A131 Chelmsford to Braintree Route Improvements – Sheepcotes Roundabout

Working on behalf of Essex County Council

February 2020

Background
This is the final phase in a series of works carried out by Jackson Civil Engineering on behalf of Essex County Council that form part of the A131 Chelmsford to Braintree Route Based Strategy, designed to improve safety on A131/A130 route linking Braintree to Chelmsford as well as supporting future economic growth of the area.

What are we doing at Sheepcotes Roundabout?
Providing a dedicated left turn slip from Braintree Road (A131) to Essex Regiment Way (A130). Reducing the size of the central roundabout island to allow two traffic lanes from Essex Regiment Way (A130) to Braintree Road (A131).

Widening the roundabout approach on Essex Regiment Way (A130) to two lanes.

Constructing an underground attenuation tank and Hydro brake manhole in the centre of the roundabout. The storage tank will hold up to 160,000 litres of surface water, and the hydro brake will be used to control the flow of water to minimise the impact of storm/surface water generated by the highway improvements.

Constructing a new storage pond to further capture the storm/surface water from the new road layout and address possible flooding concerns.

Improvements to Sheepcotes Roundabout started in September and are anticipated for completion during spring 2020.

Progress
Sheepcote Roundabout
The roundabout is near completion, the underground hydro brake installation is now finished. Final resurfacing of the roundabout will take place over the weekend of the 15th and 16th of February 2020. All the chevron blocks have been installed along with the access road paving. The sign illumination ducting has been installed prior to sign installation.

A131 Braintree Road
Road widening has been completed and works are progressing with kerb laying, drainage, placing and compacting the base and sub base course.

Existing BT cable diversion works has been undertaken without any disruption to the service.

B1008 Braintree Road, A130 Essex Regiment Way
Traffic management has changed to start construction on the opposite side of the road. Works started during January to re profile the embankment and install the drainage.

A130 Essex Regiment Way
Traffic management has changed to start construction of the dedicated left turn slip from A131 Braintree Road to A130 Essex Regiment Way. Works started during January to re profile the embankment and install the drainage.

Traffic management & road closure
Overnight construction works will continue until the end of February 2020.

It will be necessary to have two full overnight road closures, which will include a diversion route. This will take place over the weekend of the 15th & 16th February 2020 between 8.00pm and 5.00am. This will enable completion the road reconstruction and resurfacing works around the roundabout.

There will not be any changes to the traffic management arrangements. Traffic lights will remain in place for the night time works although timing arrangements may change on a nightly basis.
What’s next

During February there will be 2 night time road closures and there may be some Saturday working.

We will be carrying out temporary road surface works on all approaches to the roundabout.

From Monday night 10th February 2020 through to Friday night 21st February traffic will run on the temporary surface. These works will be undertaken with as little disruption as possible and we apologise in advance for any inconvenience that the travelling public may experience.

Roundabout; - finish installing the road signs, and lighting. Landscaping. Road surfacing on the roundabout (under road closure).

Western verge A131 – Continue surfacing to the road widening. Complete the surfacing for Braintree bound traffic.

Surfacing to various sections of the A131, A130 and B1008.

Continue the widening works to A130 and A131 eastern side.

Complete the new storage pond works.

Improving the image of construction

The Considerate Constructors Scheme was set up to improve the image of the construction industry. The scheme aims to encourage best practice beyond statutory requirements and show the industry to be considerate. The scheme’s monitor visited our site in January 2020 and was very impressed with the standard we are working to. Jackson Civil Engineering’s site team has achieved the ‘Beyond Compliance’ award which is awarded to sites that are going above and beyond to be considerate constructors.

Site reference: 11785 Freephone: 0800 783 1423
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Our environment

85% of all waste that has been generated on this site has been recycled. To help meet our targets we have reused 50% of all clay that has been excavated and 100% of all topsoil that has been stripped back into the works. All concrete and asphalt have been recycled off site and reused by our subcontractor. We are continually looking for ways to reuse and reduce our carbon footprint.

How to find out more?

Essex County Council website will be updated with information about the scheme as works progress.

If you have any questions or comments about the scheme, please contact the Essex County Council customer service team on 0345 603 7631 or https://www.essex.gov.uk/enquiries.

Thank you

The project team would like to thank you for your patience, understanding and apologise for any inconvenience we may have caused you whilst we have been carrying out this important work.