A243 Leatherhead Road / B280 Fairoak Lane, Rushett Lane
Malden Rushett junction improvement scheme

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the scheme and what area does it cover?
Transport for London is delivering improvements to the junction at Malden Rushett village between the intersection of the A243 Leatherhead Road and the B280 Fairoak Lane and Rushett Lane. The extent of works taking place on the B280 cover an area 170m west of the junction along Fairoak Lane, and 160m east of the junction along Rushett Lane. Malden Rushett is located within the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, with connections to the London bound A3 at Hook, and Junction 9 of the M25.

2. What improvements are being made?
This is a major scheme to introduce a signal controlled pedestrian crossing across the southern arm of Leatherhead Road and Fairoak Lane. Further improvements include reconstruction of the B280 road surface in collaboration with the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, introduction of a new pedestrian island on Rushett Lane, road widening to allow two lane traffic, and new advance stop lines for cyclists. There are also minimal works to upgrade two traffic islands on Leatherhead Road.

3. Why is it necessary to carry out these works?
The current signalised junction has a poor safety record for right turning vehicles turning off of Leatherhead Road. Over an average three year period 15 collisions occurred, several of which involved serious injuries to road users. The majority of these collisions were due to the right turn movements.

In the morning peak hour traffic often queues back as far as Junction 9 of the M25. This is particularly so in the summer when Chessington World of Adventures Resort is busy.

The area has been subject to further investigation and analysis against current day conditions, resulting in refined plans to address the above issues and deliver a range of interrelated benefits.

Investigations also identified that the road surface of the B280 is in a very poor condition. TfL and the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames accepted that the sections of the B280 road within the scheme area will be reconstructed as part of these major works, and of the Borough’s plans to resurface the remainder of the B280.
4. What are the key features of the new junction?

- New signal controlled pedestrian facility on Fairoak Lane
- New dedicated right turn facilities off of the A243
- Right turn movements will be managed through signalisation
- Realignment of kerb lines around the junction
- Additional pedestrian islands on the B280 and upgraded islands on the A243
- Road widening of Rushett Lane and Fairoak Lane to allow two lane traffic approaches and exits on both roads
- Reconstruction of the road surface on the B280 within the scheme area
- Improvements to road and pavement surfacing across the scheme area
- Advanced stop lines for cyclists
- Enhanced sightlines
- Upgraded traffic signals with built in red light and speed cameras
- Landscaping including tree and shrub plantation

These key features are shown in the map below:

5. Will the changes increase congestion and make it difficult to cross the road?
The junction has been redesigned to improve the 'through capacity' of the B280, to alleviate congestion and increase the safety of the junction. New 'smart' traffic signals will be more responsive to traffic conditions and controlled pedestrian crossings will enhance safety when crossing the road.
6. Won’t this scheme harm the environment and character of the village?
A range of environmental management approaches have been used to ensure that the impact of the junction improvement scheme is minimised, including the following:

- An environmental study was undertaken to identify potential impacts as well as prevention and mitigation measures
- Ecological surveys were undertaken to ensure that the junction redesign incurred minimal impacts on flora and fauna and specifically, that the needs of protected species such as bats and birds were accommodated
- Works requiring vegetation removal will have ecological supervision as has been the case with investigatory works
- Vegetation clearance will be kept to a minimum and any hedgerow boundaries will be replaced.

7. What does the local council think of this scheme?
The junction improvement scheme has the support of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames and reflects priorities outlined in the Neighbourhood Plan. In addition TfL and the Borough have worked in collaboration to coordinate plans for the reconstruction and resurfacing of the B280. Surrey County Council is also in support of the scheme.

8. Why has it taken so long to get started?
Throughout 2014 TfL has been busy gaining the necessary statutory consents that need to be in place before a programme of work can begin. This has included working with utility companies and the Borough to address the significant utility diversions that needed to take place in advance of the works, and for traffic implications to be managed.

Behind the scenes we have also prepared for a bespoke drainage system (culvert) that will be installed underneath Rushett Lane to realign the underground streams and provide defence against flooding.

Further constraints imposed on the schedule were the need to work around environmental and ecological factors prominent in the village between March and August, and the need to avoid carriageway working and traffic disruption during the peak period for Chessington World of Adventures Resort (June-September).

9. Will there be any further delays?
Whilst we have been very thorough with our planning and do not anticipate any further delays, there may be times when circumstances beyond our control, such as emergency works, poor weather, or supply chain delays might affect the programme of works.

10. Will there be road closures whilst works are underway?
The B280 at Fairoak Lane and Rushett Lane will close in the scheme area at times to enable improvement works to take place. The scheme area is 170m west of the junction along Fairoak Lane, and 160m east of the junction along Rushett Lane. Temporary traffic lights will be in operation during closures and planned diversion routes will be in place and clearly signed. During both closures local access will be maintained and footways will remain open.
11. Will access the B280 Fairoak Lane and Rushett Lane be affected?
Access to the B280 will be restricted. The B280 road closures are within the works area only. The works area is 170m west of the junction along Fairoak Lane, and 160m east of the junction along Rushett Lane. Local access will be maintained at all times via diversionary routes. Our contractors on site are also available should any difficulties arise with access arrangements.

