



# A38 Swinfen to Hilliard's Cross

Communication Toolkit – 11-day full closures and northbound slip closures

# About HS2

HS2 is Britain's new high-speed railway, a once-in-a-generation investment in our transport infrastructure. British-built trains will provide reliable, zero carbon travel, cutting journeys between our two biggest cities, London and Birmingham, by 40%. HS2 trains will join the conventional rail network at Handsacre, Staffordshire, continuing to Manchester, the Northwest and Scotland.

Balfour Beatty VINCI (BBV) is working in partnership with HS2 Ltd to build the new high-speed railway. BBV are responsible for designing and building the West Midlands section of HS2's Phase One route, covering approximately 90km from Long Itchington in Warwickshire to Lichfield in Staffordshire.

# What is happening?

We are building a bridge under the A38 that will allow the HS2 railway to pass beneath the existing carriageway.

Last year, we completed work on the southbound on slip road and put the northbound on slip on a temporary alignment to keep it open.

For the final phase of work, we need to complete the main carriageway realignment work. We will remove the temporary diversion that is currently in place, and switch vehicles over to the newly re-aligned carriageway.

To carry out these works safely and to protect our workforce and road users, we need to close the A38 in both directions from Swinfen Interchange to Hilliard's Cross, for approximately 11- days.

We will also close the northbound slip road at Streethay. This is necessary to integrate the slip road into the new alignment. Once the A38 reopens on its new route, the northbound slip road will remain closed for approximately 6 months. Please note that we will reopen the road as soon as we have completed our work and it is safe to do so.

The overall A38 improvement works are scheduled for full completion in Spring 2027.

To receive updates about the closures and to effectively plan your journeys, please subscribe to [www.hs2instaffordshire.co.uk](http://www.hs2instaffordshire.co.uk)

# Key dates

A38 11-day full closures of northbound and southbound carriageways

A38 closure of northbound on-slip at Streethay until October 2026

Closure dates:  
9pm on Friday 27 March 2026 to 5am Wednesday 8 April 2026

Contingency dates:  
9pm on Friday 22 May 2026 to 5am Wednesday 3 June 2026

# Artist impression of A38 completed



# A38 key facts

- Northbound and southbound carriageways will be fully closed for 11 days from Swinfen Interchange to Hilliard's Cross
- The northbound on slip at Streethay will remain closed to allow the permanent on slip to be constructed offline
- We will remove the 'big bend' to complete the realignment of the carriageways
- Strategic diversion route to keep as many HGV's away from Lichfield area
- Working in partnership with National Highways to mitigate as much disruption to the road network as possible



# Key messages

## Keeping you informed

We are committed to keeping stakeholders, communities, businesses, commuters, and visitors to the Lichfield area informed about upcoming A38 closures.

By providing advance notice and clear information, we aim to support effective journey planning and help minimise disruption to travel.

## Minimising disruption

To reduce long-term closures and limit the impact on road users, preparatory works are being carried out offline wherever possible.

Main construction activities will commence alongside the closure of the northbound slip road at Streethay, ensuring a more efficient and coordinated delivery of works.

## Keeping you safe

To ensure the safety of both road users and our workforce, traffic will be temporarily restricted on the A38 carriageways.

These short-term closures are essential to allow construction activities to be carried out safely and efficiently, minimising risk while maintaining progress.

