

# National Highways

## A14 Junction 47a - 49

### Stakeholder newsletter

Welcome to the first 2024 edition of the A14 junction 47a to junction 49 concrete road newsletter.

#### What we've done so far

Despite some challenging weather conditions, we've made great progress with work on the westbound carriageway.

We've removed the concrete from lane 2 and part of lane 1 of the old westbound carriageway and the safety barrier.

When we were rebuilding the eastbound carriageway, we encountered some areas of soft ground that caused problems. To prevent this happening when we're working on the westbound carriageway, we now have machinery on site that allows us to mix a strengthening powder into the ground. This will increase the strength of the surface to provide a firm working platform.

#### Next steps

We'll start laying the underlying bound strengthened layer, followed by the next two layers of asphalt. We'll then switch to the remaining part of lane 1 and repeat the process to rebuild this lane, ahead of the new road surface being laid in summer 2024.

#### Work near the A14

We're aware of work taking place on the A1088, close to our work on the A14. Housing developer, Hopkins Homes, is constructing a new roundabout as part of their Bury Road Development, which is due to be complete by May 2024. We're working closely with Hopkins Homes to minimise disruption on the A14.

A one-way closure of the A1088 is currently in place from Elmswell Roundabout to the top of the westbound slip roads, but these will remain open at all times during the initial phase of work.



*Machinery removing surplus material*



*Machinery used to add the strengthening agent*

A local diversion is in place for traffic wishing to access the A14 westbound entry slip road and Woolpit village from Elmswell Roundabout. HGVs needing to access Woolpit are signed via the A14 to junction 49 and back through the contraflow.

The work includes drainage, removal of the existing carriageway, new carriageway construction, laying surfacing, new shared-use cycleway/footway, road markings, street lighting signs and landscaping.

For queries about the new roundabout, contact Hopkins Homes at: [community@buryroad-woolpit.co.uk](mailto:community@buryroad-woolpit.co.uk)

## Speed limits

We mentioned in our last newsletter that several additional temporary speed limits were planned for 2024.

We've now placed a 20mph temporary speed restriction on Church Road, New Road, Leys Road and Hollow Lane in Tostock.



These have been put in place to deter rat running. Two safety speed camera vans will continue to monitor local routes that are typically used to rat run.

We continue to work closely with Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Police to monitor the situation.

We're still working under a contraflow system with one lane open in each direction. The speed limit remains at 50mph to ensure the safety of our workers and other road users.

All temporary speed limit reductions will be removed once the A14 junction 47a to junction 49 reconstruction project is completed in summer 2024.

## Wooden toy donations

Our contractor, John Sisk & Son Ltd were in the community over the Christmas period spreading a little festive cheer.

Sisk is a family-run business, with members of the Sisk family still involved in the business. One of their yearly traditions is donating handmade wooden toys made by carpentry apprentices.

These toys were given to local organisations where they can be enjoyed by many children in the community.



## Woolpit short mat bowls club

Sisk has donated a new set of bowls to the Woolpit Short Mat Bowls Club, who play in Woolpit Village Hall. They were very much needed, as there were members of the club who were unable to play due to the weight of the bowls. The new, lighter bowls will help their current and future members play.



*Jon Wright from Sisk delivering the new bowls*

Malcolm Bailey, the Club Secretary, said: "We'd like to thank you for the very generous donation of a set of four bowls. They'll come in very handy, as we have some club members who struggle lifting the heavier bowls, so these lightweight ones will ensure anyone can come along and enjoy playing. Thank you again."

## Elmswell foodbank donations

In December 2023, we signed up to a monthly food donation scheme in Elmswell. We'll continue these donations until the end of the scheme in summer 2024.



*Team member Mel delivering our first foodbank donation*

If you're a local community group needing support for the work you do, email Kelly at [A14J47J49CCC@sisk.co.uk](mailto:A14J47J49CCC@sisk.co.uk)

## Tell us your thoughts

We'd like to hear what you think about the information we send to you.

Please spend a few minutes completing our online questionnaire by visiting:

<https://forms.office.com/e/TC4RYq9bJk>

Alternatively, you can access the survey by scanning this QR code:



## Text message alert service

We've set up a free text message service to keep drivers informed, via text message, about incidents that occur within our roadworks.

You can sign up for this service by sending your mobile number to:

[ConcreteRoadsEastA14@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:ConcreteRoadsEastA14@nationalhighways.co.uk)

Please state 'A14 junction 47a Haughley to junction 49 Tothill SMS service' as the subject of your email.

You can opt out at any time by contacting us at the same email address.

## Have a safe T.R.I.P this winter

Planning for driving in winter is essential to ensure your safety and the safety of other road users.

Winter driving can be challenging due to slippery road conditions, reduced visibility, and extreme cold.

Being prepared can help you have a safe TRIP this winter:

- Make sure you get a good night's sleep before your trip
- Avoid alcohol the day before as this can disrupt sleep and affect your driving the following day
- Know what medications you're on and how they affect you.
- Avoid driving between midnight and 6am when you're likely to feel most tired.
- Be extra cautious and anticipate the actions of other drivers, as not everyone may be as prepared for winter driving.

Find out more on our [website](#).



## Get in touch with us

You can visit our webpage and sign up for updates about the scheme at [www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A14Haughley](http://www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A14Haughley)

If you'd like more information about our work, then please call the 24/7 National Highways Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000, or email [info@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:info@nationalhighways.co.uk)