

Highway Repairs in Your Area

Carriageway Asset Failure (Carriageway Collapse & Emergency Road Closure)

A26 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone

Kent
County
Council
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The nature of the carriageway failure and reasons for road closure at A26 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone

Following reports of a collapse and depression in the carriageway on the afternoon of the 28th May 2018, the A26 Tonbridge Road was attended by our local out of hours Highways teams to investigate the incident reported. **While on site, a section of the carriageway surface collapsed to expose a deep void under the road, in addition the collapse continued to develop on site during our attendance.** Due to the nature of the collapse and the infill within, we could not determine the full extents, or causes of, the void while on site. The road has been closed for the safety of local residents and all road users.

The A26 Tonbridge Road is closed at the junctions of Terminus Road and Fountain Lane. The primary diversion (suitable for all traffic & LGV's/HGV's) is via the A20 Terrace Road, A20 London Road, Ashton Way, A228 Malling Road, A26 Tonbridge Road (& Vice Versa)

A secondary diversion is available for vehicles under 7.5 tonnes only utilising Queens Road, A20 London Road and the B2246 Hermitage Lane/Fountain Lane

The current situation as of the 29/05/2018

The collapse on the A26 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, adjacent to the Taj Barming Indian Restaurant, is both significant and severe with the collapse currently visible on site representing a larger void underneath the road. Our preliminary investigations suggest that this void extends either side of the road from kerb to kerb for a total distance of 20 metres. We will know more once investigations begin and resources are being mobilised as the highest priority and as soon as possible.

Please can we stress that as this is a main strategic route, numerous sub surface pipes and ducts for a multitude of utilities and high volume services, including gas, water and electricity, are present adjacent to/within the collapse. Significant liaison will be required with our utility partners (many of whom were mobilised yesterday evening to assist and check their assets) and significant care will be required when excavating the road to allow investigations and take the subgrade back to stable ground. **This may impact on the timescales of works, in addition to other factors which may be identified as investigations progress. We will keep you up to date with further information as our investigations progress.**

How you can help

It is inevitable that residents and businesses near the works will experience some disruption, but we will try to keep these to a minimum. Any pavements will remain closed at the current time for safety and vehicle access to properties will need to be heavily restricted while work is carried out in front of each property. If you have any particular access needs, please let the workforce on site know.

We need your help to make sure the work is done as quickly as possible and to the best possible quality.

If you need more information, please call us on. **03000 41 81 81**

You can also visit our website www.kent.gov.uk/highways to find out how we look after the roads throughout Kent or report any faults you find on our roads.

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

WARNING – Beware Bogus Callers

Kent County Council Highways, Transportation and Waste do not allow works to be carried out on private properties. If anyone says they are working for us or our specialist contractors and offer to carry out any work for cash they should be treated with caution. We advise you to contact Citizen's Advice on 03444 111 444 (Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm)