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Charfield Station Construction FAQs

Introduction

Where will the new station and construction works be?

The new station will be immediately south of the old station site, with a car park to the south, off Station Road. Works will also be taking place on Little Bristol Lane, Station Road and Wotton Road.

How long will construction take?

Construction will commence from February 2025 and will be ongoing in phases until the new station is planned to open in Spring 2027.

Does the scheme have planning permission?

Yes - the station scheme was given planning permission in March 2023. Since then, the project team has been working on discharging planning conditions and we will also be applying to the Local Planning Authority in early 2025 to make some minor amendments to the scheme that have arisen through the detailed design process.

Construction works and timings

What works are happening first?

A package of enabling works is commencing from Monday 3 February 2025 and will complete in July 2025. The enabling works are the first phase of construction for the new station.

What are the enabling works and what is their timescale?

The enabling works include:

Install temporary protective barrier in front of the former station booking hall (rail side).	February
Vegetation clearance	February to March
Re-align* Little Bristol Lane including some utility diversions.	February to June
Prepare the proposed station forecourt for use as a compound for the railway works.	February to April
Set up of rail compound on the proposed station forecourt.	April
Track drainage improvements and track cabling realignment.	May
Set up of highway compound on the proposed southern car park (at southern end of Station Road).	May to June

**as per the station's planning permission, the re-alignment of Little Bristol Lane involves moving the road up to 2.5 metres westwards to provide the space needed to construct the new station platforms later in the programme. The Little Bristol Lane vehicle carriageway will remain at least two metres from residential properties*

How are the enabling works being funded?

The works for the new station are being funded by the West of England Combined Authority using funding from the Governments City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS).

When are the rest of the railway and highway works being undertaken once the enabling works are done?

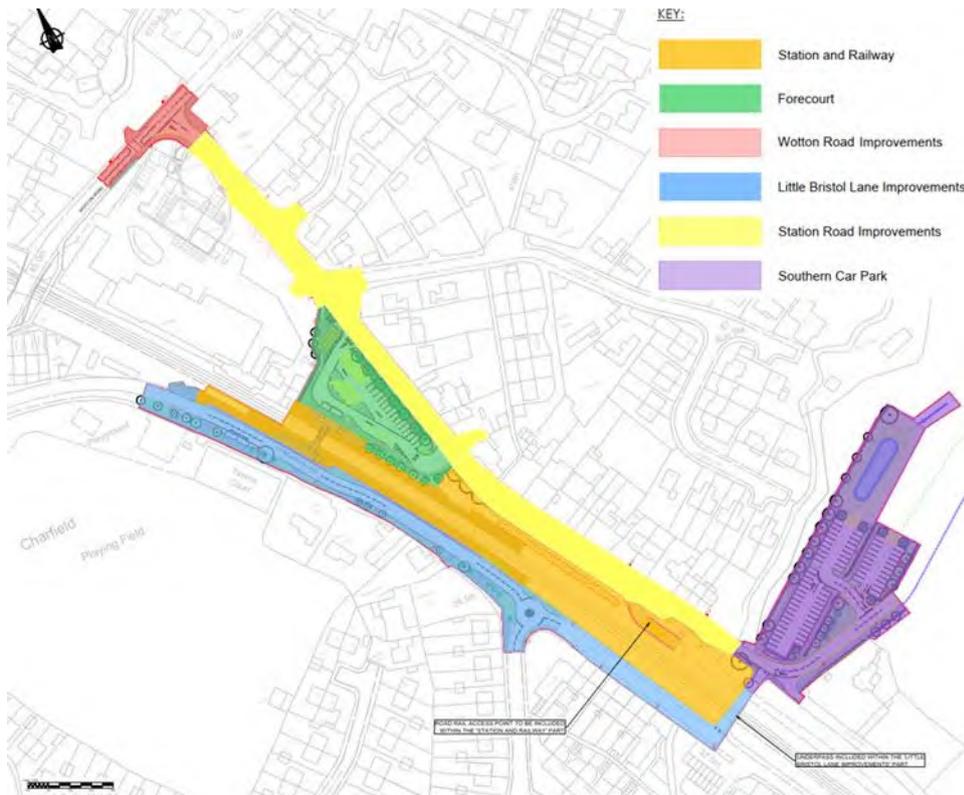
The project team will keep the local community up to date on what is happening and when as we move through the construction period. We anticipate the main works (platforms, footbridge, forecourt, southern car park and Station Road works) will commence in July/August 2025.

