

Celbridge – Newcastle (Keatings Park) Water Main Replacement / Surface Water Pipeline Installation

The purpose of this report is to address the 27 submissions received regarding the proposed road closure from the junction of R405 Hazelhatch Road with Loughtown Road and the junction of R405 Hazelhatch with Athgoe Road. The questions were formed using the key topics that were frequently raised in the submissions received. These include, but are not limited to, the necessity of the projects, the traffic management plan, access to homes, businesses and educational facilities along the route, and the associated diversion routes that will be in place. All submissions were carefully considered, and we have endeavoured to address each issue raised in the answers provided in this report.

Frequently Asked Questions

Safety Note

Uisce Éireann and South Dublin County Council, together with GMC Utilities Group Ltd., are committed to ensuring the safety of our colleagues and residents in the areas we carry out works. Supervisory staff, toolbox talks, and individual audits are among some of the measures we have set in place to ensure the safety of all is maintained to the highest standards.

1. Why are these projects needed?

Uisce Éireann: The existing water supply network in Celbridge and Newcastle, Co. Kildare, requires rehabilitation to ensure a secure and reliable supply for existing customers and to increase capacity for the towns as they expand. The project is being delivered as part of Uisce Éireann's Leakage Reduction Programme.

SDCC: This project will prevent flooding events and facilitate new housing in line with the County Development Plan 2022-2028. The communications ducts will facilitate future communications infrastructure requirements for the county.

2. What does this project involve?

The Uisce Éireann rehabilitation work involves the replacement of approximately 5250m of water main along R405 Hazelhatch Road. The works will incorporate both Open Cut and HDD (Horizontal Directional Drilling) pipe installation methods.

The SDCC works involve the installation of 2.5km of surface water pipeline from Newcastle to Hazelhatch and the installation of four communications ducts.

3. Where will works take place?

Water Main Installation will take place from the Hazelhatch Road Bridge at Hazelhatch Train Station and the junction of R405 Hazelhatch with Athgoe Road. Surface Water Pipeline Installation will take place from Hazelhatch Bridge at Grand Canal and the junction of R405 Hazelhatch with Athgoe Road.

4. What traffic management will be in place?

To safely and efficiently deliver these works, a road closure is required from the junction of R405 Hazelhatch Road with Loughtown Road and the junction of R405 Hazelhatch with Athgoe Road.

5. How long will the road closure be in place for?

The road closure is expected to be in effect for seven months.

6. Can the duration of works and road closure period be shortened?

Due to the nature of the works, the size of the machinery, and the required safety protection barriers, it is not possible to carry out the works without a full road closure. This approach also avoids repeated excavation and reinstatement works, allowing us to progress more safely and efficiently while reinstating the road fully as we move along.

7. Is Stop/Go an option for some of the work?

There is a section with a large grass verge that runs for approx. 250 meters where we will try to implement a Stop/Go system between the Rail Line to the Canal.

8. How will houses along the route be accessed?

Local access will be always maintained. Depending on the location of works within the closure, access and exit will either be via the Loughtown Roadside or the Athgoe Roadside. GMC will issue a programme to the affected stakeholders on a weekly basis.

9. What are the likely congestion times at peak times on the alternative routes?

Our analysis found that during peak times, the diversion route along Peamount Road took around six minutes. Outside peak periods, this route will generally take about five minutes to complete.

10. Could person-controlled traffic management at the Athgoe Road be put in place to aid dispersion of the traffic coming on the alternative routes.

The new traffic management plan is isolated to Loughtown Road and Athgoe Road, with the diversion through Peamount Rd. The traffic management plan is set up to control junctions included.

11. Will bus services be accommodated?

GMC Utilities Group have liaised with the public bus service providers so that they are aware of the works and the diversion route. GMC will continue to work closely with the bus companies to minimise delays.

12. What about access to schools and specific bus runs to St Wolstans, Seleatians and CCS?

Access will be via the diversion route. GMC Utilities Group has engaged with all local schools and made them aware of the upcoming works and associated impacts, as well as the diversion route available.

13. Will there be a diversion in place?

Yes, One diversion route via Peamount Rd and Athgoe Road or, alternatively, via Loughtown Road, Peamount Road and Athgoe Road. These diversion will add an average of six minutes to the usual travel times.

A detailed route of the diversion can be seen in Figure 1.

14. Are the alternative routes suitable for HGVs?

The Peamount Road and Loughtown Road diversion routes are suitable for heavy vehicles with buses and HGVs using these roads already.

