

V4 Underpass

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is happening on site now that works have restarted?

Construction activities currently taking place on site include:

- Installation of drainage systems on all four retaining walls as well as the underpass units
- Filling in behind the retaining walls and alongside the underpass
- Waterproofing the top deck and walls of the underpass

Q. What is there still to do?

At road level:

- Complete backfill behind the walls and across the underpass
- Reinstall the drainage pipes, gullies and base layers of carriageway across the new underpass
- Install new pedestrian guardrail safety fencing along the top of all walls
- Install new street lighting columns, ducting, cabling and electrical commissioning
- Install new vehicle safety barrier alongside the road
- Resurface across the underpass and around Barossa Way roundabout
- Apply road markings

At redway / underpass level:

- Construct the new redway through the underpass and north/south along the V4
- Install new redway lighting columns, ducting, cabling and electrical commissioning
- Install pumping system that will pump any surface water from the underpass up to the highway drainage system
- Remove temporary site access road from the east side of the underpass
- Add top soil and landscaping around the area

Q. When will the V4 re-open?

Based on our current project programme, we expect to re-open V4 Watling Street in September 2020.

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Q. How has the V4 project been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic?

To keep the site safe we took the difficult decision to temporarily close the V4 underpass site. This lasted for seven and a half weeks from 25 March to 18 May. During this time measures for keeping staff safe were put in place.

The temporary situation had a significant impact on staffing levels but there were additional difficulties sourcing material supplies and specialist subcontractors.

The new social distancing measures we have put in place on site has also impacted on the project as we've had to reschedule work, limit the number of people allowed in certain areas and include regular cleaning.

Q. What social distancing measures have you put in place on site?

Our priority is to keep our staff safe when they are on site so following Government guidance we have put the following measures in place:

- Limiting the number of teams working on site, so that social distancing measures can be maintained
- Teams work in separate areas of the site to minimise mixing between different teams
- Smaller numbers of people in each team, working 2 metres apart wherever possible
- Additional hand wash facilities, regular deep cleaning and access to hand sanitisers
- Daily briefing on social distancing and a review of paperless systems

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Q. Why did the V4 underpass site have to close, when other works further up the V4 stayed open?

The works taking place at the Calverton Road and H3 Monks Way junctions are a very different type of work to the V4 underpass. This means that it is much easier for one site to stay open as it can meet the Government guidelines to keep employees safe.

At the underpass site, we are carrying out structural works to the underpass and waterproofing the retaining walls which require the site operatives to work in close proximity to each other, often within a restricted amount of space. This makes it very difficult to properly implement correct social distancing.

On the roundabout sites however it is much easier to safely implement social distancing as tasks such as kerbing, highway drainage and carriageway widening don't require the operatives to work so closely together. Also mechanical plant (heavy machinery or equipment) can be used to carry out a significant amount of the works.

Q. So, if the Calverton Road/Kiln Farm site is finished on time will you open this part of the road?

This work is being carried out by the developer and there have been some changes to their programme. The work, which includes a roundabout and traffic signals for the new development area are scheduled to be complete by the end of July 2020.

When this work is complete we can review the area and look at opening sections of this road.