

Wales and West Gas Mains Replacement

A371 Draycott Road

1st Sept to 11th Oct



While this is a Wales & West scheme, the Streetworks team recognises that assistance with community engagement works well for the benefit of all.



Somerset
Council

Scheme Overview

While this is a Wales & West Utilities project, Somerset Council's Street Works team recognises the importance of supporting community engagement and ensuring residents, businesses and stakeholders have access to clear and consistent information throughout the scheme.

The works are required to complete an essential gas main replacement programme and will involve traffic management and a period of road closure on the A371 at Draycott.

Both Somerset Council and Wales & West Utilities have worked closely with local councillors, the MP, parish councils, schools, transport providers, businesses and residents to understand concerns and develop mitigation measures wherever possible.

The scheme has been revised and rescheduled following extensive engagement with local stakeholders, with particular consideration given to impacts on businesses, tourism, schools, public transport and the wider community.

A number of measures are being introduced to help maintain access, support public transport connections and manage the impact on surrounding roads during the works.

This document aims to answer the most frequently raised questions and will be updated as further information becomes available. If you have a question which is not covered, please contact Wales & West Utilities or Somerset Council using the details provided within the scheme communications.

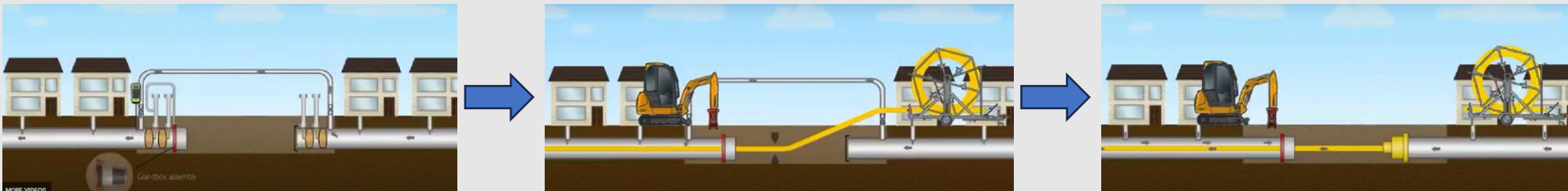
Methodology

Wales & West Utilities use what is called 'Live Insertion'. It allows companies to renew gas service pipes without interrupting the mains supply to the local community and so minimising excavation in the road or footpath.

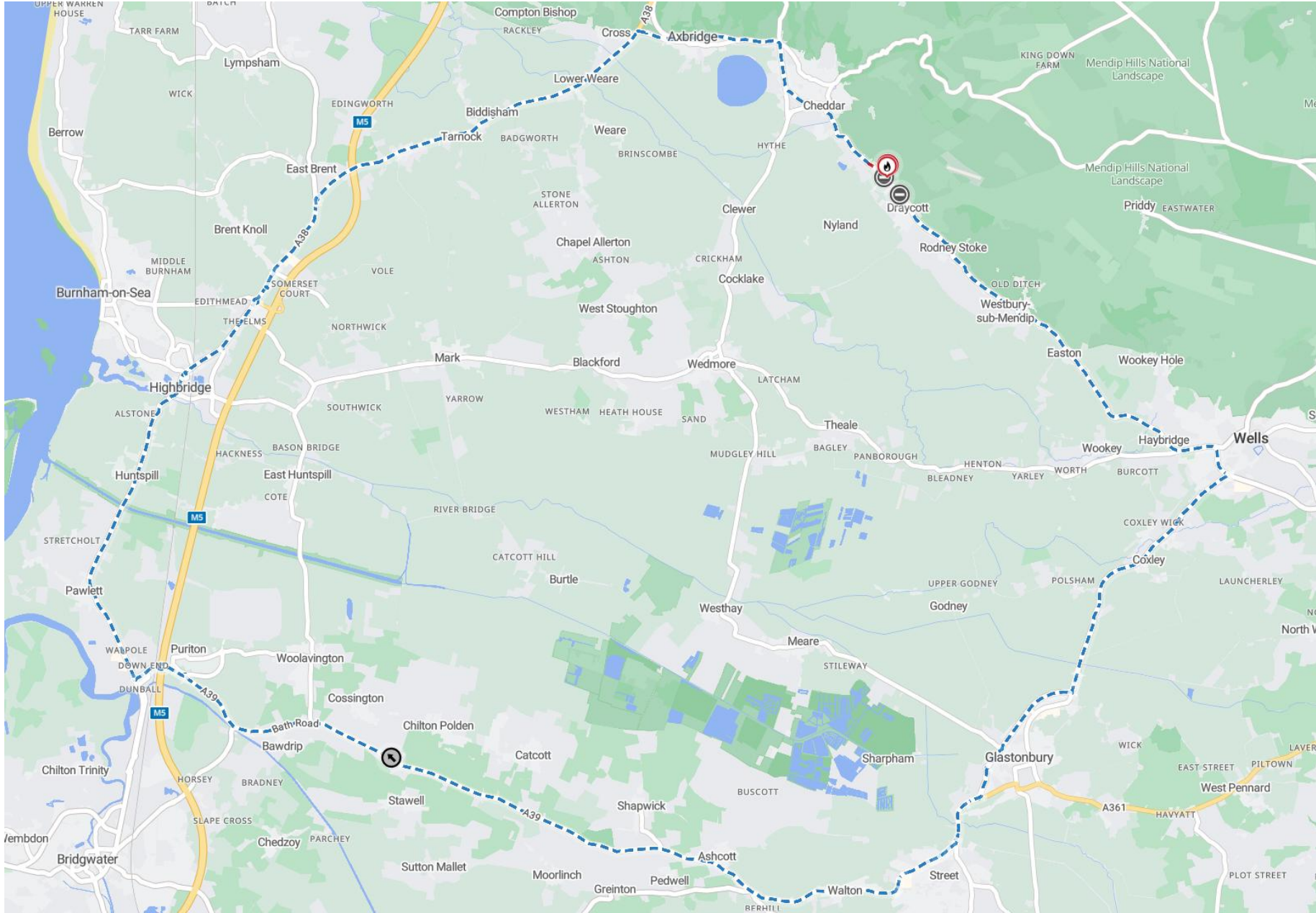
- Minimum traffic disruption–fewer excavations open at any one time
- Reduces the need for open trenching
- Lower environmental impact
- Customers off gas for minimum time