12. Will A243 Leatherhead Road close?
No. It will not be necessary to close Leatherhead Road at any time during the works, as this section of the junction requires minimal work to upgrade two traffic islands. Temporary traffic lights will be in operation at the junction with traffic reduced to single lanes at times. Night-time lane closures will be in effect on occasions.

13. Will access to the A243 Leatherhead Road be affected?
No. Access to residential addresses and businesses on Leatherhead Road will not be affected by the works, however we expect there will be increased traffic in the area.

14. Will the area remain accessible for pedestrians?
Throughout the duration of these improvement works, our contractor will ensure that footways will remain open, unless work is being carried out on specific sections. Where that is the case, alternative safe accessible routes will be provided.

15. Will the area remain accessible for cyclists?
Whilst the road itself is closed it will not be possible for cyclists to remain on the carriageway. Cyclists are asked to dismount and take the pedestrian access route through the closed area.

16. How will you keep Malden Rushett moving?
Our modelling suggests that traffic flow will run smoother through the junction during the B280 closures as traffic will be actively managed. We will be monitoring the impacts of the works on traffic flow to enable minor adjustments to signal timings if required. We are though firmly committed to minimising disruption where possible. We will be working with our contractor EM Highways and the Borough in order to reduce the impact of these works on road users, local residents and businesses as far as possible.

17. When will the works start, and when will they be completed?
Works commenced away from the road on Monday 22 September 2014. Works are expected to last for a period of six months or until works are completed. The new junction will become fully operational in spring 2015.

The main works take place from Monday 20 October 2014 to spring 2015. Night working will take place on an ad hoc basis from Monday 13 October 2014 to spring 2015.
Working times on site are as follows, and are as agreed with the Borough. Please note that on occasions such as a delay in receipt of materials, these timings may be subject to minor change

- Night-time working hours: 21:00 to 02:00. Noisy works will cease at midnight
- Weekday working hours: 07:00 to 17:00. No noisy works take place before 08:00
- Weekend working hours: 07:00 to 14:00. No noisy works take place before 08:00

18. What are ‘noisy’ works?
Noisy works involve excavation of the road surface, such as removal of old road surfaces. Large machinery is used to break the tarmac and concrete surface down to the required depth. During these improvement works excavations may take place up to midnight. After midnight reinstatement work, such as resurfacing, takes place. Resurfacing work does not create excessive noise.

19. What is happening and when?
The programme of works takes place in phases. These are detailed below. Please note that dates and phases may be subject to change therefore this information will be updated as required.

**Key dates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start date</th>
<th>End date</th>
<th>Impact on the road</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13 October 2014</td>
<td>Spring 2015</td>
<td>Except during December 2014, Leatherhead Road reduced to single lanes for night-time works (phase two)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 20 October 2014</td>
<td>Friday 14 November 2014</td>
<td>Rushett Lane road closure*, no right turns at the junction (phase three)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17 November 2014</td>
<td>Friday 28 November 2014</td>
<td>Fairoak Lane road closure*, no right turns at the junction (phase four)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 5 January 2015</td>
<td>Monday 23 February 2015</td>
<td>Rushett Lane road closure*, no right turns at the junction (phase five)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24 February 2015</td>
<td>Friday 20 March 2015</td>
<td>Fairoak Lane road closure*, no right turns at the junction (phase six)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23 March 2015</td>
<td>Friday 27 March 2015</td>
<td>Whole junction four-way temporary traffic lights (phase seven)</td>
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</tbody>
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*road closure of works area only, local access is via diversion route

The programme works follows overleaf.
Programme of works

**Phase one – current to Friday 24 October 2014 – offline site preparation**

Offline site preparation taking place away from the road in the fields located north-east and north-west of the junction. This involves tree and shrub clearance and the removal of fly-tipped waste. We are also preparing to install a bespoke culvert (drainage system) and will be carrying out excavations for the new carriageway. The junction will operate as normal. No roads will be closed or affected.

**Phase two - Monday 13 October 2014 to spring 2015 – A243 Leatherhead Road night-time lane closures as required**

Night-time lane closures on an ad hoc basis between the hours of 21:00 and 02:00 on Leatherhead Road. Noisy work stops at midnight (such as breaking concrete in preparation for resurfacing). This is to install temporary traffic signals at the junction and carry out lightweight work on the road including; completing road crossings, installation of power connections and maintenance channels. This work is being carried out at night to avoid impact on busier day time traffic flows. No works are planned during December 2014.

