

A452 Europa Way - Queensway to Princes Drive Signalisation scheme: Progress Update

September

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Overview

Phases A (Queensway Roundabout) and Phase I (Old Warwick Road Roundabout) have progressed throughout September and await final planting for completion. Phase F (Queensway - Europa Way North Gabion Retaining Wall) has started and will be under construction throughout October.

This phase consists of the construction of a new 90m long gabion retaining wall. The gabion wall is required to support the widening of the south approach to Queensway Roundabout. Currently the embankment has been stripped of vegetation and is awaiting reprofiling works throughout early October. Following reprofiling works, the gabion baskets will be created and filled with recycled locally sourced rock and placed into position along the curved embankment.

Now that the schools are back, traffic management has reverted to 9.30am-3.30pm.

We continue to thank all residents, businesses, and visitors to the area for their co-operation and patience as we work to deliver these improvements.

Works are progressing on time and completion of the scheme is still on track for summer 2025.

Progress to Date

Phase A – Queensway Roundabout

Phase A has progressed to near full completion throughout September. Temporary white lining was applied in preparation for the traffic management lane switch over, which allow for works safely to begin on the Phase F gabion retaining wall.

The binder course for the new traffic signal equipment base pads was laid in preparation for the installation of the traffic signal poles and heads, see Figure 1. The final installation of the traffic signal equipment will take place once all other phases reach the same stage in spring/summer 2025.



Figure 1 Queensway Roundabout - Traffic Signal Equipment Base Pads

The sustainable urban drainage (SuD) swale was topsoiled and is now ready for final seeding, see Figure 2. The seeding will be carried out during the next seeding season in 2025.



Figure 2 Queensway Roundabout – Topsoil Completion

Phase I – Old Warwick Road Roundabout

Similarly, as with Phase A, Phase I has progressed throughout September to near completion. Throughout the month, the road box construction for the new carriageway lane received its upper structural layers.

The layers include the upper road base and binder course, see Figure 3. The new lane is now active and can withstand full highway loading. The final structural layer, the surface course, will be applied during night closures once the scheme reaches the surfacing phase in the quarter of 2025.



Figure 3 Old Warwick Road Roundabout – Laying of The Upper Structural Road Layers

As with the Queensway Roundabout, the binder course for the new traffic signal equipment base pads was laid in preparation for the installation of the traffic signal poles and heads taking place in spring/summer 2025.

As part of the swale construction, Phase I required six small check dams, these dams were created from sustainable mechanically stabilised earth bags in favour of traditional concrete bags, see figure 4. The check dams were installed to ensure the flow of water under severe storm events does not exceed the capacity of the overspill drainage.



Figure 4 Old Warwick Road Roundabout – Check Dam Installation

As with Phase A, the Phase I Old Warwick Road Roundabout is now ready for final seeding. The seeding will be carried out during the next seeding season in 2025.

Phase F – Queensway - Europa Way North Gabion Retaining Wall

Phase F has started and consists of a large new retaining structure. The retaining wall designed and chosen for the scheme was a gabion retaining wall. The gabion will have a curved length of around 90m and will retain approximately 3m of soil at its highest point. The gabion wall was designed and specified in house by the Warwickshire County Council Engineering Design Services team.

The gabion baskets used for the wall will be created on site and filled with locally sourced rock by hand to ensure an aesthetically pleasing facing. The gabion will also house potted plants to aid biodiversity across the scheme.

In the last week of September, the embankment was stripped of vegetation in preparation for the reprofiling works to start in early October, see Figure 5. The construction of the retaining wall is expected to last around 4-6 weeks depending on weather conditions. The upper and lower footpaths will be closed whilst works take place.

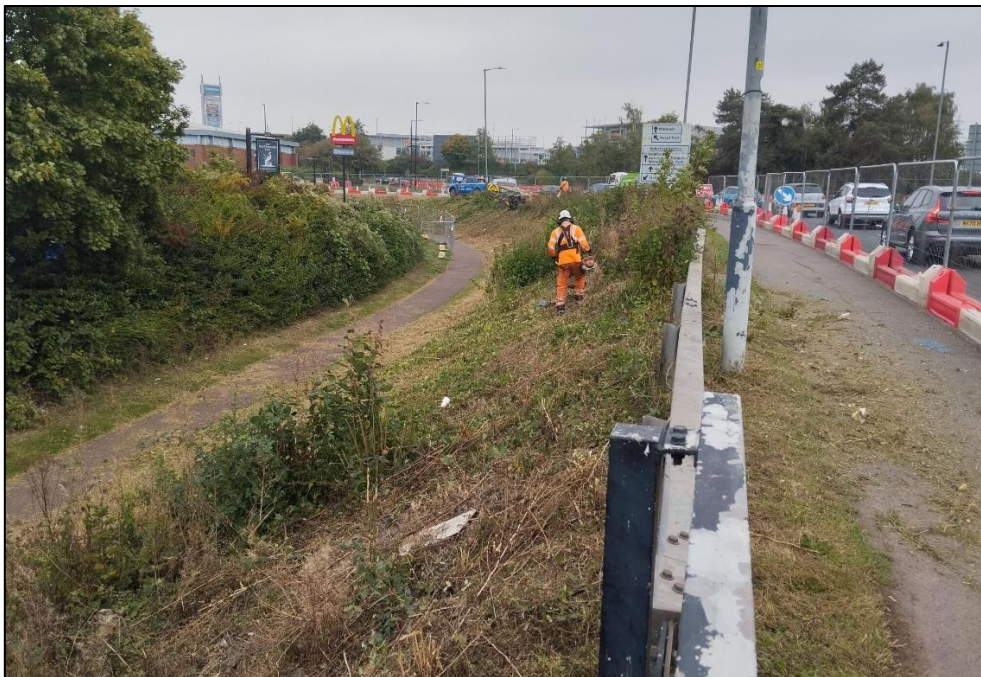


Figure 5 Phase F – Vegetation Clearance

The gabion retaining wall is required to support the proposed lane widening of the south approach to Queensway Roundabout. The gabion works will be constructed in a specific structural sequence to ensure the existing carriageway is not undermined while still used by the public. For additional safety measures, an inner lane closure on the approach to Queensway Roundabout will be applied to reduce the loading surcharge applied to the embankment whilst it undergoes reprofiling works.

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To install a gabion retaining, temporary works are required, these works include reprofiling the existing embankment to a steeper angle, installing the gabion baskets and then backfilling material behind the gabion baskets.

On behalf of WCC and CR Reynolds, we apologise for any inconvenience/delays you may encounter due to the temporary traffic management.

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