 October 2024

We'd like to provide an update on the number of road closures in Whittlesey and explain the reasons. These are all in place for safety reasons to protect drivers in response to flooding events, and due to subsidence and surface issues which we are working to fully resolve.

There are three emergency road or lane closures currently in place. We're working hard to minimise the disruption and apologise for the frustrations caused. We are continuing to monitor the impact on traffic and manage the flows as best as possible.

The westbound carriageway, heading to Peterborough, on the Ralph Butcher Causeway at King's Dyke continues to have one lane temporarily closed while we assess and develop solutions to cracks that have appeared. We're using two-way traffic lights whilst the lane closure remains in place as we fully investigate the cause of the cracking and what repair work is needed. Until we have undertaken the necessary repair work, the lane closure will remain in place.

Alongside the emergency closure of the Ralph Butcher Causeway, a lane closure was in place in Whittlesey at East Delph (B1040) due to erosion, which has subsequently been subject to a full closure due to flooding. Today, we have heard from the Environment Agency that the levels are dropping and, after the carriageway has been swept, the gates may be open today or tomorrow, subject to the water levels. Once open, there will still be a lane closure in place. We will be carrying out substantial structural repairs which we are working with the contractor to programme as quickly as possible.

There is also an emergency lane closure on Benwick Road due to subsidence and its cracked and rutted condition – this is one of our soil affected roads. Programmed works will start on this road in late November. This will require a full road closure and involve full reconstruction and resurfacing of the road. Works will conclude at the end of January after which point the road can safely open.

We understand people's frustrations, but these closures are in place for safety reasons and would urge drivers not to ignore the warning signs. We are continuing to work with our contractors on accelerating the repair work needed as quickly as possible and they are also manually operating the traffic lights at King's Dyke and Benwick Road, so we can keep traffic moving where possible during peak hours.

We will continue to provide updates, please follow [@Cambs_Traffic](#) and signs are in place to help drivers plan in advance and follow alternative routes.

Update 17 October

Since sharing the above update, we have received a large number of enquiries from local residents who would like the temporary closure of the westbound lane of Ralph Butcher Causeway to be lifted.

For everyone's safety - including road users and our contractors' engineers as they continue their investigations – this is not possible.

Intrusive testing and monitoring is taking place as we seek to understand the cracking, movement and settlement issues with the Kings Dyke crossing.

The single westbound lane closure needs to remain in place for the foreseeable future. We will continue to monitor the situation and will put in place the most appropriate, safe traffic management for everyone's wellbeing, whilst we identify repairs.

East Delph is now open following recent flooding. One lane is closed due to the bank collapse.

Fixed digital signage in place in Whittlesey will continue to share updates on emergency closures and roadworks. Daily traffic information is available via [One.network](#).

Further updates will continue to be shared via www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/kingsdyke.

We apologise for the inconvenience these lane closures cause.