

## **A40 High Street road works**

Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) has been working on a 9.2km section of the A40, between Stokenchurch and West Wycombe. These works are part of an ongoing scheme that is scheduled to be complete by March 2019.

The work taking place has involved collaborations between the Network Improvement Team and the Network Safety Team. Between them, they have had to come up with a number of solutions and improvements for safety measures, which consist of:

- Vegetation Clearance in order to improve safety and visibility for both pedestrians and vehicles
- Refreshing of existing road markings and newly upgraded line markings
- New anti-skid surfacing to increase road surface grip at approaching major junctions or bends
- Upgrading road studs by installing solar studs within the unlit sections of the A40 with a 60mph speed limit
- Upgrading road signs and bollards
- Upgrading visibility on the existing zebra crossing
- Upgrading the existing pelican crossing
- Junction improvements to accommodate pedestrian refuge island and extend the existing footway.

Once all of these works had been decided on and planned, they were carried out by TfB's supply chain partners, Bellstan, South Bucks Tree Surgeons and Signways Supplies Ltd. TfB also had to work collaboratively with the local Parish Councils and liaise with third party event managers to minimise road disruptions during major events, such as the Hell Fire Cave's Fright Night and the Studley Green Fireworks display.

It was decided that the work on the A40 was required last January. In November 2016, the Government announced that capital funding of £175 million would be made available to local authorities over four financial years, to improve the safety of 50 high risk A roads in England. These 50 routes were selected through an analysis carried out by the Road Safety Foundation.

In January 2017, Buckinghamshire County Council was informed that a 9.2km section of the A40, between Stokenchurch and West Wycombe, had been identified as one of the routes in need of improvement. The survey had shown that there had been 10 killed or seriously injured (KSI) collisions between 2012 and 2014, a rise from the previous three years. As a result of this, Buckinghamshire County Council was invited to bid for funding to make the necessary improvements to the road.

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Transport Member Mark Shaw said "Road safety is a high priority for us and we were fortunate to get the extra funding necessary to make

this length of road safe for all road users – drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. Thank you to our supply chain partners for their great work, too. I've been impressed with the work so far and look forward to seeing the end results.”