

Working in partnership



Coppins Bridge Signalisation Upgrade - Questions and Answers

Please see below a list of Questions and Answers which you may find useful.

Why is the work necessary?

Under the Highways PFI, Island Roads is upgrading all traffic lights and pedestrian crossings across the Island. The work on Coppins Bridge is the final phase of that improvement programme.

Why is the work being done now?

The work was originally due to be undertaken in 2019 but, in agreement with the Isle of Wight Council, it was postponed until both the major schemes at St Mary's junction and St George's Way were completed.

We are doing the work now and will finish it between January-March next year, outside of the main tourism season, as traffic is lighter at this time of year.

How long with the scheme take?

The scheme will begin on November 8 and is scheduled to be finished by March 11. The work programme includes a pause in work between December 6 and January 7. This break in work is so there are no traffic restrictions in place over the important Christmas and New Year period.

What steps are you taking to minimise disruption?

As per the above, we are pausing work over the 'Christmas and New Year' shopping period.

In planning the scheme, we have also taken great care, with the IW Council, to try and reduce impact on road users. This means much of the work will be done at night and, wherever possible, we will seek to keep off the road network itself.

Where encroachment onto the carriageway is unavoidable, we will look to close lanes rather than have full road closures wherever possible. In phases of

the work where temporary lights are required, these will be manually operated at peak times.

There will also be no work on Saturday 20 November which is Newport's day of festive celebrations.

What about full road closures?

There are inevitably some aspects of the scheme where it is simply not possible to avoid a road closure in order to complete our work. In those instances, for example Lower High Street (from Quay Street), our intention is to manage the closure in the early stages of the work so any requests to access the site can be discussed on a case-by-case basis. This interaction will help us develop an approach to access throughout the duration of the work.

We are also intending to implement a turning circle within the Lower High Street area to enable those making deliveries and other essential vehicle movements to access and exit from the area. Special consideration will be made to HGV deliveries to pubs and businesses in the area and this will be discussed with businesses within the vicinity of the works.

Pedestrian and emergency access will though be maintained at all times during the work.

We also intend to work with businesses between now and January to develop a delivery plan in the event that they are likely to be impacted by any works.

What benefits will the work bring?

Traffic signals like any technology become out of date over time and work less efficiently. This work will involve the installation of the latest 'intelligent' technology to these sites around Coppins Bridge. This will enable better remote access to the traffic signals enabling us to respond to any changes in traffic volumes and faster fault reporting. They should also be more reliable and use significantly less energy because they are LED and far lower voltage (230V to 48V).

In the case of the pedestrian crossing at the top of the Medina Way slip-road and Fairlee Road, the crossing will be upgraded in type from a Pelican to a Puffin. This type of crossing has features including extended time for slow-moving pedestrians. They will also be far more energy efficient as they too run on far lower voltage.

The other pedestrian crossing sites in the scheme are already Puffins but these two will be upgraded to use significantly less power.

Shouldn't this work have been done when you were doing either the St Mary's junction improvement or the St George's Way widening work?

Both options were considered but rejected as it was thought additional restrictions would be too onerous given the other traffic management in place during both these schemes.

Contact information

If you have any questions now or at any time during the project, then please contact info@islandroads.com

Thank you.