

Strathbungo Q & A

General Questions

What are we doing?

We are electrifying the railway line between Glasgow and Barrhead, and Glasgow and East Kilbride. The section at Nithsdale Road serves both of these lines, which splits at Busby Junction, located just beyond Pollokshaws Station, heading away from Glasgow.

As part of these projects we must ensure that any railway or footbridges comply with the required height clearance to allow for electric trains to run underneath safely.

Why are we doing it?

The Scottish Government is committed to creating a zero carbon railway, which means finding alternatives to routes that currently use diesel trains. In this instance we will achieve that goal through electrification – the process of installing overhead lines to power electric passenger trains.

What are the benefits of this?

On completion of the project, there will be many wide-ranging benefits to our passengers and lineside neighbours. An electrified infrastructure will facilitate longer, greener and quieter trains. In addition to this, electric trains have quicker acceleration, lower fuel costs, produce fewer CO2 emissions and are lighter, meaning they create less wear on tracks.

How are we doing it?

In order to create the space required for electrification, we need to cut back vegetation and increase clearance between the track and any bridges located along the route. In Strathbungo, work to cut back vegetation has already taken place, and the next phase here is to replace/raise both the Nithsdale Road bridge and Footbridge to allow overhead lines to fit underneath.

The logistics of this work will require a work site compound in close proximity to the bridge, which we are locating on Darnley Road. We are required to keep the railway operational as much as possible so the majority of this work will take place over night.

Work Activities

When does work start?

Main works will begin on 28 March 2022 with some vegetation clearance taking place before hand to allow for construction of a temporary bridge to hold services such as gas, water, electricity that currently run through Nithsdale Rd bridge.

Will it be constant for the entire 15 months?

We will be working day and night shift so there will always be a presence on site.

What activity will I see during the first couple of months?

Primarily this will include the construction of the compound, with some vegetation removal to allow for gas, water electricity services to be diverted.

Following the compound installation, the temporary bridge foundations to carry the service diversions will be installed. This will be followed by public utility providers diverting their existing services from the road bridge onto the temporary service bridge.

Traffic Management

How will emergency services be able to reach us in the event road closures are in place?

Emergency routes will be agreed with the council and emergency services to ensure that diversions in place are adequate to allow quick response. The only section of Moray Place that will be closed to traffic is located from 1-10 Moray Place, however emergency services will still be able to access these houses from the Regent Park Square end of this section.

Can I still access Nithsdale Road Bridge by foot/pram/wheelchair?

Yes, Nithsdale Road Bridge will remain fully accessible from Moray Place by foot, pram and wheelchair until the middle of July, by which time we will have installed ramped access over the footbridge.

When is Nithsdale Road closed?

Nithsdale Road will be closed from 2 May 2022 and will re-open 11 January 2023.

When is Darnley Road closed?

A lane will be closed on Darnley Road from 28 March 2022 - 10 May 2023. Full road closures are currently planned for the demolition and lifting works between 5 – 8 August and 12 – 15 August 2022, during the installation of temporary service bridge 30 April – 02 May 2022 and for the removal of the Footbridge in January 2023.

When is Moray Place closed?

Moray place will be closed from 4 April 2022, with a planned re-opening date of 21 January 2023. Please note that this is only the top section of Moray Place that sits closest to Nithsdale Road. (no. 1-10)

Work Impact

How will this work impact on me?

For residents closest to the bridge, you will notice a visual change with the creation of the Darnley Road work site compound, as well as regular on site presence of staff, machinery and equipment.

How long will I be affected by this work?

The project will be on site for around 15 months, from March this year until May next year. Within this 15 month window, there will be specific activities that will be noisy and likely cause disturbance, however we will highlight the noisiest activities in advance to give you the opportunity to best prepare for their impact.

What are you doing to ensure the impact on me is minimal?

The work site will be enclosed to safely separate it from the public. We will also put boarded boundaries in place to reduce any visual and noise impact. Any noisy machinery used will be shielded where possible to further reduce noise, and site lighting will be adjusted so that we avoid shining lights directly into adjacent properties. A noise assessment survey will be undertaken in

advance to allow us to consistently monitor the noise levels throughout the duration of the programme, and allow us to make adjustments where possible.

What will be the noisiest activities during the project and when will they take place?

There will be some noise around the de-vegetation works which is for the installation of the temporary service bridge but also to remove vegetation from around the existing structure.

Following this, most of the works will be dayshift until the demolition preparation works. Before these works we will saw cut the abutments to the level of the new bridge installation and soft strip the store on the existing structure. The demolition will be the noisiest activity due to the mechanical means required to demolish the existing superstructure. This will be undertaken on 6 August 2022.

Do you have permission to carry out such noisy work at night?

Under our network license we are obligated to undertake work in such a way as it does not impact on the running of train services. This means that some work can only take place when trains are not operating.

Why does work need to take place at night?

While we undertake a number of activities during the day, some activity can only take place when the railway is closed to train services. Under our network license we are obligated to keep the railway network open as much as possible.

Will the vibrations from the work cause damage to my property?

All plant and machinery used on site has a specific 'zone of influence' i.e. any buildings within this zone may be subject to vibration. Work is planned in such a way that this zone of influence will not reach any properties. If this changes we will contact affected residents in advance to discuss this.

What if I witness damage to mine or surround property?

Please report any damage to our 24/7 helpline or via the dedicated project email address, along with the approximate date/time the damage was caused and vehicle registration numbers/contractor logos of the those that caused the damage.

What if there are issues with damage, litter, or debris impacting on surround pedestrian paths?

We will regularly monitor the pedestrian paths to make sure our work is not causing any issues, however if you witness anything you believe was caused by us please report this.

Can I apply for compensation?

As a publicly funded company, we have a duty to spend taxpayer money in a responsible manner. We would therefore be unable to provide any compensation or goodwill financial contributions as a result of the impact of the project. We are however committed to working with the community to find solutions to any issues that arise.

Can you offer alternative accommodation?

As a publicly funded company, we have a duty to spend taxpayer money in a responsible manner. We would therefore be unable to provide alternative accommodation during the work. We will communicate with local residents to make sure they are forewarned regarding the noisiest activities planned.

Contacting us

I'm still not happy. What more can you do to address my concerns?

Our approach is to work with the community, and specifically those individuals affected by the work and to find solutions to issues that might arise. Where we are able to make adjustments to the work site that will benefit you, we will. It is always worth asking the question with us. In the event that we are unable to make changes that fully address your concerns, we will explain in clear and concise terms why this is the case.

How can I find out more information?

In addition to this website, we will continue to communicate with you through our Twitter account @NetworkRailSCOT so we would encourage you to follow our account if you can. While we will continue to provide general updates via letter deliveries, our Twitter account and website are better suited to provide updates in real time. You can also raise questions via our dedicated 24hr Network Rail Helpline 03457 11 41 41 or by emailing the project directly via EKenhancements@networkrail.scot

You can also request a telephone conversation or in person visit at your home with our Community Liaison Manager. They are best placed to act as the point of contact between the community and the project team.

How do I contact you in real time if an issue is affecting me during the night?

We have a dedicated 24/7 helpline available to log any issues you may have. If you witness an issue during the night that you believe is unsafe or may pose a danger to anyone please contact us.

Who hold Network Rail to account?

Our ombudsman is the Office of Road and Rail (ORR)