



Trams to Newhaven

Project Newsletter



Construction Updates

Trams are scheduled to be operational in Leith and Newhaven by Spring 2023. All of the required track slab has been laid, and almost 14,000 metres of communication and utility ducting has been installed. Main construction works are complete on all of the new tram stops, all of the 228 OLE poles have been installed, and we have strung 4,600 metres of overhead cabling, 100% of the total.

Program update

A testing and commissioning period, involving the running of an empty tram along the route, will begin in the coming weeks. Further information will be released in due course. [View the latest updates to the construction programme on the project website.](#)

Please note that the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) will become operational from mid-March 2023. Drivers should ensure they adhere to all parking and loading signage. The City of Edinburgh Council has changed its enforcement for pavement parking. It is illegal to pavement park where a single or double yellow line is in place and fixed penalty notices will be issued to drivers caught doing this.

Localised work sites

Localised works continue on carriage and footways throughout the route to install tram systems infrastructure, tram stop fit outs, , installation of new signs, street lighting, landscaping, street furniture and traffic signaling. Traffic management and pedestrian diversions will be set up as required with any changes being communicated via the project's communication channels. Following the incorporation of street lighting into the OLE poles, works are ongoing to remove old lighting columns. This requires localised work sites to undertake excavations and to disconnect the columns. Once removed, the excavations will be temporarily backfilled with full reinstatement taking place at a later date. columns. Once removed, the excavations will be temporarily backfilled with full reinstatement taking place at a later date.



Newhaven



South Leith Parish Church



Leith Walk



Ocean Drive

Out of Hours Works

[There is a section on the project website that details planned out of hours working over the coming weeks.](#)

This section of the website will be updated on a regular basis and promoted through the project's twitter account. In order to minimise disruption to the wider traffic network along the route and to keep our workers safe, cable pulling through the newly installed underground ducting, and the installation of cantilevers and overhead cables needs to be carried out at night when the site is unoccupied.

The nightshift works on the Overhead Line Equipment are carried out by specialist teams. We will endeavour to minimise disruption as much as possible and to undertake the work as quickly as possible.

Please note that these works are carried out on a rolling basis and that the timelines quoted relate to the whole section.

To prepare for the testing and commissioning period, preparatory works are required on the tram tracks. This involves cleaning and grinding the tracks so they are in optimal condition. In order to minimise disruption to traffic, these will take place out of hours on Leith Walk.

Continuity Testing

The testing of the OLE poles is now completed and reinstatement works are scheduled to take place over the coming weeks.

Construction Updates

Newhaven to Leith Walk

Newhaven to Melrose Drive

Works are ongoing within this section. New streetlights between Hawthornvale and Sandpiper will be installed over the coming months.

Melrose Drive

Main infrastructure works continue with hard landscaping and surfacing works ongoing.

Ocean Terminal

Hard landscaping continues on the eastern carriageway heading south towards the Holiday Inn. Fence lines have been removed from the north side of Ocean Drive following completion of main infrastructure works.

Traffic Management arrangements at Ocean Terminal south roundabout are being managed under 4-way controlled temporary traffic lights. Adjustments have been made to provide more space for vehicles and we continue to monitor the area. These temporary traffic management arrangements are scheduled to be removed in the next fortnight. Bus shelters have been installed on both east and west sides of the street.

Rennie's Isle to Tower Place

Hard landscaping and surfacing works are ongoing.

This section is scheduled to re-open to vehicles in the next fortnight. Further information will be issued in due course.

Stevedore Place

The majority of fence lines in this area have been removed. There are ongoing surfacing, lining, and landscaping works in this area.

Constitution Place to Baltic Street

The reinstatement of the setts at Tower Street is completed and the junction with Constitution Street is now open.

Please note, we will be reintroducing a ban on the right-hand turn from Constitution Street to Bernard / Baltic Street in the coming weeks. Further information will be made available in due course.

Baltic Street to Coatfield Lane

Public realms, drainage and ducting works on Bernard / Baltic Street will begin w/c 6 March 2023 for an estimated 10 weeks. This includes the establishment of five tree pits.

Coatfield Lane to FoTW

Works on the South Leith Parish Church (SLPC) wall are complete.. The junction of Constitution Street with Laurie Street is scheduled to re-open w/c 6 March 2023 and fence lines removed.. Temporary access is maintained via Constitution Street / Queen Charlotte Street.

Leith Walk

Foot of the Walk to Jameson Place

The permanent loading area located on the west side between Crown Place and Crown Street is now available for use. Footpath works are ongoing on the west side between Foot of the Walk and Casselbank Street and on the east side between Smyth's Place and Manderston Street.

The reinstatement of the public realm at the Kirkgate will be completed during March 2023.

The installation of street lighting attached to buildings between foot of the walk and Balfour Street will begin being installed w/c 6 March 2023 on both the east and west side of the street.

Jameson Place to Pilrig Street

Main construction is now completed with some outstanding works required at the Jameson Place junction.

Pilrig Street to Annandale / Montgomery Street

The Brunswick Street / Leith Walk junction remains closed until further notice.

Albert Street is closed at its junction with Leith Walk due to ongoing Scottish Water works which are not related to the project.



York Place to London Road

Please note:

- a) There is now no left turn from Leith Walk into London Road. Traffic coming from Leith Walk wishing to access London Road should do so via Picardy Place and then turn right onto London Road. A CCTV camera is in operation to monitor and further traffic signage will be installed. In addition, we have installed bollards and will continue to monitor the situation.
- b) There is no right hand turn from London Road onto Leith Walk. Traffic coming from London Road wishing to access Leith Walk should turn left and go via Picardy Place before heading straight onto Leith Walk.
- c) Hard landscaping works are progressing well at Blenheim Place. Once the works are complete within the existing site set up, works will commence on the existing footway with access to properties and the surrounding area being maintained. Those affected will receive direct communication with further detail.

Hard landscaping works at Elm Row are scheduled to commence w/c 6 March 2023.

Scottish Apprenticeship Week

It's Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2023 w/c Monday 6 March.

Scottish Apprenticeship Week showcases the benefits of work-based learning and all it brings to people, businesses and the Scottish economy.

The campaign will help demonstrate that apprenticeships support sustained employment, upskilling and a productive economy.

To celebrate, we introduce SFN's Graduate Apprentice, Alistair Paterson, who is currently studying at Heriot-Watt University on the Beng Civil Engineering course. Alistair talks about his journey from the classroom in to the construction industry and offers some advice for those looking to make future career choices.

[Read more about Scottish Apprenticeship Week and Alistair's journey on the project website.](#)

Small business spotlight



The full Business spotlight can be found on the project website.

Controlled Parking Zone

The City of Edinburgh Council is beginning the implementation of the Controlled Parking Zone in Leith. [Further details can be found on the City of Edinburgh Council website.](#)