

# Eastbourne Town Centre Movement and Access Package Phase 2a

## Frequently asked questions

### What has happened since funding was agreed?

The funding for the Eastbourne Town Centre Phase 2a was approved in February 2019. East Sussex County Council (ESCC) then worked with Jacobs/Costain (the Highways contractor at the time) on the preliminary design. ESCC undertook a public consultation on the designs in November/December 2019. The outcomes from this consultation were taken to the Lead Member for Transport and Environment in April 2020. In May 2023, ESCC entered into a new Highways contract with Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP). When BBLP took over the Highways contract, they needed to undertake a design review as part of their own due diligence to take on liability for the design (and therefore their work on the project). This highlighted that the cost of the scheme would be £4.6m, which was nearly £1m over the remaining funding. The scheme was therefore descope and BBLP finalised the detailed design. The consultation to fell two trees in Langney Road was undertaken in March/April 2025. The formal Traffic Regulation Order advertisement took place in April 2025. The contract was awarded to the successful subcontractor in August 2025.

### How much does the scheme cost and where has the funding come from?

The scheme costs £6.055m and is made up of grant funding from Local Growth Fund and Active Travel England, along with capital funding contributions from East Sussex County Council.

### Why was the scheme descope?

Since the County Council secured £3m of LGF monies from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) towards the development and delivery of Phase 2a of the Eastbourne Town Centre Movement and Access Package (ETCMAP) in 2018, significant progress has been made on the design proposals for pedestrian improvements on Terminus Road between Bankers Corner (the junction with Cornfield Road) and Langney Road, aimed at supporting economic growth in Eastbourne Town Centre. Additional funding has previously been secured from Active Travel England and allocated from the County Council's capital programme of local transport improvements to increase the overall available funding to develop and deliver the Phase 2a scheme. However, scheme development and construction costs have increased significantly across the sector because of high inflation, the war in Ukraine and delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Following a comprehensive design and cost review of the original Phase 2a scheme's scope, the cost to deliver the remaining schemes exceeds the £3.6m remaining funding. With no other funding

sources available to address the scheme's funding gap, a descoping exercise has been undertaken to identify which elements of the existing scheme could be delivered in the current funding envelope.

### **What compensation is available for businesses?**

No compensation is payable for works undertaken by the Highway Authority using its statutory powers. So long as the works are carried out properly and the Authority acts reasonably, there is no right to compensation.

### **How will you be delivering the work?**

We understand this is a busy area both during the day and in the evening, especially in the summer, so we'll be completing our work in phases to minimise disruption.

There will be five working areas within four phases, as well as some preparatory work. Within each phase, we'll be focusing on small sections at a time, allowing the area to remain attractive and accessible for shoppers and visitors.

### **How are we helping the businesses impacted?**

We will maintain regular contact with affected businesses to ensure access arrangements and other concerns are addressed.

### **Will you be stopping work for events?**

As part of our programme, we've considered key events in the town. We'll be reducing the footprint or removing any work sites to ensure events can progress as usual, and the local businesses can continue to benefit from the increase in footfall.

Work on the Terminus Road section between Langney Road and 'Bankers Corner' will begin in the new year to minimise disruption to Christmas markets.

### **Who have you consulted with to plan the work?**

We've been working closely with local stakeholders including councillors, businesses, business leaders, emergency services, and residents to ensure we deliver this work while minimising disruption.

## How long will it take?

As with any complex scheme, dates are subject to change as commercial and programming decisions are finalised. While construction is currently anticipated to be complete in Spring 2026, please note that this timeline may be affected by unforeseen circumstances or events beyond our control.

## How are you minimising disruption to businesses?

We understand this is a busy area, so we'll complete our work in phases. By focusing on short sections, we can minimise disruption to businesses and keep the area attractive to shoppers and diners. We will continue to collaborate with local businesses to monitor the impact of our work and make necessary adjustments.

There will be regular updates about progress and where we're working provided via the webpage (<https://live.eastsussexhighways.com/highway-schemes/eastbourne-town-centre-phase-2>), a weekly stakeholder email and on social media. The team will also be on site to speak to traders. Should you wish to be added to the email list, please contact [eastbourneimprovements@balfourbeatty.com](mailto:eastbourneimprovements@balfourbeatty.com)

## Will there be access for pedestrians and vehicles during the work?

Vehicles will be prohibited in Bolton Road and Terminus Road during the work. Access will be maintained for pedestrians at all times.

We consult with emergency services, along with other stakeholders, when planning access changes. Access for emergency vehicles on blue lights calls will be maintained as necessary during our work.

## What are your working hours?

Work will take place during the day and overnight. To minimise disruption to residents, noisy activities will be conducted during the day or early evening. Night work will only be carried out when absolutely necessary and will focus on activities that may temporarily block access to shops or restaurants, ensuring businesses can stay open as usual. Any such work will be discussed and agreed in advance with business owners.

Our standard daytime working hours are 7:30am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday. Please be aware, if required we may work longer hours or over weekends.

## Will there be any noise or dust while you're working?

There may be some noise, especially when digging or cutting materials. Most of these activities won't take long, but we'll inform nearby businesses if there's going to be any prolonged periods of noise (more than 60 minutes). We'll aim to carry out these activities during the day or early evening to minimise night-time noise.

We use dust suppression measures, including screens and water, to keep dust to a minimum, and there will be regular street cleaning. However, we do recommend businesses keep doors and windows closed during hot or breezy periods as this can contribute to dust spreading.

## How will you ensure the area remains attractive to shoppers and diners during the work?

We'll complete our work in phases to minimise the impact on businesses. Work areas will be fenced off for safety, and we ask people to take extra care around these areas, especially outside working hours.

We'll use *Heras* fencing to ensure the street remains open and light. There may be times when temporary screening is erected to protect pedestrians and buildings from dust or noise.

At the end of each shift, work sites will be cleared of equipment and materials as far as possible, ensuring they are safe and tidy.

## Want to know more?

If you've got any queries, come and see the team at the site office: 25a Langney Road – next to Marley's restaurant, every Wednesday between 1pm and 3pm.

You can also call our contact centre on 0345 60 80 193 who will pass your query to the team, or email [EastbourneImprovements@balfourbeatty.com](mailto:EastbourneImprovements@balfourbeatty.com) (*once these works are completed, this email address will be closed*).