Who is undertaking the construction works?

South Gloucestershire Council's Streetcare division is undertaking highway works, i.e. the highway works, forecourt and southern car park. These areas are shown as the green, pink, blue, yellow and purple parts in the diagram below.

Network Rail's main contractor, Octavius Infrastructure Ltd, is undertaking the railway works, i.e. platforms, footbridge and track works, located in the orange part in the diagram below.

StreetCare and Octavius are working closely together to coordinate their construction programmes to minimise disruption and timescales, and they will continue to do so throughout the construction period.



Traffic management

How will general traffic be managed during the works?

There will need to be traffic management measures in place while works are undertaken on and near the highway. These could include temporary road closures, traffic lights or stop/go boards. The type of traffic management will depend on the phase of work being undertaken.

What type of traffic management will be in place for the enabling works from February 2025?

Little Bristol Lane

As part of the enabling works, SGC Streetcare will permanently realign Little Bristol Lane to make space for the station platforms and footbridge – to be delivered later in the construction programme. These works will require Little Bristol Lane to be closed for through traffic from Monday 3 February until the end of June 2025. Access will be maintained to properties on Little Bristol Lane adjacent to the works, but you will be required to follow any diversions in order to get to your property.

A diversion route along Manor Lane will be in place for the duration of these works. See the map below for the diversion route.

LITTLE BRISTOL LANE CLOSURE AND DIVERSION ROUTE



Use of the footway for pedestrians will be maintained. Cyclists will be required to dismount and walk along the footway.

On-street parking on Little Bristol Lane will be suspended along the road closure. Works will commence at the Manor Lane junction, working northwards in sections.

Station Road

There will be some limited traffic management in place on Station Road as part of the enabling works to prepare the area that will become the station forecourt for use as a temporary compound for rail works.

There will be priority boards in place for the first few days when we create access into the site from Station Road, and then for approximately two to three weeks intermittently following that when planned tree-felling takes place. Exact dates are to be confirmed and will be communicated with local residents and businesses. Access to adjacent properties will be maintained.

Why is Little Bristol Lane being temporarily closed for the enabling works?

We need to close Little Bristol Lane temporarily for the enabling works to provide the space to undertake the works, which include excavations for highway drainage. In addition, closing the road allows us to get this element of the scheme completed in the shortest possible time, minimising the length of disruption.

Will there be any impact on buses?

We recognise that the Little Bristol Lane temporary closure impacts the Y8, 914 and 917 bus services and we are liaising with the bus operators to confirm temporary amendments to the services.

What about traffic management for the main works that follow the enabling works?

We will provide further information about the traffic management for subsequent construction phases as works progress.

Will there still be access to local businesses, homes and services?

Access to properties on Station Road and Little Bristol Lane will be maintained, as far as reasonably practicable. However, there may be limited occasions when this is not possible. In these instances we will engage with affected owners in advance. We do not anticipate access to services and community facilities, e.g. the school and village hall, beyond Little Bristol Lane and Station Road being affected.

What happens if I can't park outside my own home during construction and I have disabled access requirements?

If you have a blue badge then please contact us directly and we can work together on how your requirements can be met.

Will footpaths be impacted during construction?

Paths will be kept clear as far as possible. However, there will be times when pedestrians may need to be diverted away from construction works. Any pedestrian diversions will be kept as short and convenient as possible, with safety being the priority.

Working hours

What are the typical site hours?

Most of the construction work will be undertaken during normal working hours for building sites: 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday, and 8am to 1pm Saturdays.

