

A249 Bearsted Road Improvement Scheme



Community Information Leaflet

March 2026

www.bearstedroad.co.uk



Funded by
UK Government



Project Progress Update

Breheny Civil Engineering is delivering the Bearsted Road Improvement Scheme on behalf of Kent County Council. Work began in August 2025 and is expected to be completed by early 2027.

Works have progressed well at Bearsted Road during the early part of 2026, with several key stages completed in line with the planned construction programme.

The opening of the new access road to Newnham Court Shopping Village has enabled the next phases of the project to progress.

The overall strategy remains to deliver the works in a carefully planned sequence that minimises disruption while maintaining safe access for residents, businesses and people travelling through the area wherever possible.

Current site activities are helping prepare the area for future works including road surfacing, lighting installation and new pedestrian routes.

What Progress Has Been Made On Site?

Construction of retaining wall near Newnham Court Shopping Village

The first retaining wall located along the edge of the site near Newnham Court Shopping Village was completed in February, along with the installation of new post and rail fencing. This allows construction of the new road layout in this area to continue. The wall was constructed on time over a six-week period.

Night closures completed

In February our second period of planned night closures on Bearsted Road was completed successfully. These closures allowed the team to trench and install ducts across Bearsted Road and within Newnham Court Shopping Village in preparation for several important utility diversions. Carrying out this work overnight allowed these essential activities to take place safely while helping to minimise disruption during daytime hours and peak travel periods.

Utility diversions

A key stage of the project has recently been completed with Phase 2 electricity diversion works carried out by UK Power Networks. Water service diversions and Openreach fibre works have also recently been completed. These works involved relocating underground services so that construction of the new road layout can safely continue.

To complete the final stages of the works, UK Power Networks required access to the carriageway. A moving lane closure was implemented on Bearsted Road to allow the work to take place safely while maintaining safe traffic flow during weekday peak traffic. All diversion work was completed on time allowing traffic to return to normal operation.



Funded by
UK Government



Earthworks adjacent to Bearsted Road

Excavation work has now started in the area near Notcutts Garden Centre. These works follow a foul sewer diversion that was completed earlier in February. Excavation and site clearance will continue in this area to prepare the ground for new drainage installation and the construction of another retaining wall.



Bearsted Road – new road construction

Following completion of the retaining wall, construction of the new twin lane eastbound section of Bearsted Road has resumed as planned.

Kerbs have been installed and drainage infrastructure for this section was installed in late 2025. There is also temporary lighting in place around Bearsted Road while the new lighting columns are installed. Asphalt surfacing works are planned to take place at night in late March to minimise disruption to daytime traffic.



KIMS roundabout

Works at the KIMS roundabout have now recommenced in preparation for asphalt works planned to take place at night in late March. These works form part of the preparation for a future traffic switch, which will be communicated to residents and businesses in advance. We would like to thank residents, businesses and road users for their continued patience while these essential works are carried out.

Next Steps On The Scheme

Construction activity will continue across several areas of the site over the coming weeks. People travelling through the area may notice the following activities:

- Ongoing earthworks and ground preparation near Newnham Court Shopping Village
- New permanent footpath construction along the new access road
- Continued construction of the new carriageway along Bearsted Road, situated between the A249 and KIMS hospital roundabouts
- Preparatory surfacing and other works for future junction improvements around the KIMS hospital roundabout

The project team will continue to plan works carefully to minimise disruption wherever possible.



Funded by
UK Government



Got A Question About The Scheme?

If you have any questions about the works or would like more information about the project, you can contact the team using the details below.

Email: bearstedroad@breheny.co.uk

Telephone (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm): 07976 367359

Have You Registered for Updates?

Residents can register to receive updates about the scheme by visiting:
www.bearstedroad.co.uk

Simply enter your name and email address to receive project updates directly.

www.bearstedroad.co.uk



**Funded by
UK Government**

