



Transport for
West Midlands



Midland
Metro Alliance

Westside WEEKLY

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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, which is being designed and delivered by the Midland Metro Alliance on behalf of Transport for West Midlands (TfWM).



Getting Around

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

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 until later in 2020. Services 23 and 24 have also been diverted travelling out of the city. Cars, taxis and delivery vehicles will be able to access Broad Street via Gas Street.

Access to the Brindleyplace service area, Bay C (for ICC and Symphony Hall) and Regency Wharf will be via Bridge Street, with an exit via Gas Street, until Friday 27 November.

A pedestrian diversion is in place on Broad Street for those heading towards Five Ways from Centenary Square/ Bridge Street. Access to all properties is being maintained at all times.

The pedestrian crossing adjacent to Morrisons is currently closed to allow for construction. A short diversion is in place via the pedestrian section of the Five Ways underpass.

To ensure the best possible outcome for your journey, you should travel off peak where possible or consider walking or cycling to your destination.

If you do need to use public transport during this time, you can get the latest updates on bus, train or tram services by visiting: wmnetwork.co.uk/networkoverview

The busiest times to travel are varying as Covid-19 measures change, check with operators before your essential travel.

Metro extension work this week

Hyatt Regency to O Bar

Paving outside Brasshouse has been removed ready for a new footpath to be installed in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, good progress has been made to the paving at the corner of ICC and for the splitter island, which separates traffic in opposite directions, with these works now complete.

Jurys Inn to Sainsbury's

Paving works for the Brindleyplace tram stop are now underway, while excavation has taken place in preparation for tree pits to be installed. Ducting and drainage works have also continued this week.

MODA Living to Five Ways Underpass

More progress has been made on paving to the front of Zara's and around the newly installed tree pits.

Morrisons to 54 Hagley Road

Works to line and level the switch and crossing, which will allow trams to move from one line to another, have taken place this week while preparations have also been made for concrete to be poured in the coming days.

Metro extension work to come

Hyatt Regency to O Bar

Over the next month, paving works outside Reflex, Soloman Cutler, Brasshouse and the Canal Bridge will have been completed.

Jurys Inn to Sainsbury's

Overhead line equipment will be installed in this section over the coming weeks, while further works to lay the road surface will also take place.

MODA Living to Five Ways Underpass

Tree pit installations will be completed and the overhead line equipment will also be installed.

Morrisons to 54 Hagley Road

The grass track foundations are set to be installed and completed, while the installation of the switch and crossing track, will also be completed.

New initiative provides free work placements

Thousands of high-quality, six-month work placements are expected to be created by a new Kickstart scheme, which has been launched to help those aged between 16 and 24 who are on Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment.

Young people have been especially hard hit by the economic impact of lockdown, with latest figures showing that the number of 16 to 24-year-olds claiming benefit has more than doubled to 44,000 since March when the pandemic first struck.

The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) is leading the region in brokering and promoting the Kickstart scheme, working in partnership with local councils and Chambers of Commerce.

More than 800 West Midlands employers have already signed up to Kickstart.

Funding available for each placement will cover the national minimum wage for 25 hours a week, plus employer National Insurance and minimum auto-enrolment contributions. Young people will also be supported to develop new skills so they can move into sustained employment after they have completed their Kickstart-funded job.

Companies can join Kickstart by visiting <https://www.wmca.org.uk/kickstart-scheme> and can find out more information by contacting kickstart@wmca.org.uk



The kickstart scheme has launched in the West Midlands



How can I get further information?

For further information or to view past issues of the newsletter please visit:
www.metroalliance.co.uk

or email:
communications@metroalliance.co.uk

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