

Bearsted Road Improvement Scheme – Fortnightly Works Update (26.03.2026)

Dear Local Stakeholder,

We are writing to provide a brief update on upcoming works as part of the Bearsted Road Improvement Scheme.

Easter Weekend – Planned Break in Works to Reduce Disruption

Works on site will be paused over the Easter weekend (3rd-6th April) to help minimise disruption to residents, businesses and road users.

The following activities are planned to take place over the coming fortnight, starting week commencing Monday 30 March:

Openreach Works - New Cut Road

Duration: Until Friday 4 April (Mon–Fri only)

Why are these works required? Openreach are continuing BT connection works in the area, including pulling new cables through underground ducting to connect into the new chambers. These connections are required to enable construction of the new KIMS roundabout.

How are we minimising disruption? No temporary traffic management is expected, meaning there should be no impact on traffic flow along New Cut Road.

Earthworks – Bearsted Road (new section of road)

Duration: From Monday 30 March, for 1-2 weeks

Why are these works required? Gas connection works will be completed, including capping off the existing gas main and connecting the new line. Following completion of this activity, excavation of the western embankment along Bearsted Road will begin to prepare the area for construction of the new retaining wall and new carriageway.

How are we minimising disruption? These works are being carried out away from the live carriageway and will not require additional traffic management. You may notice a slight increase in construction vehicle movements, including lorries removing excavated earth from site via the new access road. A road sweeper will be operating throughout to keep surrounding roads clear of debris. No road closures are required and there will be no impact to traffic flow.

Drainage Works – Bearsted Road

Duration: Ongoing for the next two weeks

Why are these works required? New drainage will be installed to connect into the existing drainage network along Bearsted Road, including the eastern extent near the former Notcutts access.

How are we minimising disruption? These works are within existing site boundaries. There will be no impact to pedestrian or road user movements.

Surfacing KIMS Roundabout (widened sections) and Bearsted Road (new carriageway)

Duration: Approximately four nights, Monday 30th March – Thursday 2nd April

Why are these works required? Night works will be carried out to progress widening of the KIMS roundabout. This includes removing sections of the existing roundabout and laying new surfacing on parts of Bearsted Road and the roundabout.

How are we minimising disruption? Works will take place overnight (approximately 8pm and 5am) when traffic levels are lower. Temporary traffic management will remain as currently in place, with traffic able to pass through the area under signal control.

Surfacing New Footpaths

Duration: Ongoing for the next two weeks

Why are these works required? Surfacing new footpaths will be completed as part of the new pedestrian routes situated around the widened KIMS roundabout and along the new section of Bearsted Road.

How are we minimising disruption? These works are being carried out offline away from the live carriageway and will not impact traffic or pedestrian access.

Additional Site Activity

- ✧ Final earth shaping works to the embankment near the KIMS roundabout will be completed
- ✧ New street lighting columns will continue to be installed
- ✧ Permanent signage for Newnham Court businesses has been installed, with an additional high-level sign due by the end of this week
- ✧ Deliveries for the new retaining wall are expected from mid-April, with deliveries planned outside peak hours

Kind Regards

Emma Bates

Public Liaison Officer

