

Hills Road Bridge, Cambridge

Road works, new bus lanes and junction changes from 12 May 2008



What?

The County Council needs to create an underpass for the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway through the embankment of Hills Road bridge. The underpass will allow buses, cyclists and pedestrians to travel from Cambridge Railway Station to Addenbrooke's and Trumpington, without having to use busy local roads.

How?

In order to build the underpass, the Council's contractor, Edmund Nuttall Limited, will remove the road surface on the bridge in small sections, carry out construction work in the bridge structure and replace the road surface, before moving to another section of the bridge. Road works will be put in place to enable Nuttall to complete the work safely.

This construction method has been chosen because it enables one lane in each direction to be kept open at all times for drivers and cyclists. Two 1.8m wide footpaths will also be kept open.

Whilst the road works will cause delays to traffic and be inconvenient for cyclists using the bridge (due to narrow lane widths), the alternative construction method (closing the bridge) would be far more disruptive.

Why?

Building the underpass in this way is the only practical method. If the entire road surface on the bridge was removed at the same time and construction work was completed in one-go, the bridge would have to be closed to all traffic including cyclists and pedestrians for four months. This is not a viable option because completely closing the bridge for this length of time would cause significant problems for the transport network.

Whilst the road works will be inconvenient for people using the bridge, the Council is planning to introduce new temporary bus lanes and junction changes to limit delays for people using public transport and keep traffic moving as freely as possible across the bridge.

New bus lanes

In order to reduce delays for buses and Park & Ride services on Hills Road bridge, the Council is introducing temporary bus lanes on both approaches to the bridge. This will enable buses to bypass queues of cars and get on the bridge quickly. The road does not need to be widened to accommodate these bus lanes and no additional land will be taken. The bus lanes can be created within the existing road space. Map 1 shows the new temporary bus lanes.

Junction changes

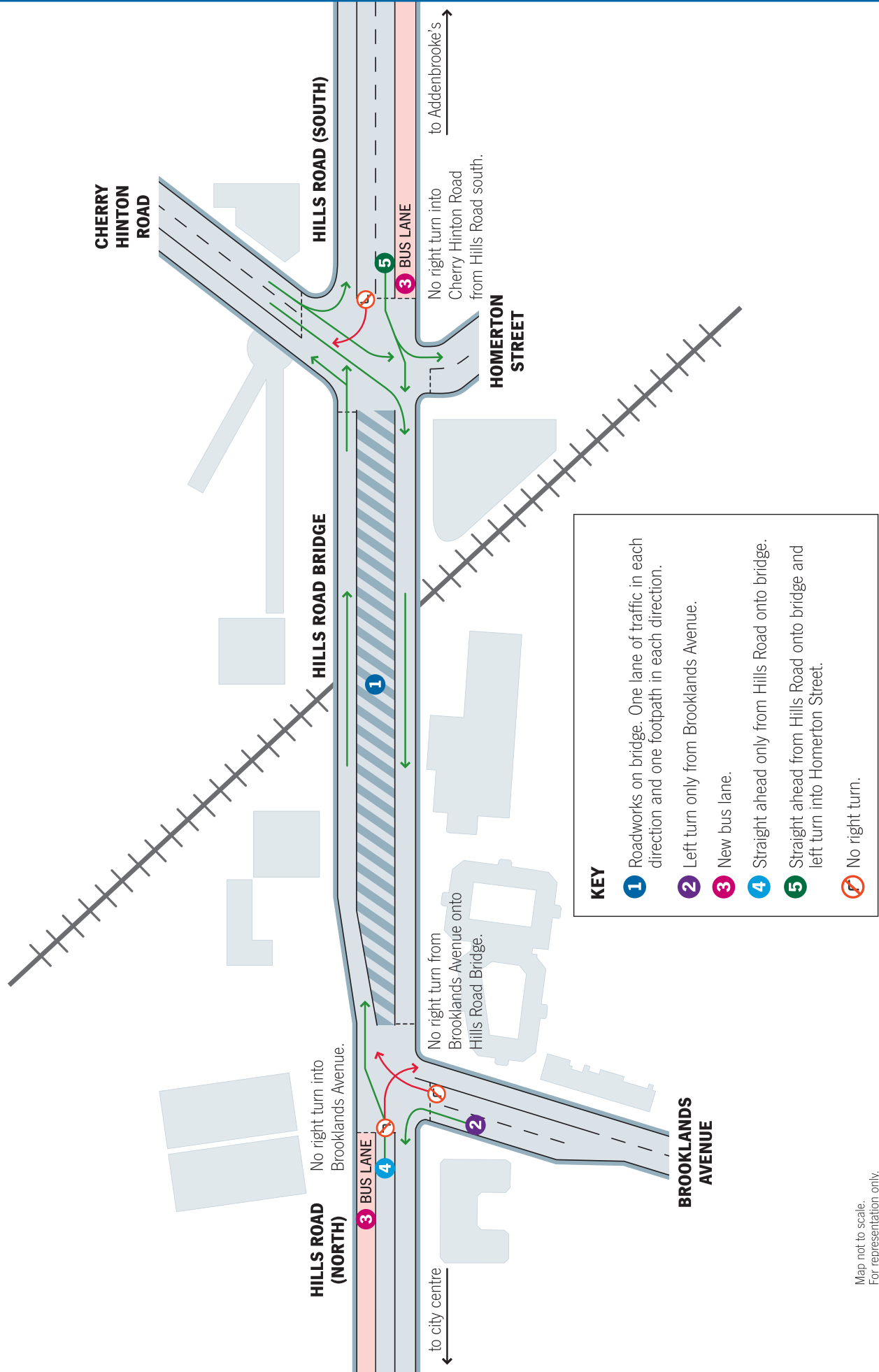
In order to keep traffic moving in the single lanes over the bridge, the Council will also temporarily prohibit some turns at junctions on either side of the bridge which could hold up vehicles wanting to go straight over the bridge.

