



News *update from*



Norfolk County Council

16 April 2018

Broadland Northway (Norwich NDR) open tomorrow! (Tues)

The final section of the A1270 Norwich Northern Distributor Road – now named Broadland Northway – will be open to all traffic by 6am tomorrow morning (Tues 17 April), Norfolk County Council and Balfour Beatty confirmed today (Mon 16th)

This final 525km section, from the A1151 Wroxham Road to the Postwick Hub and the A47, completes the 195km of new dual carriageway around the north and east of Norwich. The full route runs from the A1067 Fakenham Road, north-west of Norwich, to the A47 at Postwick, at the eastern end of Norwich Southern Bypass.

A preview tour of the whole of Broadland Northway, including a preview of the final phase, was carried out last week when Broadland MP Keith Simpson led parish, district and county councillors, and representatives of other key stakeholders, marked the road's imminent opening by cutting Union Jack bunting stretched across one carriageway (picture attached).

The first two phases were opened ahead of schedule last year (2017) – phase one (from the A1067 Fakenham Road to the A140 Cromer Road) in November, phase two (from Cromer Road to the A1151 Wroxham Road) just before Christmas. The wet and at times very cold winter – including the Beast from the East – meant that the target of having final phase open by the end of March was just missed.

Martin Wilby, Chairman of the County Council's Environment, Development & Transport Committee, said there had been no lack of effort to overcome the setbacks, but that completing the road safely and to a high standard had rightly been the priority for the joint Balfour Beatty and County Council construction team. He described the road as "an important piece in Norfolk's infrastructure jigsaw that will help secure a better, brighter and more prosperous future for Norfolk". But he stressed that more is still needed.

"Broadland Northway is just starting to unlock Norfolk's potential. We need to press the Government for the earliest possible delivery of improvements to the A47, and to keep focus on our goal of full dualling of the A47, from Lowestoft to the A1 and the Midlands. I know that our MPs will be shoulder to shoulder with us on this."

"The County Council also has its own priorities – the Norwich Western Link, joining Broadland Northway to the A47 west of Norwich – Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing, and Long Stratton Bypass."

Phil Clifton, Managing Director of Balfour Beatty's Highways business, said: "We are delighted that the Broadland Northway is now open to traffic and the local community can experience the extensive benefits of the scheme."

“While the project was not without its challenges, we have deployed innovative solutions to safely deliver the route, which has created a positive legacy for the environment and the Norfolk community in the form of skills development and education for local young people. The project’s success is a testament to the skills, expertise, and collaborative working relationship between the fully integrated delivery team and Norfolk County Council”

Notes for Editors

The barriers at the Wroxham Road, Salhouse Road, Plumstead Road and Postwick Business Park roundabouts, and other traffic management, will be removed overnight by the Balfour Beatty traffic management team

Off-carriageway works

Although the main carriageways will be complete and open next week, work will be continuing on the surrounding areas, including some drainage lagoons, verges, cycle tracks and bridleways. Later in the year lane closures will be necessary on some parts of the route to repair damage caused to bare earth banks by wet weather, mainly on Easter Monday. These banks will stabilise as the meadow mix seeding and other planting becomes established. Headlight deflectors damaged in winter gales will need re-fixing on the central barriers near the Airport Roundabout.

Railway bridge permanent sound proofing

Traffic management will also be needed later this year to complete permanent sound proofing on the bridge over the Norwich to Sheringham railway. Temporary measures will remain in place until then.

Tree, shrub and hedge planting

The season for planting trees and shrubs has now come to an end. The very wet weather limited access to some sites, and others were either completed too late to be planted this season or are still being worked on. Planting, being carried out by Norse, will resume in the autumn.

Further background to the project

The £205m A1270 Broadland Northway, including the new A47 junction at Postwick, was developed (as Norwich Northern Distributor Road) by Norfolk County Council with the backing of the Greater Norwich Growth Board authorities (Norwich City, Broadland and South Norfolk) and New Anglia LEP. The Government has contributed over £98m towards the cost, including £96.49m specific grant for the Postwick Hub and the 13km from Postwick to the A140 Cromer Road and Norwich Airport.

From the A140 to the A1067 Fakenham Road the road is being locally funded, including Community Infrastructure Levy contributions by the Great Norwich Growth Board authorities, and capital allocations by Norfolk County Council.

The road is the biggest single infrastructure project in the Greater Norwich Joint Core Strategy, and the Norwich Area Transport Strategy (Transport for Norwich) Development Consent was granted in June 2015 and Balfour Beatty started main construction on 4 January 2016.

The route (excluding the Postwick Hub scheme and A47 junction improvement) includes nine main roundabouts, four side road roundabouts, one grade separated junction (A140), eight bridges and 25 drainage lagoons.

**For further information please contact:
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Attachments

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