<https://www.stevevick.com/services/gas/gas-mains-renewal/live-gas-mains-insertion/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4b6r7J48wA>



Signed diversion route



Recognised Impacts:

Wales and West Utilities is working with Somerset Council to limit these impacts as much as possible

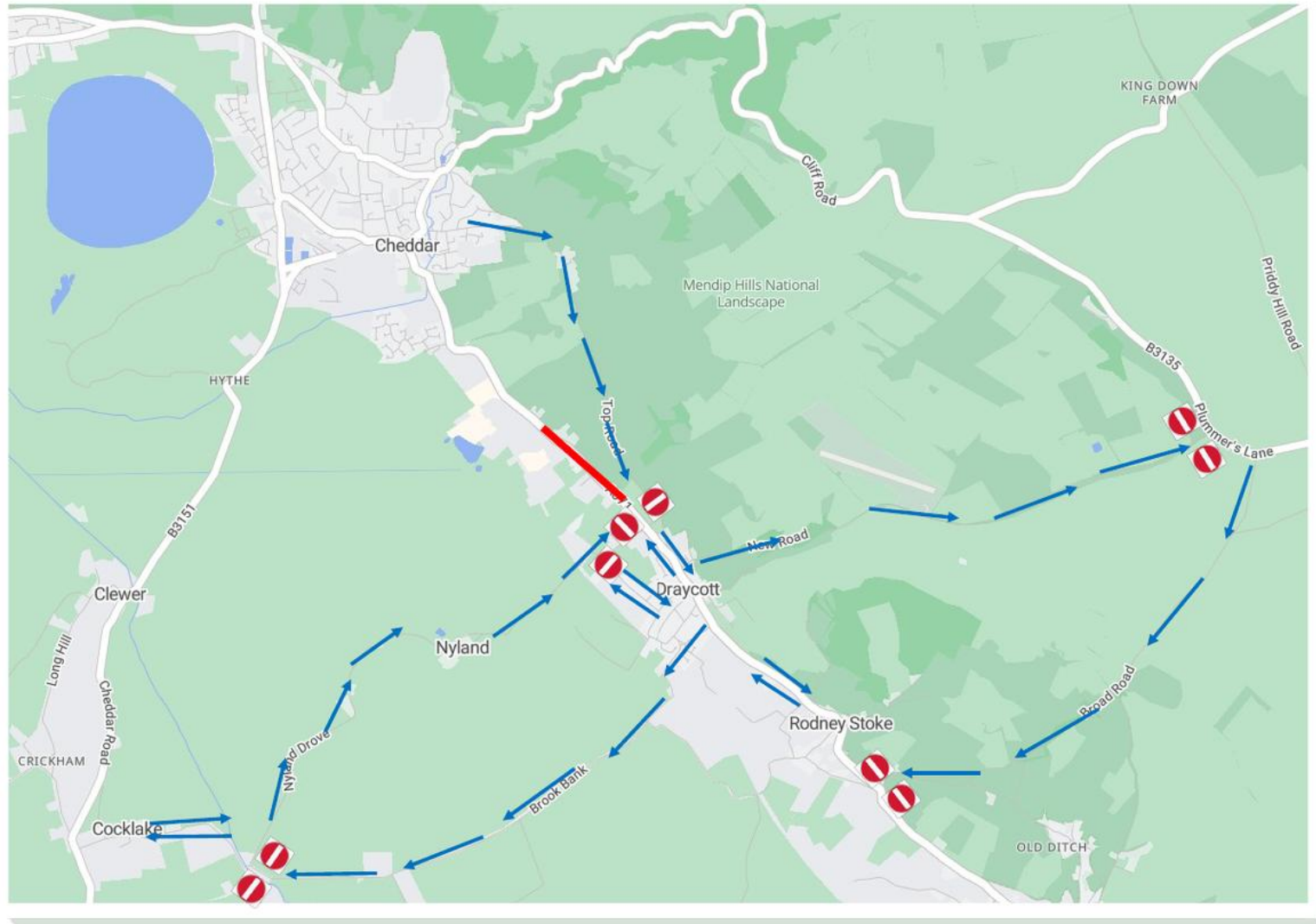
Wales & West Utilities are keen to get the engagement right.