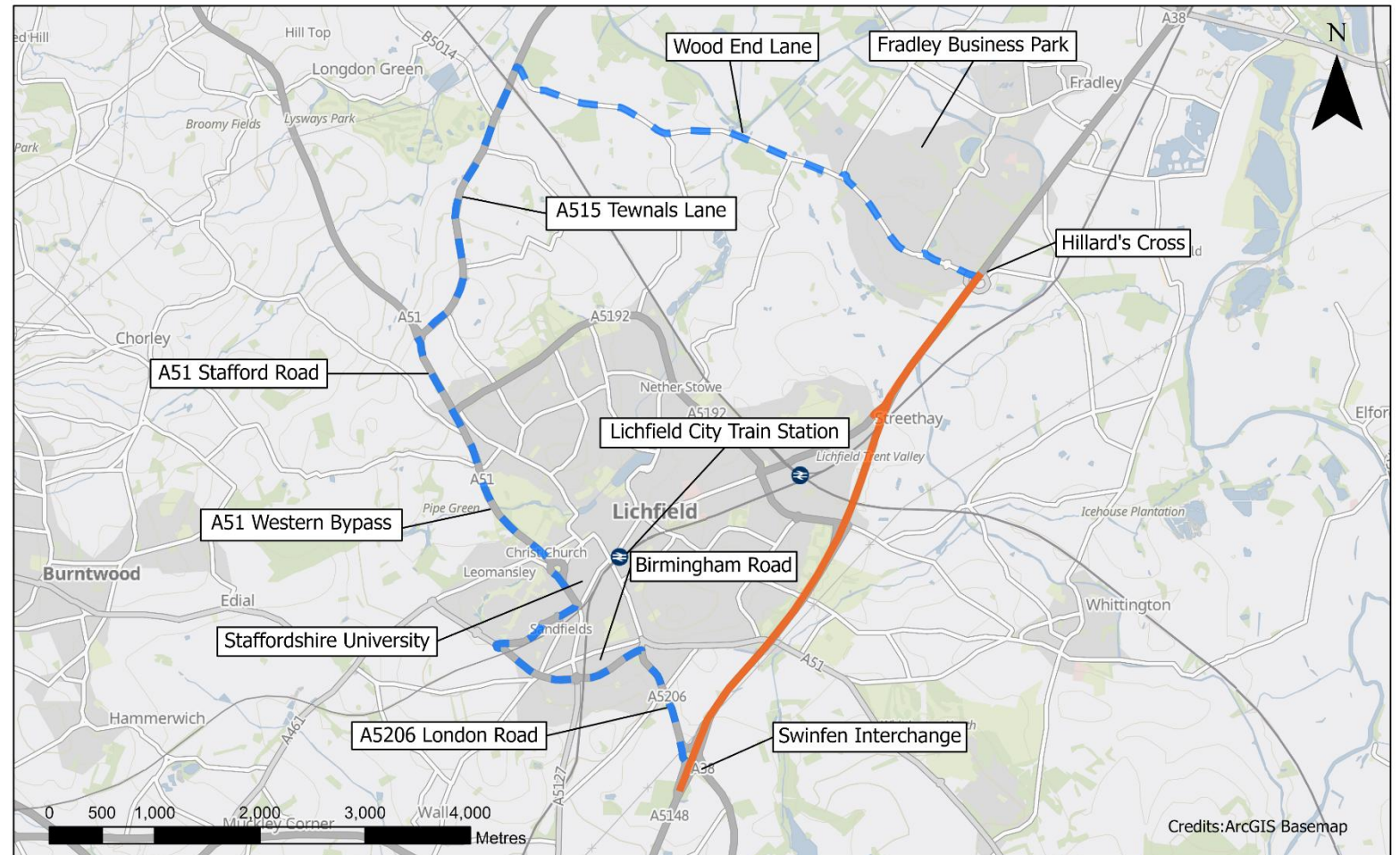
## Working in partnership

We are committed to collaborating closely with key stakeholders to plan and deliver coordinated, consistent, and timely communication and engagement throughout the duration of the works.

# A38 diversion routes

# A38 northbound diversion route for full 11-day closure

- Exit the A38 at Swinfen Interchange and follow the A5206 London Road.
- At the traffic lights, turn left onto the A461 Lichfield Southern Bypass.
- Continue straight over the first roundabout. At the next roundabout, take the second exit onto Sainte Foy Avenue.
- Proceed straight over the following two roundabouts, then take the first exit at the next roundabout onto The Friary.
- At the next roundabout, continue straight ahead towards the A51 Lichfield Western Bypass/Stafford Road.
- Take the second exit onto the A515 via Tewnals Lane.
- Turn right onto Wood End Lane and continue straight ahead to rejoin the A38 at Hilliard's Cross



— Closure  
— Diversion

Date:23/01/2026

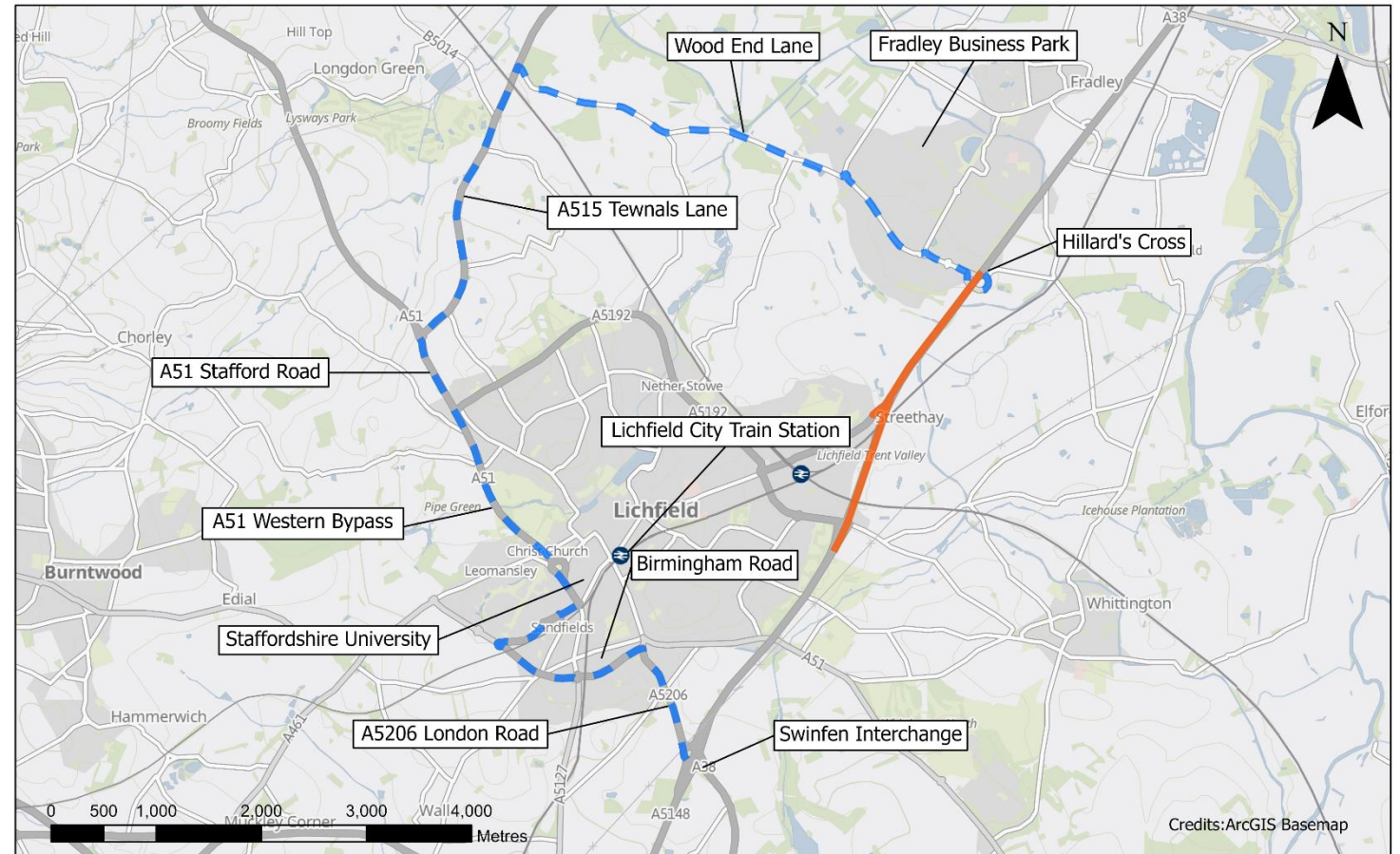
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A38 Northbound Closure Diversion Route INC000004936705-01 WS TR