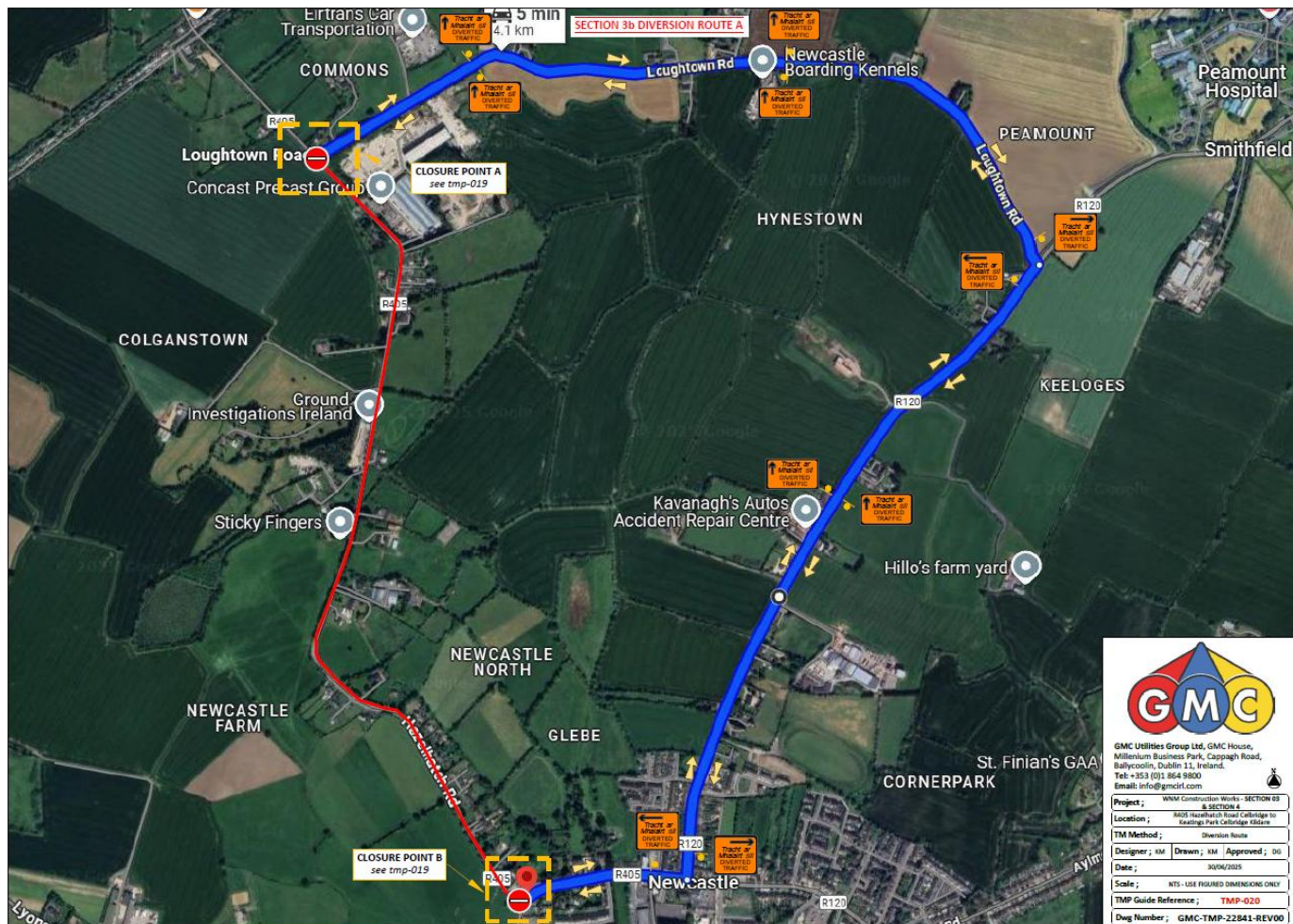


Figure 1: Diversion Route

15. Why is the road closure required?

Due to the plant and machinery required to lay the water main, it will be necessary to implement a full road closure to carry out the works safely and efficiently.

16. How deep is the pipe being installed?

The water main pipe will be installed at a depth of 1.2 metres and the surface water pipeline, with an up to 900 mm diameter, will have an average excavation depth of 2 metres.

17. What safety measures are in place while works are taking place?

All works perimeters will be barricaded off to ensure the area is safely secured, and personnel will always be on-site during the construction works to ensure the area is safe. Site compounds will be secured with temporary fencing to segregate from the public. When not in use, site compounds will be locked preventing unauthorised access.

18. How will roads be reinstated?

Roads will be reinstated in agreement with the local authority. It is planned that initially trench width will be reinstated, so the road can be immediately trafficable following trenching works. This will be followed by resurfacing, that will be completed under the road closure.

19. Will works impact access or parking at Hazelhatch Train Station?

Access to Hazelhatch Train Station will be always maintained, with motorists directed via the approved diversion routes.

20. Will buses servicing the area be impacted?

We will liaise with the public bus service providers so that they are aware of the works and will work closely with the service to minimise delays, while using the diversion route. The diversion route has been risk assessed by the bus operator and no issues were raised.

21. Will the Emergency Services be able to access my property?

The emergency services will be notified of the traffic management system, with maps provided allowing them to manage their response should an emergency arise. The works crew on the ground will proactively facilitate and assist.

22. Will refuse collections be affected?

Refuse collections will continue as normal. We will contact the refuse collection companies to make them aware of the traffic management arrangements in place. GMC will look to allow access where possible through the closure. Where the refuse collection trucks cannot pass our works, GMC crews will assist in moving the bins for collection to the trucks. GMC will however engage with the refuse companies to agree a plan, so no collections are missed.

23. Will schools be engaged with to ensure the safety of pedestrian and motorists at peak time drop off and pick up times?

GMC have been and are continuing to liaise with the schools and creches in the area.

24. How will access to Sticky Fingers preschool be affected?

Depending on the location of works within the closure, access and exit to / from the creche will either be via the Loughtown Road side or the Athgoe Road side. GMC will issue a programme to the affected stakeholders on a weekly basis. On the ground engagement is ongoing ensuring all stakeholders are kept informed,.

25. Where will workers park their cars?

Parking for the work vehicles will be contained within the work area.

26. Who do I contact if I have questions on the works as they are progressing?

GMC's Community Liaison Officer for the project, Johnny Cuciureanu, can be contacted at **085 854 1594**