Will there be night working?

In addition to the standard daytime hours, there will be night working because some of the railway works can only be undertaken safely at night when there are no or fewer trains running.

Railway works will take place on Saturday nights (10pm to 8am) and some mid-week nights (11pm to 8am). There will also be times where there will be round the clock railway working for two or more days at a time.

A small amount of the highway works, such as surfacing, may also need to be undertaken at night when there are fewer vehicles on the road.

The first night working will take place from February when a protective barrier is erected around one of the listed buildings next to the railway. We are writing to local residents with further information about this.

Will you tell local residents when there is night working coming up?

Yes. We will write to those people living and working nearby in advance to tell them the dates and times of planned night working once they are confirmed, and we will include this information in project newsletters and on the project webpage. We will also provide information about what works are being undertaken and who to contact if you have a question or concern about construction activities.

We recognise that night working can be disruptive and inconvenient for people who live near the construction areas and we sincerely apologise for this. We will minimise night working and keep noise to minimum as far as practicable. The project team is engaging with SGC's Environmental Protection Team to agree how best to minimise noise levels.

Construction traffic

Will there be temporary compound areas?

Yes. The main compound for the railway works will be on the area that will become the station forecourt. The main compound for the highway works will be next to where the southern car park will be constructed. There will also be smaller compounds within the working areas.

The compounds will contain areas for staff welfare, parking, materials and equipment.

The locations of the main compounds are shown in the diagram below.



Where will construction traffic travel to?

The primary access to the site compounds and works areas will be from the B4058 (Wotton Road) to the north. Most vehicles will travel along Station Road, however some will need to use Little Bristol Lane for the works happening on that side of the railway.

Will construction traffic block roads in/around Charfield?

Site and compound access points will be marshalled to ensure construction traffic does not block any part of Little Bristol Lane, Station Road or Wotton Road. On-site workers will be encouraged to lift share and will park within the site compounds or the live works areas.

When will deliveries and collections take place?

Deliveries/collections will be planned to take place between 7.30am and 6pm Monday to Fridays) and 8am and 1pm Saturdays. There may be occasions when deliveries or collections need to take place outside of these times, for example to facilitate night working.

Where practical, every effort will be made to avoid peak times and to stagger deliveries across the day.

Suppliers will be contacted in advance regarding delivery times.

Deliveries and collections will be unloaded/loaded within the site compounds or the live works areas.

Managing the impact of construction

How will noise be minimised?

The following are examples of how we will minimise noise:

- Plant and equipment which emits noise strongly in one direction shall be orientated away from homes and businesses as far as reasonably practicable
- Plant and machinery will not be over revved
- Operatives will be considerate to neighbours, i.e. no shouting, slamming doors, playing radios, loads lowered and not dropped, use of hammers minimised and copper faced mallets used where possible
- Construction vehicles will adhere to local speed limits and 15mph within the site itself. Works and movements will be limited to daytime hours as far as possible.

The project team is liaising with SGC's Environmental Protection Team to agree how best to minimise noise levels.

Our contractors undertaking works on site will be briefed to be considerate to nearby residents by keeping noise levels to a minimum at all times.

Will there be mud on local roads?

The compound areas and temporary haul routes will be surfaced so that construction vehicles will not normally need to travel across bare ground. This will minimise mud on vehicles. Vehicles will be checked before leaving site and where required cleaning or mechanical road sweeping shall take place.

Transport haulers leaving the site will be appropriately covered, t leaving the site will be appropriately covered, leaving the site will be appropriately covered, o leaving the site will be appropriately covered, leaving the site will be appropriately covered, s leaving the site will be appropriately covered, leaving the site will be appropriately covered, a leaving the site will be appropriately covered, leaving the site will be appropriately covered, far as is practical.

Are you considering ecology?

Yes. The project team has agreed a Construction Ecological Management Plan with the Local Planning Authority which sets out how impacts on local wildlife will be minimised during construction. There will also be an Ecological Clerk of Works overseeing construction to ensure that the Plan is adhered to.