**\*Subject to consent\***

# A38 southbound diversion route for full 11-day closure

- Leave the A38 at Hilliard's Cross and turn left onto Wood End Lane.
- Continue straight ahead, then turn left onto Tewnals Lane to join the A515.
- At the roundabout, take the 1st exit towards the A51 Lichfield Western Bypass/Stafford Road.
- Continue straight over the roundabout onto The Friary.
- At the next roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto Sainte Foy avenue.
- Proceed straight over the next two roundabouts then take the 1st exit onto the A461 Lichfield Southern Bypass.
- Continue to the traffic lights and turn right onto the A5206 London Road.
- Follow the A5206 back to Swinfen Interchange and rejoin the A38.



— Closure  
— Diversion

Date:22/01/2026

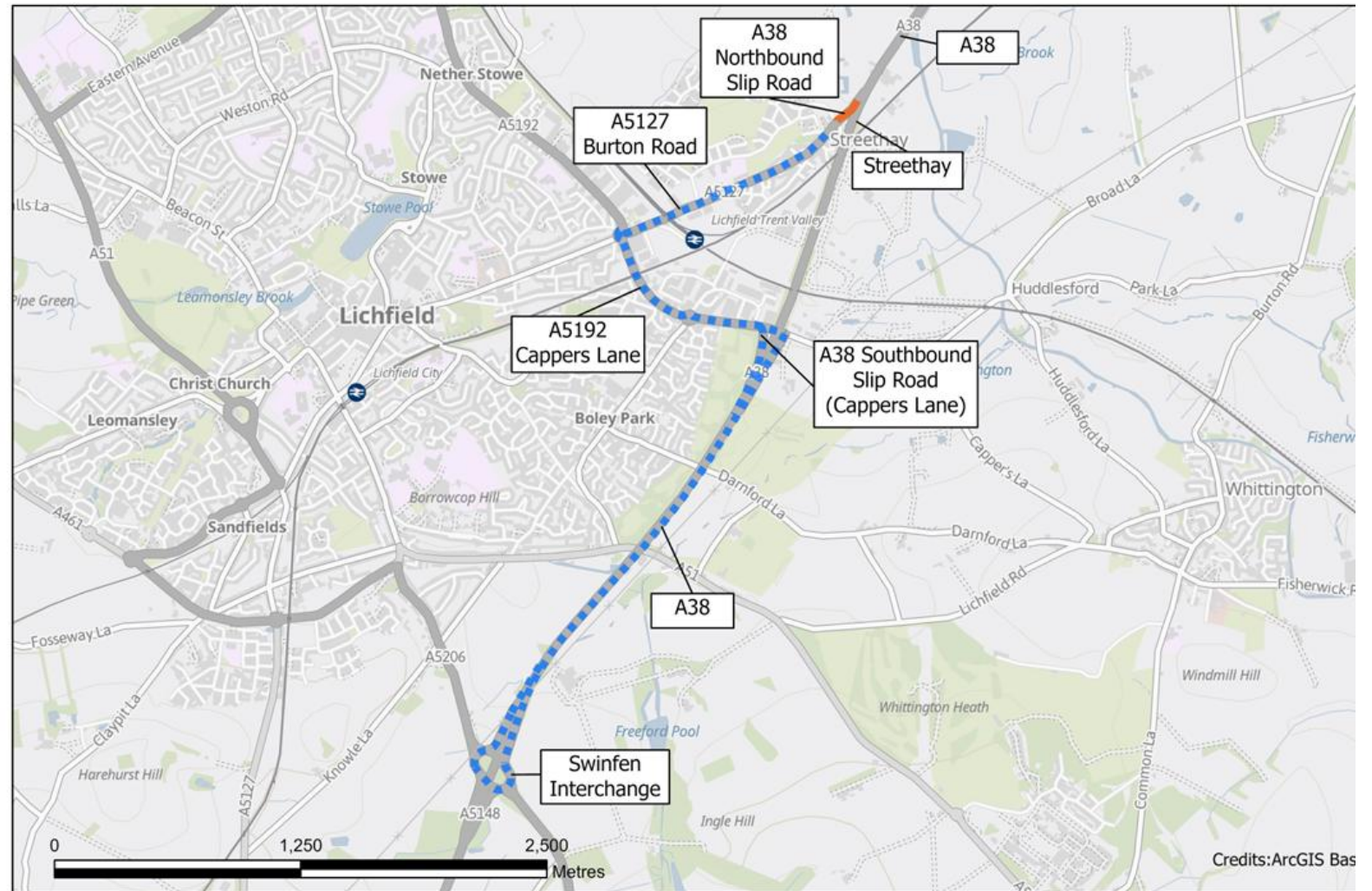
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A38 Southbound Closure Diversion Route INC000004936705-02 WS TR

# A38 northbound slip road - Burton Road local diversion route

**\*Slip road closure ONLY\***

- From Trent Valley roundabout exit onto the A5192 Cappers Lane.
- Continue straight over the roundabout and turn right to join the A38 southbound.
- Keep left on the A38 and exit towards Swinfen Interchange.
- Take the 4<sup>th</sup> exit to rejoin the A38 northbound.