We will temporarily prohibit:

- The right turn from Hills Road south into Cherry Hinton Road
- The right turn from Hills Road north into Brooklands Avenue
- The right turn from Brooklands Avenue onto Hills Road bridge

Map 1 shows the prohibited turns and the temporary bus lanes.

Map 1 Brooklands Avenue Junction and Cherry Hinton Road Junction



Map not to scale.
For representation only.

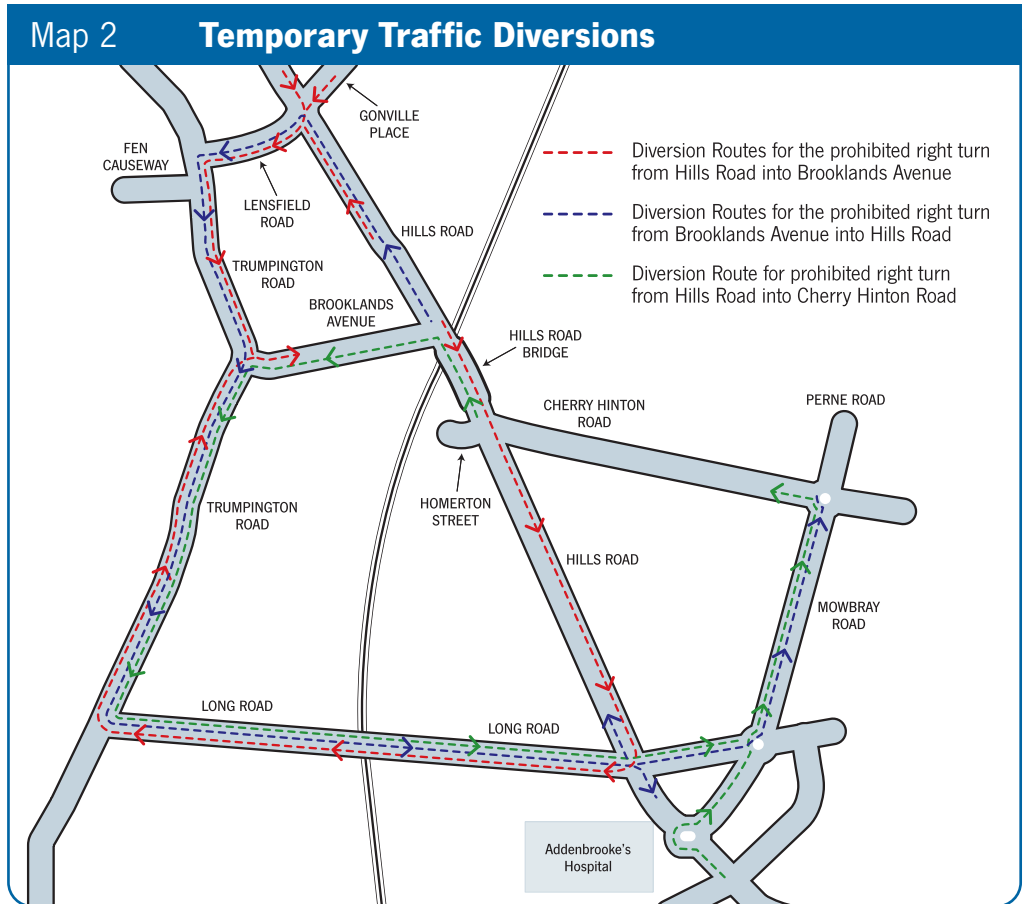
What impact will prohibiting the right turns have?

By prohibiting the right turns described on the previous page, we will be able to adjust the phasing of traffic lights on either side of the bridge to maximise the green time for traffic leaving the bridge. This will help keep traffic moving.

There are a number of alternative routes for drivers who are prohibited from turning right. These are shown in map 2. The diversion routes will also be signposted on the roads.

Cyclists wishing to turn right can wheel across the pelican crossings before the junctions.

The Uni 4 bus service will alter its route by continuing down Trumpington Road and using Long Road to reach Addenbrookes, rather than using Brooklands Avenue and turning right on to Hills Road. It will return from Addenbrookes using its normal route (Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue).



When?

The road works, bus lanes and junction changes will be put in place from 12 May 2008.

Initially, utility companies will divert services in the road surface so Nuttall can then remove the road surface in small sections and construct the underpass.

Because Nuttall will only be able to work on small sections of road at a time, they will need to move their working area and road works repeatedly. This means it is likely to take up to ten and a half months to complete the construction work.

How can I find out more?

If you would like to know more about the work at Hills Road bridge, the road works, the new bus lanes and the junction changes please contact the Guided Busway team at the County Council on **01223 716972** or email guidedbusway@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

If you would like a copy of the text in this leaflet in large print, Braille, audiotape or another language, please contact the Busway team on the details above.