

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

## October

Date: 01/11/2024

Issue: No.5

### Overview

Phase F Queensway (Europa Way North Gabion Retaining Wall) has progressed on track throughout October. Over 20m of the new gabion retaining wall has been constructed with the remaining 70m to continue throughout November.

Works to widen the Queensway pedestrian footpath by 1m in width has been completed over the 75m length and is awaiting final surfacing stage which will be carried out in late November.

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 F – Queensway - Europa Way North Gabion Retaining Wall

Phase F progressed on target throughout October. The existing embankment was initially reprofiled to a temporary safe angle and then benched using 0.5m x 0.5m steps in order to maintain the structural stability of the slope, see Figure 1.



*Figure 1 Embankment Stepping Works*

Following slope reprofiling, in mid-October works began on constructing the formation layer for the base for the 1.5m wide gabion wall, see Figure 2. Various testing measures were carried out during this phase to ensure the soil strata exhibited the same behaviours as calculated in the design stage of the gabion wall. The testing included shear stress and density testing; all testing subsequently passed.

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*Figure 2 Gabion Base Formation*

Following the successful testing stage, specialist gabion retaining wall installer Maccaferri started construction of the first row of gabion baskets in the last week of October. Throughout the week, over 20m of gabion baskets were formed and hand faced with prime 6G stone filling, see Figure 3.



*Figure 3 Gabion Basket Construction*

Throughout November, the planned works include continuing with gabion basket construction for the remaining 70m curved length and backfilling works to establish the new embankment profile.

Additionally, as part of phase F, works began widening the Queensway footpath, the existing path is over 75m in length and will be widened by 1m to create a shared use footway and cycleway.

The new extent of the footway was excavated down to formation level and then built up using structural stone layers and specific compaction techniques, see Figure 4. The existing footpath surface layer was then removed, and the full new width was regraded, levelled and edge kerbed ready for final surfacing in late November.



*Figure 4 Footpath Widening Works Sequence*

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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