**Phase three - Monday 20 October 2014 to Friday 14 November 2014 – B280 Rushett Lane road closure**

Rushett Lane will close in the works area only with local access maintained via the planned diversion route. This closure is for excavation and resurfacing including the completion of road crossings and utility works. Whilst Rushett Lane is closed it will not be possible to take right turns into or out of Fairoak Lane from Leatherhead Road. This measure is in place to allow traffic to flow smoothly through the junction and alleviate congestion. Leatherhead Road will not close. Temporary traffic lights will be in operation. Footways remain open.

**Phase four – Monday 17 November to Friday 28 November 2014 – B280 Fairoak Lane road closure**

Fairoak Lane will close in the works area only for a period of two weeks. Local access is maintained via the planned diversion route. This closure is for excavations and resurfacing, including the completion of road crossings and utility works. Whilst Fairoak Lane is closed it will not be possible to take right turns into or out of Rushett Lane from Leatherhead Road. This measure is in place to allow traffic to flow smoothly through the junction and alleviate congestion. Leatherhead Road will not close. Temporary traffic lights will be in operation. Footways remain open.

**Break – Monday 1 December 2014 to Sunday 4 January 2015**

Further off-carriageway works continue in the north-east and north-west fields with no roads closed or affected. The junction will operate as normal to avoid disruption during the busy Christmas period however some night-time lane closures may take place.
Phase five – Monday 5 January 2015 to Monday 23 February 2015 – B280 Rushett Lane road closure

A final closure of Rushett Lane in the works area only. Local access is maintained via the planned diversion route. This closure is to complete improvements works including drainage installation, reinstatement of utility services and carriageway resurfacing. As with phase three above, whilst Rushett Lane is closed it will not be possible to take right turns into or out of Fairoak Lane from Leatherhead Road. Leatherhead Road will not close. Temporary traffic lights will be in operation. Footways remain open.

Phase six – Tuesday 24 February 2015 to Friday 20 March 2015 – B280 Fairoak Lane road closure

A final closure of Fairoak Lane, in the works area only. Local access is maintained via the planned diversion route. This closure will enable installation of the new signalled pedestrian crossing, carriageway and footway widening. As with phase four above, whilst Fairoak Lane is closed it will not be possible to take right turns into or out of Rushett Lane from Leatherhead Road. Leatherhead Road will not close. Temporary traffic lights will be in operation. Footways remain open.

Phase seven – Monday 23 March 2015 to Friday 27 March 2015 – Four-way temporary traffic lights

The junction will be served by four-way temporary traffic lights whilst the new permanent traffic signals are installed.

Phase eight – spring 2015 – final phase

Work is programmed to conclude during spring 2015. From the end of March 2015 remedial works such as hedgerow planting and landscaping take place to finalise the improvements. Once remedial works are complete the new junction will become fully operational.

We will endeavour to keep to the dates quoted however there may be times when events out of our control might affect the programme (emergency works or bad weather for example).

20. How can I find out diversion routes and when these will be in place?

Road diversions will be in place during periods when the B280 closes. Please refer to the programme of works for full details. Diversion routes will be clearly signed. Maps detailing diversion routes are as follows. Maps are also available online and will be distributed locally. Diversion route maps can be posted upon request by contacting Transport for London Customer Services (details in FAQ 24 below).
21. What information will drivers see?
We will make use of Variable Messaging Signs (VMS) on approaches to the junction to provide early notice to drivers enabling them to opt for an alternative route if they wish to do so. In addition, when in operation, diversion routes will be clearly signed at key locations.
22. Why can’t more work take place at night to minimise impact?
Due to the poor condition of the current road surface on Leatherhead Road, significant depths must be achieved to prepare for resurfacing. This will involve a level of noise disturbance not acceptable for night-time working, particularly as Malden Rushett village is primarily a residential area.

Some lightweight night-time resurfacing may take place on the B280 in areas not surrounded by properties and on Leatherhead Road whenever possible as we look to minimise disruption.

23. How can I find more information about these works locally?
Large print maps and diversion route leaflets will be available at Chessington Nurseries Garden Centre and Hook and Chessington Library. We will also supply leaflets and diversion route maps at Champion Timber (Malden Rushett branch).

The information is also available online at: https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/streets/malden-rushett

24. Who can I contact for further information?
Transport for London Streets
3rd Floor, 14 Pier Walk
North Greenwich
London SE10 0ES

Telephone: 0343 222 1234 Email: customerservices@tfl.gov.uk

Other useful contacts:
tfl.gov.uk

kingston.gov.uk

Champion Timber, 385 Leatherhead Rd, Chessington, Surrey KT9 2NQ
Telephone: 01372 847910

Hook and Chessington Library

Chessington Garden Centre, Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Surrey KT9 2NG

The Hook Centre, Hook Road, Chessington, KT9 1EJ
Tel: 020 8547 5006, Email: hookandchessington.library@kingston.gov.uk