



# Westside WEEKLY

ISSUE 63 6 - 12 SEPTEMBER 2019

## Welcome

'Westside Weekly' is a newsletter designed to keep those working and living in the area up-to-date on the progress of the Birmingham Westside Metro extension.



## Getting Around



**We appreciate that everyone will have a different journey; the following is to assist you to plan ahead:**

Paradise Circus is closed in both directions to facilitate the Metro construction from Victoria Square to Centenary Square. The A38 underpass remains open in both directions. Centenary Square is also closed to vehicles, while buses are diverting via Sheepcote Street and Bath Row. Traffic on Brunel Street will flow in the opposite direction for the duration of the closure.

Five Ways underpass is closed to traffic until 2021 as works continue for phase two of the Birmingham Westside extension. The roundabout, which runs above the underpass, will remain open as usual throughout the closure as will pedestrian and cyclist access through the Five Ways concourse.

Bus services 9, 10, 12, 12A, 13, 13A, 126, X8, X10 will not stop along Broad Street between Monday 2 September and spring 2020. Services 23 and 24 travelling out of the city will also be diverted. Cars, taxis and delivery vehicles will be able to access Broad Street between Sheepcote Street and Gas Street.

The lower section of Pinfold Street is only open for pedestrians and loading vehicles. Access to Victoria Square House carpark is via lower Pinfold Street until further notice.

There is no access to Victoria Square from Pinfold Street. A short footpath diversion is in place to allow the next stage of works in this section to take place.

The junction of Granville Street and Broad Street is closed to all vehicular traffic while gas diversion works are underway.

**We recommend that you plan ahead, consider using public transport, walking or cycling if possible. If you do have to travel by car, allow more time for your journey and consider travelling off-peak if possible. For travel advice, visit: [www.networkwestmidlands.com/keepmoving](http://www.networkwestmidlands.com/keepmoving)**

## Metro extension work this week

### Pinfold Street

Paving works are progressing well and moving towards the upper section of Pinfold Street close to Victoria Square. Additional waterproofing works have commenced in areas Pinfold Street.

### Victoria Square

Additional drainage and ducting has been installed in Victoria Square, along with a new walking route.

### Paradise Street/Paradise Circus

More concrete has been poured for the concrete shoulders, which will move water away from the roadway, along with the pouring of sealant.

### Centenary Square

Levelling for the Switch and Cross is ongoing and concrete pours have taken place for both the inbound and outbound tram stops in Centenary Square.

### Broad Street

In Broad Street, work got underway on excavations for overhead line equipment. In addition, progress continues to be made on the installation of ducting and drainage.



## Westside BID to host coffee morning in support of Macmillan



Macmillan Coffee Morning - You're invited!

On Friday 27 September, our friends at Westside BID are hosting a 'breakfast and a cuppa' morning between 9am -

11am at The Figure of Eight on Broad Street. If you're in the area, please pop in and enjoy a breakfast roll and refreshments.

All proceeds will go to the Macmillan Coffee Morning cancer appeal.



## First trams arrive in Victoria Square during overnight tests

Trams arrived in Victoria Square for the first time as a gauge test of newly installed track for the Birmingham Westside extension was successfully completed.

Followed by a team of Midland Metro Alliance engineers, the West Midlands Metro tram made the after-hours journey from Grand Central, in another clear sign that the project is progressing as planned.

The tests took place to ensure the track and tram were working properly together and it marked the first time in the UK that a tram has used battery power to run along a modern tram line specifically built without overhead wires.

Further trials will be run over the coming weeks before the project's full testing and commissioning programme commences in October prior to the anticipated launch of services in December.

Phil Hewitt, Director of West Midlands Metro, added: "In the next few weeks, the public will see our trams on the new extension as we complete all of the essential testing and training needed to ensure we are ready to carry passengers in December. The fact that these trials are being completed using battery power alone marks a major step forward for light rail across the country. It's a real first for the West Midlands."

## Did you know we're now on Instagram?

Follow and engage with us on our social media channels for the latest news and construction photography on all things Metro.

See our social media accounts below.



**How can I get further information?**

For further information or to view past issues of the newsletter please visit:  
[www.metroalliance.co.uk](http://www.metroalliance.co.uk)

or email:  
[communications@metroalliance.co.uk](mailto:communications@metroalliance.co.uk)

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