The finished scheme will include new tree and hedge planting and habitat creation. The first planting is likely to commence from winter 2025/26.

How will you monitor dust and air quality?

The main potential impact on air quality arising from the works is dust and we will have a number of measures in place to minimise this, including:

- Vehicle routes will be kept clear of site materials and dampened down in dry weather, if needed
- Speed limits for construction vehicles on site will be reduced in dry weather to reduce dust generation
- Powder materials will be stored in containers. Long term stockpiling of materials will be avoided.
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Site staff will undertake regular inspections. The frequency of inspections will be increased to daily checks when activities with a high potential to produce dust are being carried out, and during prolonged dry or windy conditions. Corrective on-site measures will be implemented if found to be necessary.

Will there be piling?

No. Piling will take place during the enabling works. However piling will be used later in the construction programme to install the foundations of the footbridge. The piling method used will not be percussive (banging). Instead the foundations will be augured, which is akin to drilling, which minimises noise and vibration.

Some sheet piling will also be needed at the Road Rail Access Point (RRAP) on Station Road. This will be vibrated into the ground and there may need to be a limited amount of banging if rock is hit.

All piling work is planned to be undertaken during daytime hours.

How will you control vibration from the work and heavy vehicles?

Works will be undertaken in line with the British Standard 5228 Code of Practice for noise and vibration control on construction sites.

In addition, construction traffic speed limits will be adhered to, and we are using piling methods that limit vibration as far as possible.

Are local properties being surveyed before work starts?

SGC will be undertaking photographic condition surveys of properties near the site along Station Road and Little Bristol Lane before the works start. These will record the external condition of buildings and structures prior to works commencing. This will involve taking photographs of the outside of residents' homes from the roadside.

What should I do if I think the work is damaging my house?

If works are taking place which you believe are damaging your property, then you should contact the project team. Contact details are shown below.

Who should I contact with concerns about construction work?

For the railway works, which includes the new station, platforms and footbridge, call the Network Rail 24-hour helpline number on: **03457 11 41 41**.

For the highways work, contact South Glos Council Streetcare on: **01454 868000**.

Alternatively, you can email the project team at: charfieldstation@southglos.gov.uk
This mailbox will be regularly checked during normal office hours, Monday to Friday.

I run a business near the site, will you pay compensation for any loss of earnings during the work?

The general rule is that there is no automatic or statutory provision for compensation to be payable by the highway authority if a business is affected by roadworks. However, there is potential relief from business rates available if business premises are affected by severe local disruption.

The Government's website contains information regarding claiming for a business rates reduction in the form of hardship relief: www.gov.uk/apply-for-business-rate-relief/hardship-relief

The council's website also contains information on how to apply for hardship relief: <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/hardship-relief/>

Will there be compensation for those residents or businesses adversely affected by the construction work?

There is no legal requirement for the council to provide compensation for disturbance and there is no council policy in place to do so.

What is happening to the listed former station buildings?

The listed buildings are in private ownership. The Project Team fully recognises the value of the listed buildings and there is no intention to harm or demolish the buildings as part of the station scheme. We have ensured, through liaison with the Local Planning Authority, that the station design does not negatively impact on the listed buildings.

Renovation of the buildings does not form part of the station scheme and therefore the scheme does not include any works on them, although protective scaffolding is being put up around the listed building that is closest to the railway for the duration of the nearby works, to protect the building and the railway.

Further information

How do I get in touch with the project team?

If you have a question, please contact the project team by emailing us at:
CharfieldStation@southglos.gov.uk

Where can I find out more information?

Please visit the project webpage: www.southglos.gov.uk/CharfieldStation

Will you keep the community updated?

We will provide updates to the community throughout the project. We would encourage people who are interested to sign up to our project e-newsletter. This can be done by visiting the project website: www.southglos.gov.uk/CharfieldStation. We will also issue updates via the webpage, the council's social media accounts (Facebook and X) and via the local press.