

# Road Maintenance in Your Area

## Road Surface Improvement (Resurfacing)



### A249 Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone

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#### Essential Works

In line with government advice, our highway maintenance works are vital in keeping roads open, key workers and emergency services moving, deliveries flowing, and safeguarding the provision of utility services to support the NHS, local communities, homes and businesses. Kent County Council is prioritising essential works to enable a fully functioning network, ensuring that life-saving medicine, equipment, supplies and healthcare staff can travel across the country to where they are needed most, whilst considering the risk to both our workforce and the public.

We take the wellbeing of the public and our workforce extremely seriously, and please be assured we have put in place all mitigating measures necessary to abide by the guidance currently in place.

We ask that whilst works are ongoing that you do not approach the workforce and if you have any enquiries regarding these are raised through the Kent County Council contact centre on 03000 41 81 81 Mon to Fri 09:00 to 17:00. *For the safety of both you and our workforce please do not approach our workforce on site.*

#### When we plan to carry out the work and how long it will take

This is to let you know that, as part of the on-going maintenance and improvement of the highway network, Kent County Council will be resurfacing **A249 Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone between A249 Andrew Broughton Way and Bearsted Road – including the Penenden Heath Road/Bearsted Road roundabout.**

These road surface improvement works are programmed to start on the **9<sup>th</sup> June 2020** and should take **19 nights (excluding weekends)** to complete. These activities will be undertaken between the hours of **20:00 and 06:00** each night. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and uncertainty there is a risk these works could be cancelled at any time.

This type of work can be affected by bad weather, so if it is not possible for us to carry it out at this time, we will arrange a new date and let you know via a letter drop to your home. We will also put up signs along the road, before we start, showing the date we plan to start work.

**During these essential works it will be necessary to close the road between A249 Andrew Broughton Way and Bearsted Road. The closures will be phased where possible to minimise disruption to traffic.**

The diversion route for traffic travelling between M20/A249 and Maidstone town will be via A249 Bearsted Road, M20 J7 London Bound, Exit M20 J6, A229 Royal Engineers Road, A229 Fairmeadow, A229 Palace Avenue, A249 Wat Tyler Way and vice versa.

The diversion route for vehicles unsuitable for motorway travel will be via A249 Bearsted Road, New Cut Road, A20 Ashford Road and vice versa.

Localised diversions will be in place for adjoining side roads where necessary.

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#### What we plan to do

We will remove the existing road surface by a method known as milling. The complete area will then be swept by a mechanical sweeper to ensure the prepared surface is clean and free of dust and debris. If required, the existing manhole covers, and rain water gully gratings will be adjusted or replaced to the correct level before the new surface is laid. Please note that this operation is noisy and can be prolonged as it is carried out using pneumatic hand tools.

The new surfacing material will then be laid using a machine called a paver and compacted with a roller. This is a quick process and dependant on the design will either be a one or two-layer process. Finally, following completion of the surfacing, all associated road markings will be re-painted. The road will then be re-opened. Please note that during the whole process, audible warning reversing sirens will be heard along with flashing beacons; this is a health and safety requirement and cannot be turned off but will be kept to a minimum.

#### Why are we doing this work?

The majority of capital investment in maintaining our highway network is funded through various capital maintenance grants from the Government. To make best use of that finite resource we carry out condition surveys and inspections, using a combination of mechanical and visual means, together with an assessment of local needs, and that helps to inform an annual capital works programme that balances value for money and our duties under the Highways Act 1980. Our approach to highways asset management is based on using robust data to inform how we invest the funds available, so that we spend the right amount of money at the right time to reduce the cost of maintenance overall. Further details of our works programmes and our approach to highways asset management more generally can be found at [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk).

#### How you can help us

It is inevitable that residents and businesses near the works will experience some disruption and we apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused, but we will try to keep this to a minimum. Restricted Access to residential properties and all businesses up to the closure point, will be available, when safe to do so, but if you have any access needs, please let the workforce on site know whilst keeping your distance. Access to properties between the closure points will need to be restricted for a short period while work is carried out in front of each property and across road junctions. Traffic Management operatives will be available to help direct traffic within the closure.

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

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

#### How to contact us?

If you need more information, you can visit our website [www.kent.gov.uk/resurfacingupdates](http://www.kent.gov.uk/resurfacingupdates) to find out how we look after the roads throughout Kent or report any faults you find on our roads. Alternatively, you can call us on **03000 41 81 81**.

#### **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)