Closure      — Closure  
Diversion      - - - Diversion

Date:23/10/2025

Scale: 1:25,000

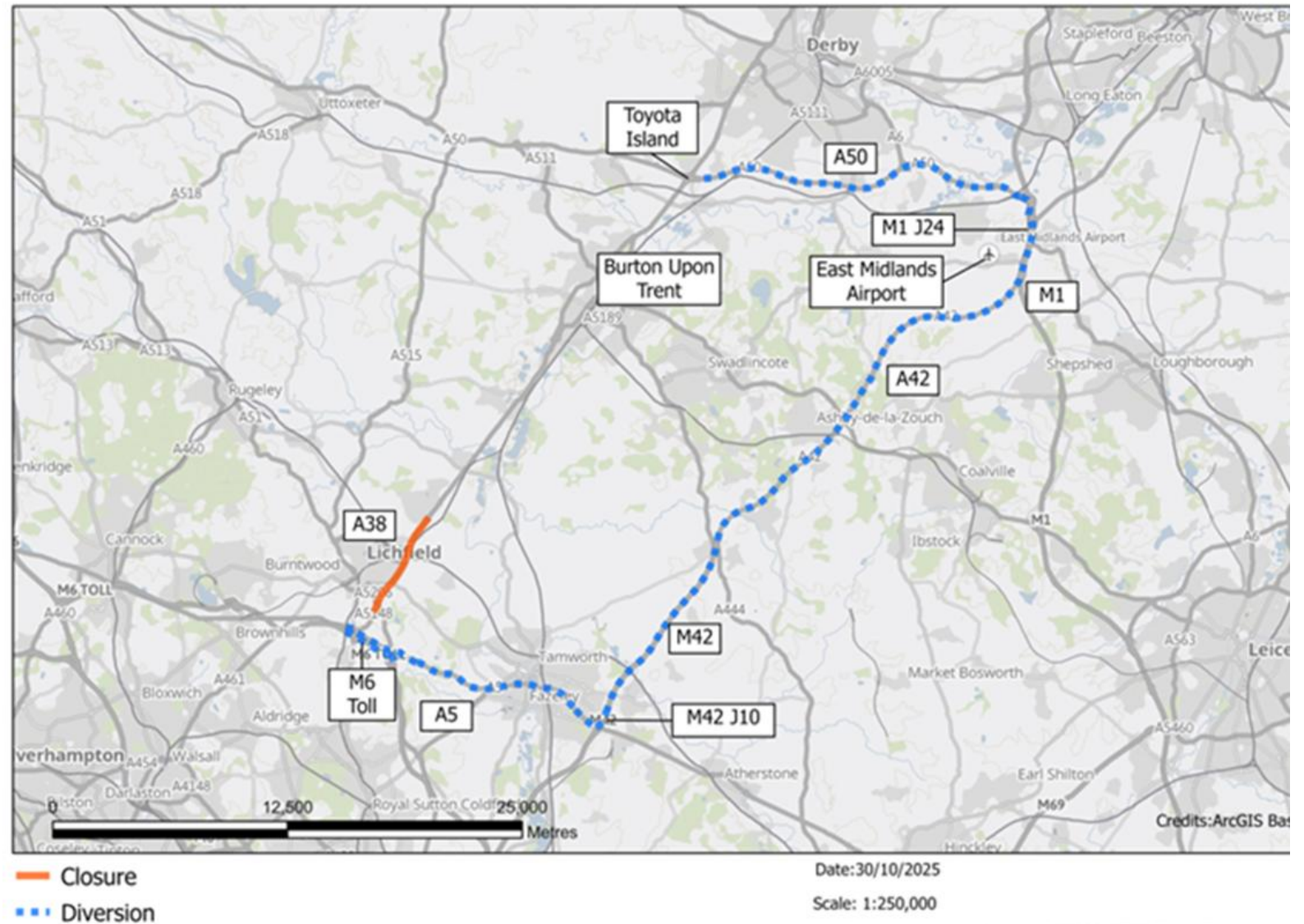
A38 NB Slip Local Diversion Route INC000004967009 WM TR

**\*Subject to consent\***

# M1 strategic diversion route during full closure

All traffic from the M6 Toll, A5, and A38 will follow a signed diversion.

- **Northbound** traffic will be diverted at Weeford Interchange onto the A5 eastbound for then join the M42 northbound at Junction 10.
- Carry on to the A42 then join the M1 northbound at Junction 23A.
- Exit the M1 at Junction 24 and take the second exit at the roundabout to join the A50 westbound. Exit at Toyota Island Interchange to rejoin the A38.
- **Southbound** traffic will be diverted at Toyota Island Interchange, joining the A50 eastbound.
- Continue towards the M1 southbound and join the motorway at Junction 24A
- Exit at M1 Junction 23A onto the A42 then onto M42 southbound, exiting at Junction 10 to join the A5 westbound.
- Continue to Weeford Interchange where you can rejoin the A38.



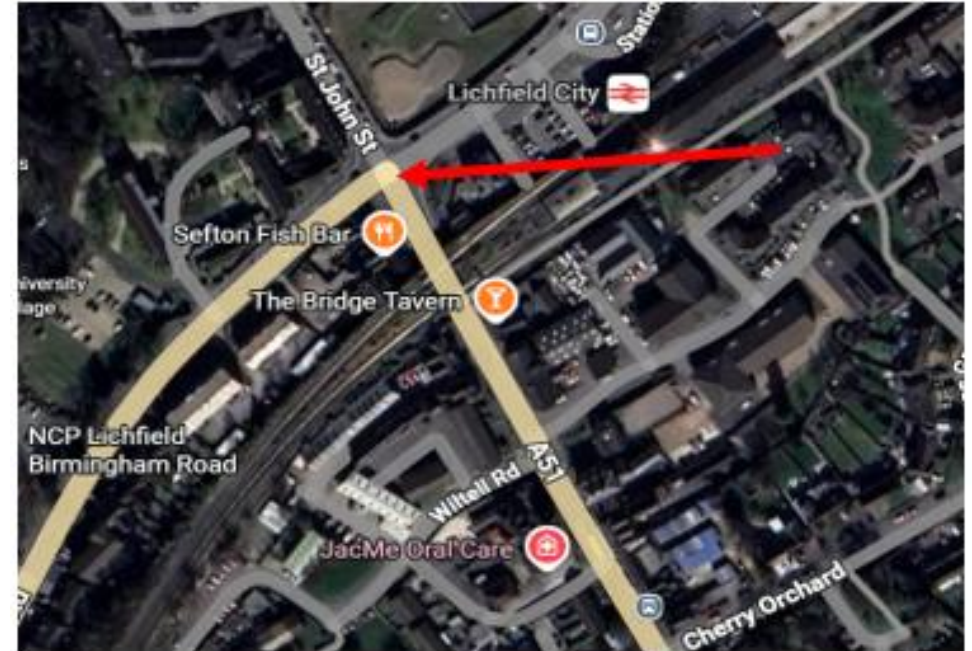
# HGVs

What you will encounter if you do not follow the diversions

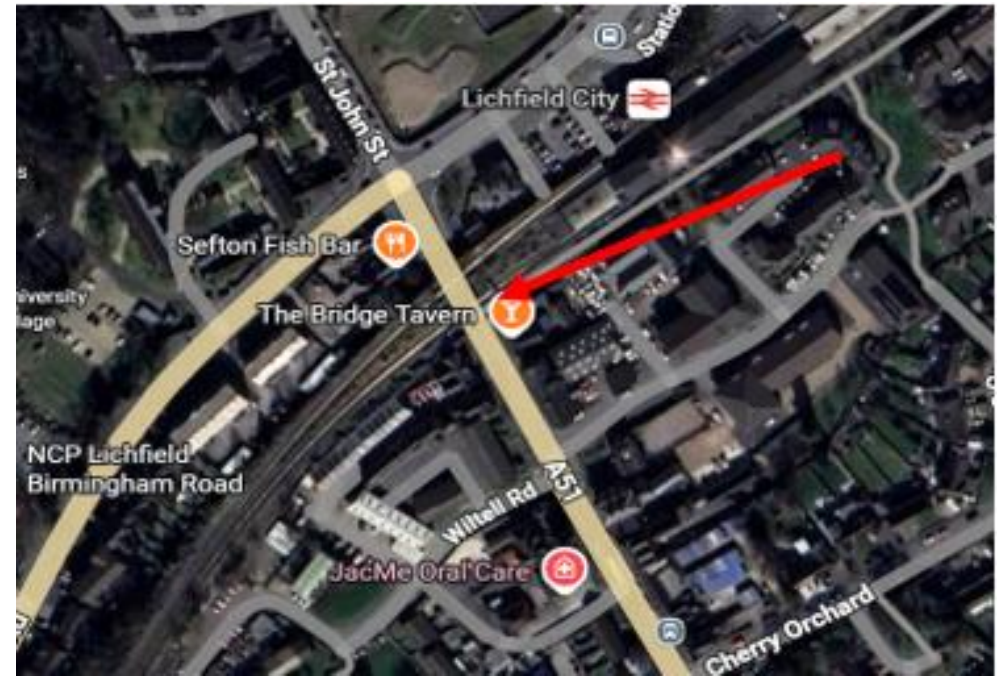
# 1 Chesterfield Road Low Bridge



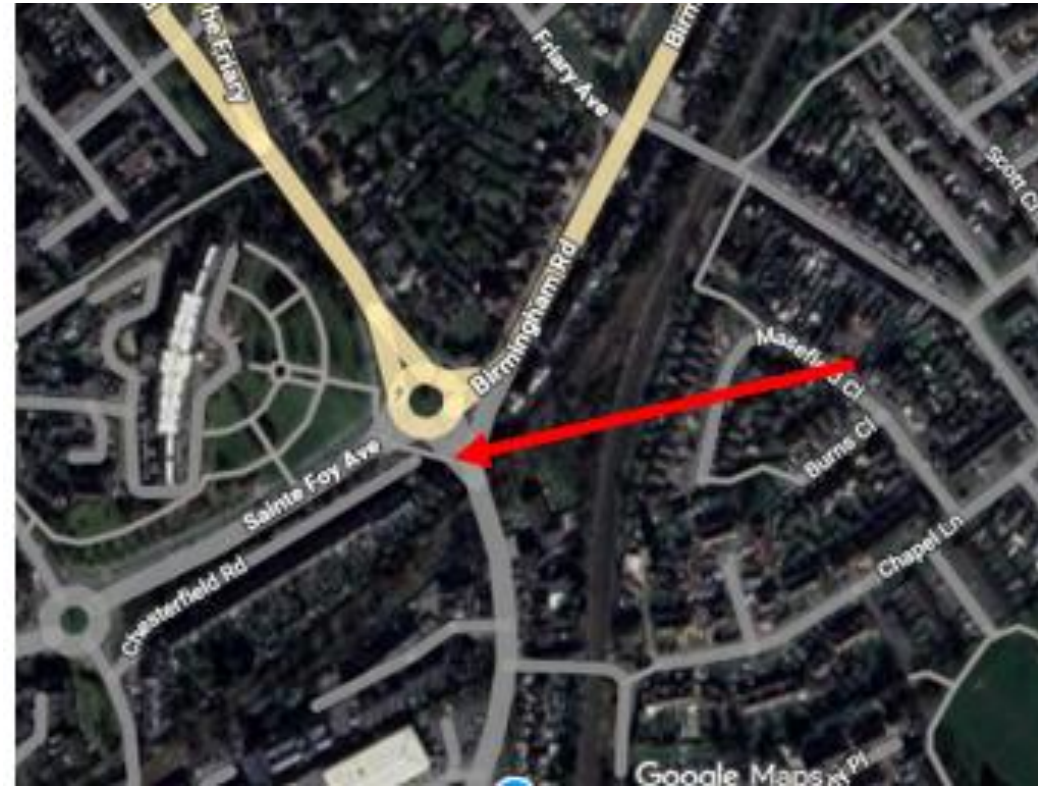
# 2 Upper John Street Low Bridge (No.1)



