

Wolvercote | A34 Viaduct Replacement

Newsletter Issue 3 • October 2007

Introduction...

Welcome to our third newsletter advising you of progress with the replacement of the A34 Wolvercote Viaduct.

You will be pleased to hear that the technical difficulties that frustrated the earlier publication of orders have been overcome and that a draft Compulsory Purchase Order will be published on 18 October. This statutory process will enable the Highways Agency to acquire the necessary land and rights for construction. There follows a statutory objection period and if required a Public Inquiry will be held in spring 2008 to consider any objections received.

Should all go well it is intended to start construction in the autumn of 2008 with completion two years later in autumn 2010.

What is proposed?

We plan to replace the A34 Wolvercote Viaduct whilst ensuring that we minimise disruption to the travelling public and that we manage the environmental impacts of this work.

During construction a temporary viaduct would be built to the south-east, i.e. alongside the southbound carriageway, of the existing viaduct, slightly nearer to Lower Wolvercote and Oxford, enabling traffic to continue using two lanes in each direction throughout the construction period. The temporary structure would be demolished once the replacement viaduct is built. Passenger trains using the main Oxford to Birmingham railway would remain unaffected by the works. Similarly traffic at peak times on the A40 would be unaffected.

Once built, the new replacement viaduct would be in the same position and height as the existing viaduct and continue to have two lanes in each direction on a slightly wider structure.



The need to replace the Wolvercote Viaduct

The viaduct was built in the early 1960s. Mainly because of salt laden water leaking through the deck joints, the viaduct has deteriorated. We have done work to repair the viaduct in recent years. More of the same work would be difficult, expensive, and cause serious traffic congestion. It would also fail to improve the parts of the viaduct that no longer satisfy current standards. We have concluded that it would offer better value for money to replace the viaduct.

Come and find out more

We invite you to our exhibition where scheme plans and details of our Environmental Assessment will be on display. The Highways Agency team will be available to talk to people and answer questions.

The exhibition will be held at:
**Wolvercote Young People's Club,
St Peter's Road, Wolvercote**
on
Friday 2nd November 2007 - 3pm to 9pm
and
Saturday 3rd November 2007 - 10am to 4pm



Contacting the Project Team

Our Community Relations Manager is Trevor Spice, from Costain Ltd. He is ready to listen to people's concerns and answer any questions. His details are as follows:

Address: **Trevor Spice**
Community Relations Manager
Costain Ltd
C/o Jacobs
Jacobs House
427 London Road
Reading RG6 1BL

Telephone: **0118 3760676**

Email: **Trevor.spice@costain.com**

Contacting the Highways Agency

You can also get in touch with the Highways Agency about the Viaduct Replacement.

Email: **A34WolvercoteViaduct@highways.gsi.gov.uk**

Tel: **Martin Potts: 01306 878223**

David Keen MBE: 01306 878240

Barbara Thompson: 01306 878238

By Post: **Highways Agency**
Major Projects
Room 2B, Federated House
London Road
Dorking
Surrey RH4 1SZ

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Safe driving at roadworks



During 2006 two workers were killed and 19 seriously injured in the course of their work on Highways Agency roads.

For the safety of all road users and roadworkers, when you are approaching roadworks:

- Keep within the speed limit – it is there for your safety.
- Get into the correct lane in good time – don't keep switching.
- Concentrate on the road ahead, not the roadworks.
- Be alert for works' traffic leaving or entering roadworks.
- Keep a safe distance – there could be queues in front.
- Observe all signs – they are there to help you.

Remember that tiredness can kill. Take regular breaks from driving.

Further copies of this leaflet are available from Highways Agency Publications. Tel: **0870 1226 236** Email: **highwaysagency@twoten.press.net**
Please quote this HA Publications code: **PR225/07**

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