

Bristol Parkway railway bridge

Public Realm COVID-19 response to recovery

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are you doing at the Bristol Parkway railway bridge?

From Sunday 14 June 2020, will be carrying out a two week trial of a new road layout under Parkway railway bridge, on Brierly Furlong. Barriers will be used to create a single lane for traffic, controlled by temporary traffic signals. The extra space created either side of the lane will be designated for people walking or cycling under the bridge and allow them to keep a safe distance from each other.

Signs and road markings will be in place to notify road users of the new road layout and direct cyclists and pedestrians to use it safely and appropriately.

2. Why are you implementing these measures?

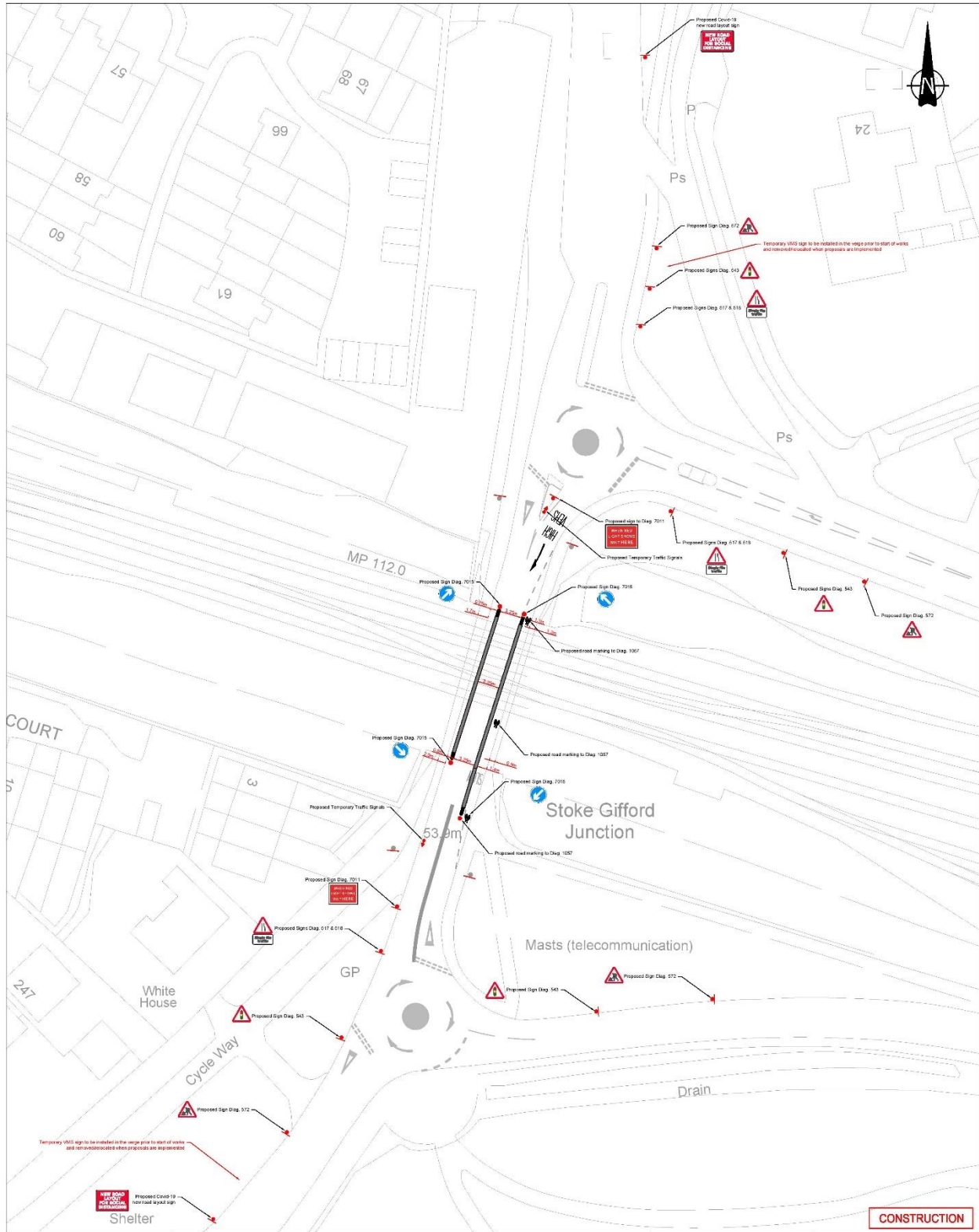
As we begin to recover from the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown restrictions are eased, our roads will become busier as more people return to work, students return to school and college and shoppers start to use their High Streets again. Staying safe and saving lives by keeping to social distancing rules will be more important than ever to help protect the most vulnerable and reduce the rate of infection.

Our routes to work, education establishments and shops need to be safe and provide people with the confidence to use them. As a council we need to take bold action now, while the roads are still quieter, to provide reassurance and peace of mind before traffic levels start to return to normal.