# 2 Upper John Street Low Bridge (No.2)



# 3 A5127 Birmingham Road Low Bridge





# 5 Brookhay Canal Bridge



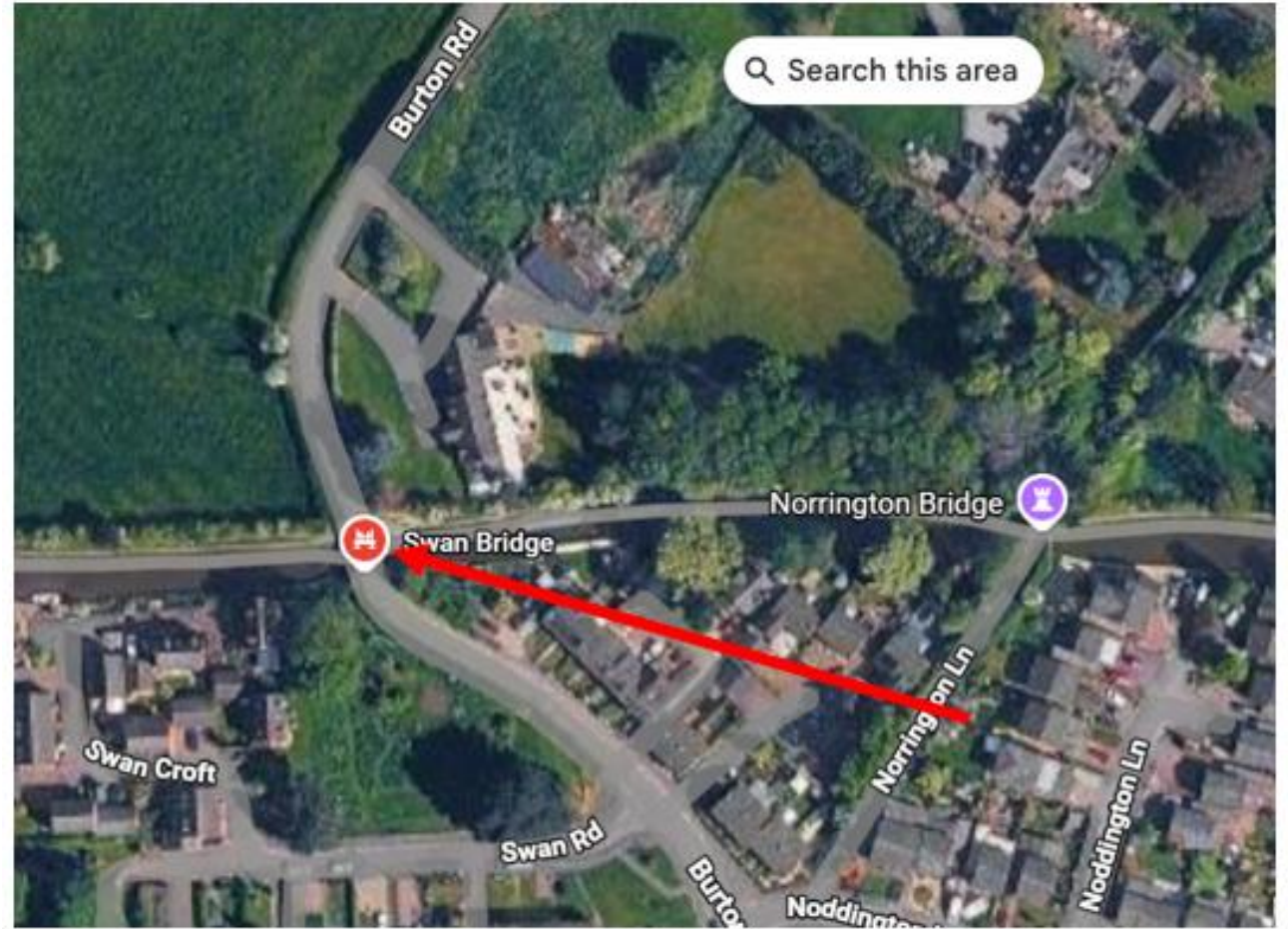
# 6 - Level Crossing Brookhay Lane



# 7 – Low Bridge (Burton Road, Whittington)



# 8 – Whittington Canal Bridge



# Importance of Following the Signed Diversion Route



Leaving the signed diversion route will lead to major operational issues for HGVs.



Lichfield is a rural area with road infrastructure not designed for heavy goods vehicles.



If you do not need to enter Lichfield, do not leave the strategic diversion route.



The official diversion provides quicker, safer, and more suitable roads for HGVs. It avoids hazards and protects both the driver and the local community.



