

# Road Maintenance in Your Area

## Road Surface Improvement (Resurfacing)



### A228 Malling Road, Mereworth

#### Essential Works

In line with government advice, our highway maintenance works are vital in keeping roads open, key workers and emergency services moving, deliveries flowing, and safeguarding the provision of utility services to support the NHS, local communities, homes and businesses. Kent County Council is prioritising essential works to enable a fully functioning network, ensuring that life-saving medicine, equipment, supplies and healthcare staff can travel across the country to where they are needed most, whilst considering the risk to both our workforce and the public.

We take the wellbeing of the public and our workforce extremely seriously, and please be assured we have put in place all mitigating measures necessary to abide by the guidance currently in place.

We ask that whilst works are ongoing, if you do need to approach the workforce, that you maintain social distancing and if you have any further enquiries regarding these works you can also raise them through the Kent County Council contact centre on *03000 418181 Mon to Fri 09:00 to 17:00*. If there are any last-minute changes to the program dates such as poor weather or other factors, these will be advertised via the KCC Website and Social Media Platforms. *For the safety of both you and our workforce please do not approach our workforce on site whilst they are using machinery.*

#### When we plan to carry out the work and how long it will take

This is to let you know that, as part of the on-going maintenance and improvement of the highway network, Kent County Council will be resurfacing **A228 Malling Road between the A26 Tonbridge Road and King Hill roundabout. These works will include the resurfacing of the King Hill roundabout itself.**

These road surface improvement works are programmed to start on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020** and should take **16 weeknights (if unforeseen issues arise, it may become necessary to undertake weekend working to avoid an overrun of works)** to complete. These activities will be undertaken between the hours of **20:00 and 06:00** each night. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and uncertainty there is a risk these works could be cancelled at any time.

During these essential works it will be necessary to close the A228 Malling Road so that we can carry out the works safely for both the workforce and road users. The closure will be phased to mitigate disruption for local residents as much as possible. There will be times when Kings Hill will not be accessible via Gibson Drive but throughout the entirety of our closure duration, access will be available from the Tower View roundabout.

- The Primary diversion will be via A26 Tonbridge Road, Seven Mile Lane, A20 London Road, A228 Ashton Way and vice versa.
- The Over-height (>4.4m) vehicles diversion will be via A26 Tonbridge Road, B2246 Hermitage Lane, A20 London Road, A228 Ashton Way and vice versa.
- Localised diversions and signage will be in place to direct highway users on adjacent minor roads where necessary.

Furthermore, efforts will be made to minimise traffic attempting to utilise Kings Hill as a diversion route. This will include stationing operatives at key access routes to the A228 Malling Road but if you do reside within the road closure, please do speak to the operatives who will advise you on the best route to access your property.

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#### What we plan to do

We will remove the existing road surface by a method known as milling. The complete area will then be swept by a mechanical sweeper to ensure the prepared surface is clean and free of dust and debris. If required, the existing manhole covers, and rainwater gully gratings will be adjusted or replaced to the correct level before the new surface is laid. Please note that this operation is noisy and can be prolonged as it is carried out using pneumatic hand tools. The new surfacing material will then be laid using a machine called a paver and compacted with a roller. This is a quick process and dependant on the design will either be a one or two-layer process. Finally, following completion of the surfacing, all associated road markings will be re-painted. The road will then be re-opened. Please note that during the whole process, audible warning reversing sirens will be heard along with flashing beacons; this is a health and safety requirement and cannot be turned off while the vehicle is operational

#### Why are we doing this work?

The majority of capital investment in maintaining our highway network is funded through various capital maintenance grants from the Government. To make best use of that finite resource we carry out condition surveys and inspections, using a combination of mechanical and visual means, together with an assessment of local needs, and that helps to inform an annual capital works programme that balances value for money and our duties under the Highways Act 1980. Our approach to highways asset management is based on using robust data to inform how we invest the funds available, so that we spend the right amount of money at the right time to reduce the cost of maintenance overall. Further details of our works programmes and our approach to highways asset management more generally can be found at [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk).

#### How you can help us

It is inevitable that residents and businesses near the works will experience some disruption and we apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused, but we will try to keep this to a minimum. Restricted Access to residential properties and all businesses up to the closure point, will be available, when safe to do so, but if you have any access needs, please let the workforce on site know whilst keeping your distance. Access to properties between the closure points will need to be restricted for a short period while work is carried out in front of each property and across road junctions. Traffic Management operatives will be available to help direct traffic within the closure.

We need your help to make sure the work is done as quickly as possible and to the best possible quality. If your vehicle is usually parked on the carriageway, please make sure you park it somewhere else away from the site whilst the works are carried out, so the road is clear for us to resurface.

***For your safety and the safety of our workforce, please drive carefully and slowly through the roadworks.***

#### How to contact us?

If you need more information, you can visit our website [www.kent.gov.uk/resurfacingupdates](http://www.kent.gov.uk/resurfacingupdates) to find out how we look after the roads throughout Kent or report any faults you find on our roads. Alternatively, you can call us on **03000 41 81 81**.