

Essential Highways Maintenance In Your Area

Installation of retaining structure including full carriageway and footway reconstruction



Canterbury Road, Dunkirk (London Road / Boughton Hill)

When we plan to carry out the work and how long it will take

This is to let you know that, as part of the on-going maintenance and improvement of the highway network, Kent County Council will soon be undertaking essential carriageway and footway reconstruction works, including the installation of a new supporting retaining structure on Canterbury Road, Dunkirk. These works are located on the hill section of Canterbury Road between Boughton-Under-Blean and Dunkirk.

These safety mitigation works are programmed to commence on 6th February 2023 and are expected to take approximately sixteen weeks to complete.

During these essential works it will be necessary to close Canterbury Road between Horselees Road and Courtenay Road so that we can carry out the works safely for both the workforce and road users. A full road closure will be installed on the **13th February 2023** and will remain in place until the **2nd May 2023**. Works outside of these dates will be undertaken utilising two-way traffic signals.

Whilst the road closure is in force, the following signed diversion routes will be in place

Eastbound via – The Street, Stockers Hill, Canterbury Road, A2 Boughton Bypass westbound, A2 Boughton Bypass Eastbound, London Road (Upper Harbledown), Upper Harbledown slip, A2 Dover Road (westbound), Dunkirk Slip Westbound and Canterbury Road.

Westbound via – Canterbury Road, A2 Boughton Bypass (Eastbound), London Road (Upper Harbledown), Upper Harbledown slip, A2 Dover Road (Westbound), A2 Boughton Bypass (Westbound), A2 Boughton Bypass (Eastbound) and Canterbury Road.

What we plan to do

For over a decade, our highways maintenance teams have been managing an ongoing issue of serious structural failure of a section of Canterbury Road, Dunkirk. The affected section of road is higher than neighbouring land, with steep, short banks on both sides. This issue has resulted in significant and continuous movement and structural failure of road, footway, kerbing, crash barrier, embankment and fencing assets.

In 2010/11, a limited sheet-piling scheme to a depth of eight metres was delivered to stabilise a short section of the road. This work was a temporary solution, principally because of lack of resource at that time. It also did not include any structural improvement to road and footway assets. Accordingly, there has been significant subsequent structural failure of this road, which has resulted in regular reactive maintenance to address safety critical defects.

We have since then been carrying out detailed site investigations and have developed designs. We have considered a range of options to resolve this issue but as the structural failure is significant and ongoing, it is necessary to carry out major engineering works. The solution we are proceeding with, designed with a 120-year life in mind, involves sheet piling to a depth of between twelve and sixteen metres on both sides of the road at a length of over 267 metres. We will also be carrying out the full depth reconstruction of 2,400m² of road and footway.

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Why are we doing this work?

We appreciate that the scale of these works and length of the road closure will be of concern to residents, but these works are, in our judgement, essential. Failing to undertake these works would allow the ground to continue to move and the embankments to become unstable and eventually result in possible collapse. If this was to transpire, the road would likely be shut for a considerably longer period of time without notice.

How you can help us

It is inevitable that residents and businesses near the works will experience some disruption and we apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused, but we will try to keep this to a minimum. Residents whose properties are between the closure points will be able to access from the eastern (Dunkirk) end of the works.

Bus Services

We are aware the bus services in the area are essential and we are working closely with the local bus companies to make sure no one is cut off, but we are restricted on what the bus operators can accommodate.

How to contact us?

If you need more information, you can visit our website www.kent.gov.uk/resurfacingupdates to view our programme & updates, to find out how we look after the roads throughout Kent or report any faults you find on our roads. You can also view our diversion/permit details at www.one.network. Alternatively, you can call us on **03000 41 81 81**.

WARNING – Beware Bogus Callers

Kent County Council Highways, Transportation and Waste do not allow works to be carried out on private properties. If anyone says they are working for us or our specialist contractors and offer to carry out any work for cash, they should be treated with caution. We advise you to contact Citizen's Advice on 03444 111 444 (Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm)

Works area and closure extent