# Important Safety Notice for All HGV Drivers

HGVs that deviate from the diversion route will encounter:

- Narrow country roads unsuitable for large vehicles
- Weak or unsuitable canal bridges
- Low bridges that may cause vehicle strikes
- A dangerous dipped level crossing, creating significant safety risks
- Tight bends and restricted access points

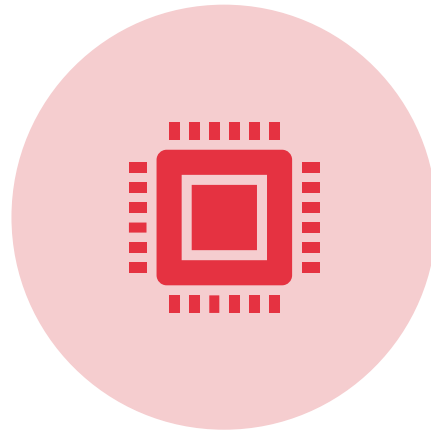
Diverted HGVs risk causing disruption by:

- Blocking narrow lanes
  - Getting stuck or causing damage to rural infrastructure
  - Clogging small villages, leading to congestion and safety concerns for residents
  - Creating delays for emergency services and local traffic
-

# Key Messaging



**HGVs MUST FOLLOW THE DESIGNATED DIVERSION ROUTE.**



**IF YOU DON'T NEED TO ENTER LICHFIELD, STAY ON THE STRATEGIC NETWORK — IT'S QUICKER THAN THE FULL SINGLE-LANE DIVERSION.**



**IF YOU DO NEED TO ACCESS LICHFIELD, USE THE OFFICIAL HGV DIVERSION TO AVOID ISSUES.**



# A38 AWNs – 11-day and overnight prep closures

Balfour Beatty VINCI Working in partnership with HS2

## Notice of temporary overnight closures on A38 northbound and southbound carriageways between Cappers Lane and Hilliard's Cross junction

HS2-BBV-26-1665

### Location

Northbound closures: A38 Cappers Lane exit to Hilliard's Cross  
Southbound closures: A38 Streethay exit to Swinfen exit

### Duration

Four overnight closures on the northbound and southbound carriageways from 9pm to 5am on Monday 23 March 2026 to Thursday 26 March 2026

### What we are doing

We will be undertaking maintenance of the CCTV systems on the carriageway and preparatory works for the full 11-day closures.

### What to expect

Four overnight closures on the northbound southbound carriageways.

Some low-level noise will be generated during working hours.

We are committed to keeping you informed about work on HS2. This includes ensuring you know what to expect and when to expect it, as well as how we can help you. Should you have any questions or concerns about our works you can contact us by:

- Freephone 08081 434 434
- Minicom 08081 456 472
- Email [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)
- Writing to FREEPOST HS2 Community Engagement
- Website [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

Keep up to date with what is happening in your local area at [www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/in-your-area-map/](http://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/in-your-area-map/)

Balfour Beatty VINCI Working in partnership with HS2

## Notice of 11-day full closure of A38 between Swinfen Interchange and Hilliard's Cross

HS2-BBV-26-1664

### Location

A38 between Swinfen Interchange and Hilliard's Cross

### Duration

Closure of the A38 in both directions between Swinfen Interchange and Hilliard's Cross from 9pm Friday 27 March 2026 to 5am Wednesday 8 April 2026

The Streethay northbound on slip will remain closed until October 2026. These works are subject to consent.

### What we are doing

We are completing work to build the Rykneld St bridge that will allow the HS2 railway to pass under the existing A38 carriageway.

The 11-day closure is required to complete all remaining work and the permanent realignment of the A38.

### What to expect

Some low-level noise may be generated in the area during working hours.

We are committed to keeping you informed about work on HS2. This includes ensuring you know what to expect and when to expect it, as well as how we can help you. Should you have any questions or concerns about our works you can contact us by:

- Freephone 08081 434 434
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- Email [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)
- Writing to FREEPOST HS2 Community Engagement
- Website [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

Keep up to date with what is happening in your local area at [www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/in-your-area-map/](http://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/in-your-area-map/)

# How are we helping?

BBV is working with HS2, National Highways and key transport and consenting authorities to plan and deliver these works safely.

Our main aim is to provide a consistent and joined up message for all those people travelling in and around the area and to encourage them to plan their journeys and help reduce congestion.

This toolkit contains some useful information which will help you communicate the closure with your colleagues, customers and clients and compliments a social media marketing campaign.

BBV, HS2 and National Highways are working in partnership to make sure all impacted communities and stakeholders are informed in advance and are aware of the traffic management associated with our works.

This toolkit will enable you to find out more information and provide support to help you plan your journey.

You can also visit our dedicated webpage:

<https://www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/a38-proposed-work-at-streethay/>

Contact our 24/7 HS2 Helpdesk on 08081 434 434 or by email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

Please share this toolkit with your marketing and communications department to help us inform people of the A38 closures.

If you don't have a specific department, please consider what information you will need to use from this pack, to communicate with your staff, customers and students:

## **Included in this toolkit:**

- Suggested copy suitable for digital channels
- Graphics for digital channels
- Advanced Works Notification



# Keeping you moving

## Measures taken during our closures



Fully signed diversion route in place. We design our diversions for all vehicle types and therefore they may not be the shortest route.



Round-the-clock assistance will be available to address any issues or concerns during the works. Our dedicated support team is on hand to ensure queries are resolved promptly and disruptions are kept to a minimum.



Traffic Management crews will be on standby to monitor and deal with any incidents in the area of works and on the diversion routes.



Supported by monitoring from National Highways Regional Control Centre.



