

## Guided Busway Update

### April 2008

This is the ninth in a series of newsletters from Cambridgeshire County Council to keep you informed about progress on the guided busway project.

#### **Busway trials are “huge success”**

On Monday 10th March 2008, the first ever buses to travel on the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway made their way down the 4km stretch of concrete between Longstanton and Oakington.

The buses were taking part in the Council's trials on the busway. Four bus manufacturers from across the country brought their buses to Cambridgeshire to test ride quality, speed, braking performance and other elements of the busway.





Bob Menzies, Head of Delivery for the Guided Busway said, “I’m delighted to say the guideway has surpassed all of our expectations. The ride quality is excellent and this is particularly pleasing as ride quality has always been one of our key objectives, as we want passengers to have a top-quality experience using the busway. The trials were a huge success because they showed the high ride quality that can be achieved through the right construction method.

“We had buses running at speeds of up to 60mph and the ride was still very smooth. Passengers will benefit from the ride quality but other elements of the scheme are important too, such as quality stops, Park & Ride sites, inter-operator ticketing and real time bus information.”

Local bus operators who will run services on the guideway also attended the trials to look at the performance of different buses. They are now looking into which buses to purchase to run on the guideway.



Construction of new junction at Station Road, Histon/Impington

## Construction progress

With the first section of busway between Longstanton and Oakington now completed, the track-laying machine has been moved across the junction at Oakington and is working its way towards Histon.

The machine is expected to reach the Histon area in late April. It will then proceed under the A14

towards Cambridge Regional College and the Science Park. Once the guideway has been laid to the Science Park, the machine will then move south of Cambridge where it will lay the track from Trumpington Park & Ride to Addenbrooke’s and Cambridge Railway Station. Following this, guideway will be laid from Longstanton towards St Ives.



## Road works

The junction for the busway outside Cambridge Regional College has been completed. Construction will now start on a junction for the busway where the guideway joins Milton Road.

On Milton Road we are building a new short-section of bus lane for buses travelling from Cambridge city centre heading out of town. The new bus lane will be built in front of the car showrooms. As we will be widening the road we will be able to keep one lane of traffic flowing in each direction at all times.

At the old level crossing at the B1050 in Longstanton we will be lowering the road surface by about one foot. In order to keep the road open we will be temporarily widening the road. This work will start in May using temporary traffic lights and continue until August 2008.

The road works on Station Road in Histon and Impington are progressing well and the concrete slab for the busway is now complete.

Other elements of the junction are still being worked on and the road works are scheduled to be completed in mid May 08.

Work on rebuilding Windmill Bridge near Over is progressing well. Nuttall have now built the structures that will support the bridge and are planning to lay the new road deck for the bridge during May. The bridge is scheduled to reopen to traffic in June 2008.

Work on the new underpass in the Hills Road Bridge embankment is due to start in May. Initially, utility companies will divert services in the road surface so we can then remove the road surface in small sections and construct the underpass.

In order to keep traffic moving as smoothly as possible over Hills Road Bridge, we are introducing temporary bus lanes on both approaches to the bridge and prohibiting some turns at junctions either side of the bridge. We have produced a separate leaflet explaining all of the roadworks, bus lanes and junction changes for Hills Road Bridge. Please call 0845 045 5213 to receive a copy of the leaflet or visit [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/hillsroadbridge](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/hillsroadbridge) to find out more about the work.



Construction work at Station Road, Histon/Impington



Hills Road bridge, Cambridge



Construction of the Windmill Bridge, Over.

## Construction timeline

As with any large construction project this programme is subject to change. We will update the programme in each edition of this newsletter.

Activity	Start	Finish
Longstanton to Cambridge construction	July 07	Aug 08
Work on Great Ouse Bridge	May 07	Sept 08
Work on Hills Road Bridge	May 08	Feb 09
Further construction from Cambridge Railway Station to Trumpington	March 08	Spring 09
Further construction from Longstanton to St Ives	Feb 08	Spring 09
Work on Windmill Bridge at Over	Oct 07	Jun 08
Construction of St Ives P&R	May 08	Oct 08
Construction of Longstanton P&R	Oct 08	Mar 09
Cambridgeshire Guided Busway completed and opened		Spring 09

## How can I find out more?

If you want to know more about the Guided Busway project or if you have questions or concerns about anything to do with construction, please contact the Guided Busway team on **01223 716972**, e-mail us on [guidedbusway@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:guidedbusway@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or write to us at

**Cambridgeshire County Council**  
RES 1504  
Castle Hill  
Cambridge  
CB3 0AP

There are also lots of details about the project on our webpages at [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/guidedbusway](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/guidedbusway)

The next update about the project will be available in June 2008.