

## Bournemouth Spur Road 6 Sept 2015 to 31 May 2016

The A338 Spur Road rebuild is just two weeks away. Here's our guide to everything you need to know:

- A338 rebuild: Hospital patients warned to allow extra time for appointments

### What are they doing?

The A338 is being totally rebuilt. The council is carrying out a full depth reconstruction, to be finished off with a new lower-noise surface layer. They will be upgrading the central safety barrier to concrete, improving drainage to solve flooding and 'ponding' problems and adding a 1m hard strip to give extra space for cars to move over for emergency vehicles or in case of breakdowns. The northbound carriageway will be temporarily resurfaced to make sure it lasts while the southbound carriageway is being rebuilt.

### When does it start?

Work starts on September 6 with overnight lane closures.

Daytime lane closures start on September 7, with traffic remaining on its usual carriageways.

The contraflow system (see below) starts on September 21, first northbound, then southbound from March 2016.

### What's closed?

Traffic will be reduced to a **single lane in each direction** from September 7 until the end of May.

The road will be **totally closed northbound** from 8pm-6am on September 6 and again from September 8-19, to allow the temporary resurfacing on the northbound carriageway. A signed diversion via the B3073 will be in place (see below)

There are two Sunday night **FULL road closures** on September 20 and January 3, from 8pm -6am.

From September 21 until Christmas the road will be **closed southbound** from the QinetiQ access, with a contraflow in place.

From January 4 until February the top part of the southbound carriage will be closed with traffic heading south diverted onto the contraflow on the northbound carriageway.

From February to March, the top part of the Northbound carriageway will be closed, with traffic crossing to the newly rebuilt southbound carriageway at the QinetiQ access.

From March to May, the **northbound carriageway will be closed** from the QinetiQ access to Blackwater, with a contraflow on the newly rebuilt southbound carriageway.

### **What will the speed limit be?**

The limit will be 40mph for the duration of the works.

### **When will it finish?**

The road should be fully reopened by the end of May, with some finishing works scheduled for June.

### **What does the council say the impact will be?**

The council is warning of “significant impact” to travel times, particularly at the start of the works. Routes around the A338 are likely to get extremely congested. The council is urging people to think about car sharing, using the bus or train or travelling at non-peak times.

### **Why are they doing it?**

The Spur Road is more than 40 years old and its foundations are crumbling, making the road surface crack (and making it very noisy) Resurfacing the road wouldn't be enough, so it's being totally rebuilt. It carries around 59,000 vehicles per day of which 3.7% (2,200 vehicles) are HGVs, which makes it Dorset's most heavily trafficked road.

### **Why isn't there an official alternative route?**

Two reasons: first, an official diversion is only required when a road is fully closed in one direction, which is why there will be a signed diversion during the overnight closures in September. Once the contraflow is in place, the council is not required to have a signed diversion route . Second, they CAN'T have an official alternative route, because regulations say traffic can only be diverted onto a route of similar category – and there are no other north/south 'A' roads into Bournemouth.