The road under the bridge is historically a hot spot for cyclists and pedestrians and needs some adjustment to enable people to socially distance from one another.

3. Is there a diversion?


The road is not closed so there will not be a diversion in place. We do advise seeking alternative routes, especially during peak hours.



Rev	Description	Drawn	Appr	Date
A	Issue of the road side index	JL	MS	24/6/20

Key

- Proposed Mass Barriers (0.5m wide)
- Supply and erect Covid 19 sign on existing post/LC



South Gloucestershire
Council

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Project Parkway Station Low Bridge
Stoke Gifford
Social Distancing Measures

Title Proposed Shuttle Signals - Detailed Design

Scale @ A1 As Shown

Drawn	JL	Checked	Approved
Date	June 20	Date	Date

Dwg No. T429 - 702 - 002

CONSTRUCTION

4. Will the road be closed when you put these changes in place?

Yes in order to implement these measures we will need to close Brierly Furlong to all vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians from midnight to 6am on Monday 15 June. The closure will be in place from the entrance to Parkway Station to the junction with North Road.

5. Will there be delays when the temporary lights are in place?

There will be delays as vehicular traffic will be reduced to a single lane by temporary shuttle traffic signals. We do apologise for this but staying safe and saving lives by keeping to social distancing rules will be more important than ever to help protect the most vulnerable and reduce the rate of infection. This is a busy area and it will get busier as lockdown continues to ease. This is a pinch point where social distancing is not possible and these measures are necessary to protect the public.

This initiative is very much in line with government's emergency response to Coronavirus (Covid-19). The intention of these plans is to help protect our residents against coronavirus and save lives as lockdown restrictions are relaxed and to boost the local economy.

6. Will the changes be removed when the school summer holidays start?

This scheme is a two week trial initially and we will constantly monitor and review the situation as recovery from the pandemic continues. We haven't set a timescale for the scheme to end yet and will remain flexible about this depending on how busy the route becomes and feedback.

7. Are you continuing with other roadworks schemes in the area at the same time?

Our major roadworks schemes and maintenance programmes have continued to run with some schemes being brought forward while roads are quieter. This includes Great Stoke (rabbit) roundabout nearby which is now due to be completed three months ahead of schedule. Gipsy Patch Lane is closed to traffic as work to replace the railway bridge there continues.

We recognise the impact the traffic signals at Bristol Parkway railway bridge will have in this area, however traffic levels remain lower than normal and there has been a significant increase in the number of people walking and cycling so we must put in place additional measures to protect them from the spread of Covid-19.

8. Will there be barriers between the shared use pathways and the carriageway?

Yes, there will be semi-permanent barriers in place to protect cyclists and pedestrians.

9. Can cyclists and pedestrians use pathways on both sides of the road?

Yes, both pathways are shared use and will be available for both cyclists and pedestrians travelling in either direction. We encourage people to take caution and slow down as they approach the railway bridge, staying two metres apart at all times.

10. Will cyclists have to dismount under the bridge?

No, cyclists will not be asked to dismount but they should slow down and take extra care in this area.

11. How long are these measures going to be in place?

This is a two week trial initially to see how the measures work. We will be monitoring the situation closely and liaising with councillors, partners and stakeholders.

12. Who is paying for these measures?

The funding for this work comes from central Government through the West of England Combined Authority (WECA).

13. Have you consulted people before implementing this scheme?

The government has issued statutory guidance which expects local authorities to make significant changes to their road layouts to give more space to cyclists and pedestrians. The guidance also states that 'measures should be taken as swiftly as possible, and in any event within weeks, given the urgent need to change travel habits before the restart takes full effect'.

As a result, these changes have been agreed with local councillors on a trial basis to support businesses to reopen and people to return to work with Covid-19 social distancing measures in place from 15 June. We all need to abide by the Covid-19 guidelines to protect each other, help to control the virus and save lives.

Given these timescales, we have not been able to carry out a full consultation as we normally would expect to for a scheme of this scale before its implementation but we are providing as much information as possible and answering queries as quickly as we can.

Consultation will continue to run throughout the scheme's trial.

14. How many more schemes will there be and where?

This scheme is one of many we are delivering to improve safety for those who walk and cycle as well as support businesses and allow people to get to work safely and help schools to reopen. Further details of other schemes will be announced once they are confirmed.

15. I want to see improvements in my area, how do I suggest a scheme?

We have adapted our Local Transport Priority List (Assess and Decide) process for considering requests from residents. We welcome any useful suggestions from the public. If there are any interim measures we can introduce to easily help people maintain social distancing we will put these in place as soon as possible. Visit www.southglos.gov.uk/local-transport-priority-list

16. Where can I find out more information?

Further details about all the work we are doing to make public places safer is available on our website www.southglos.gov.uk/making-public-places-safer
You can also call us on 01454 868000.

17. How do I have my say?

You can email transport.services@southglos.gov.uk or call 01454 868000 immediately or if you wish to provide feedback once the scheme is in place please visit www.sustrans.org.uk/space-to-move.