Balfour Beatty Vinci Traffic Officers will patrol wider routes.



To receive updates about the closures, subscribe to [www.hs2instaffordshire.co.uk](http://www.hs2instaffordshire.co.uk)

# Suggested copy for your material

## Travelling on the A38 northbound and southbound in Lichfield

The A38 will be closed in Staffordshire for HS2 works, between Swinfen Interchange and Hilliard's Cross. The closure periods will be:

- **From 5am Friday 27 March to 5am Wednesday 8 April 2026**

This will allow Balfour Beatty VINCI to realign the permanent road.

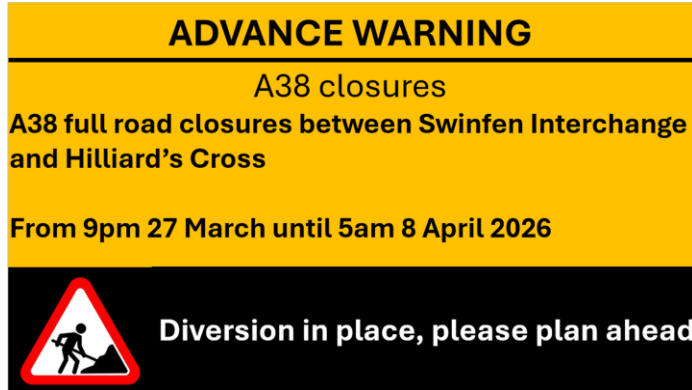
A clearly signed diversion route will be in place over this period with advance signage in place to help remind motorists of the closure.

You can still get to where you need to go but you'll need to follow the diversion, plan ahead and leave more time for journeys.

**Find out more: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/a38-proposed-work-at-streethay/>**

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# Facebook copy



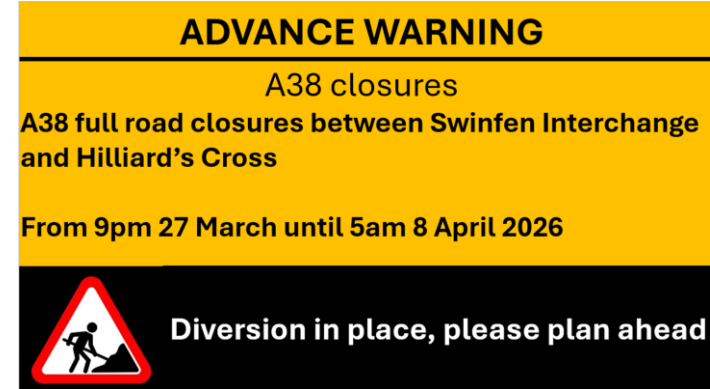
The A38 will be closed in both direction from Swinfen Interchange to Hilliard's Cross. The closure periods will be:

- **9pm Friday 27 March to 5am Wednesday 8 April 2026**

A clearly signed diversion route will be in place over this period with advance signage in place to help remind motorists of the closure.

You can still get to where you need to go but you'll need to follow the diversion route, plan ahead and leave more time for journeys. Find out more: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/a38-proposed-work-at-streethay/>

# X copy



The A38 will be closed in both direction from Swinfen Interchange to Hilliard's Cross :

- **9pm Friday 27 March to 5am Wednesday 8 April 2026**

You can still get to where you need to go but you'll need to follow the diversion route. Please plan ahead.



# **ADVANCE WARNING**

**A38 closures**

**A38 full road closures between Swinfen Interchange  
and Hilliard's Cross**

**From 9pm 27 March until 5am 8 April 2026**



**Diversion in place, please plan ahead**

Find out more online:  
**[www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)**

Follow our progress on social media



**@HS2Ltd**



**/HS2Ltd**



**@HS2Ltd**

# Useful contacts

For more information and project updates relating to the works please visit: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/a38-proposed-work-at-streethay/>

For up-to-the-minute travel information and help planning your journey, please see below:

<b>Plan a journey</b>	Transport for West Midlands	<a href="http://tfwm.org.uk">tfwm.org.uk</a>
<b>Plan a journey</b>	Traveline	<a href="http://traveline.info">traveline.info</a>
<b>Plan a journey</b>	Staffordshire County Council	<a href="https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport">https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport</a>
<b>By bus</b>	Diamond buses	<a href="https://www.diamondbuses.com/bus-services/em/em-31-lichfield/">https://www.diamondbuses.com/bus-services/em/em-31-lichfield/</a>
<b>By train</b>	National Rail	<a href="http://nationalrail.co.uk">nationalrail.co.uk</a>

If you require any campaign materials in an alternative format, get in touch: [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

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# Partners

# HS2



For more information about HS2, please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 or email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk), or for more information about the works we are doing in the Staffordshire area, please visit <https://www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/a38-proposed-work-at-streethay/>

Balfour Beatty VINCI is responsible for designing and building part of the most exciting and challenging railway project in Europe: HS2. We are building the West Midlands section of HS2's Phase One route, spanning approximately 90km from Long Itchington in Warwickshire to Handsacre in Staffordshire. We will be employing thousands of people in the area to design and build the civil infrastructure for HS2 through the West Midlands area.

We operate, maintain and improve England's motorways and major A roads. Our roads network is vital to the running of the country and our customers, and their safety remains our priority. We are committed to working with HS2 Ltd and other partners to plan and co-ordinate our works programmes where we can. While HS2 carry out these works we will make every effort to keep you updated and informed in advance of works to help you plan your journeys and help support a better-connected future.

Email: [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk)

General enquiries: 0300 123 5000





# Questions

Find out more

[www.Hs2.org.co.uk](http://www.Hs2.org.co.uk)

Email [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

freephone 08081 434 434

minicom 08081 456 472