The recurring concerns are overwhelmingly:

1. School transport and public transport
2. Business and tourism impacts
3. Rat-running through local lanes
4. Damage to minor roads and verges
5. Length of diversion route
6. Why a closure is needed rather than signals
7. Access to Wells and Cheddar
8. HGV movements on unsuitable roads
9. Emergency access
10. Community engagement and communications

A371 Draycott: local traffic flow restrictions

Indicative restrictions designed to help manage local traffic during the closure



Map key

➤ ➤ ➤ Suggested one-way / local flow direction

⊘ Proposed no-entry restrictions

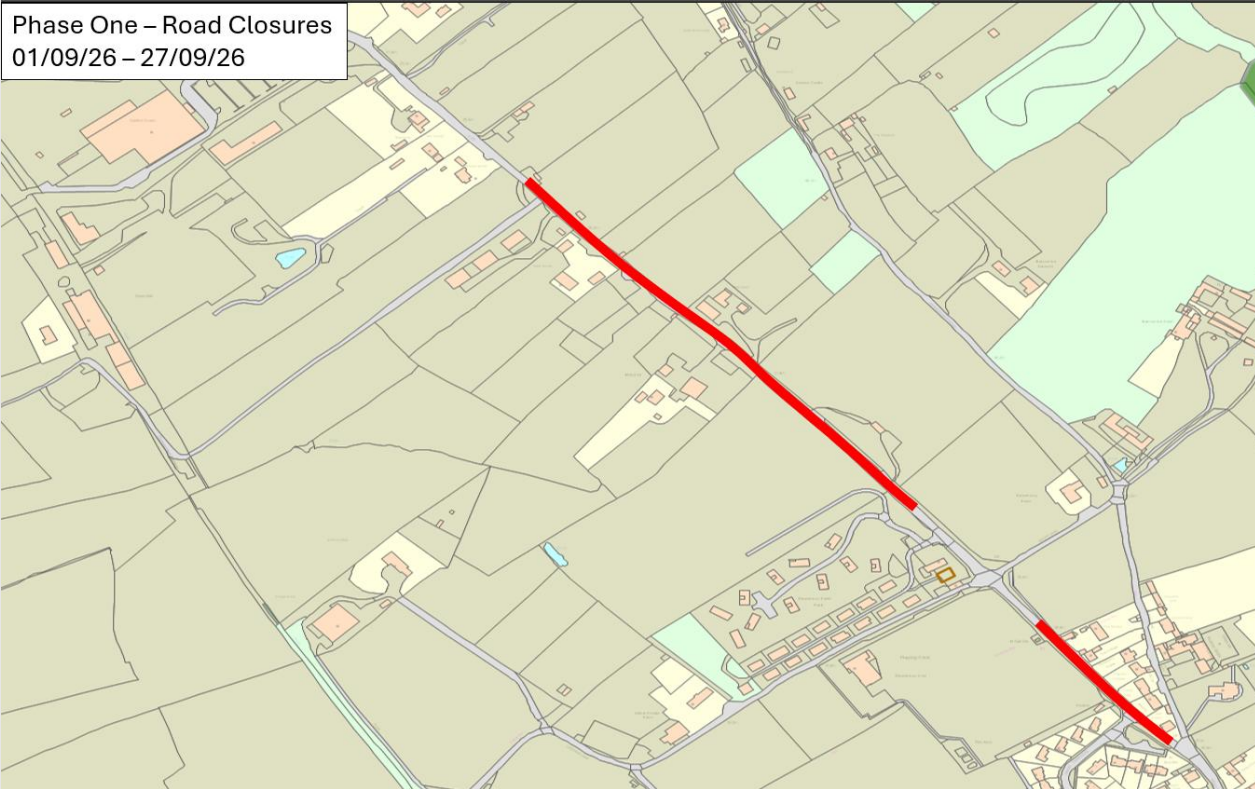
□ Restriction points shown on the plan

Purpose

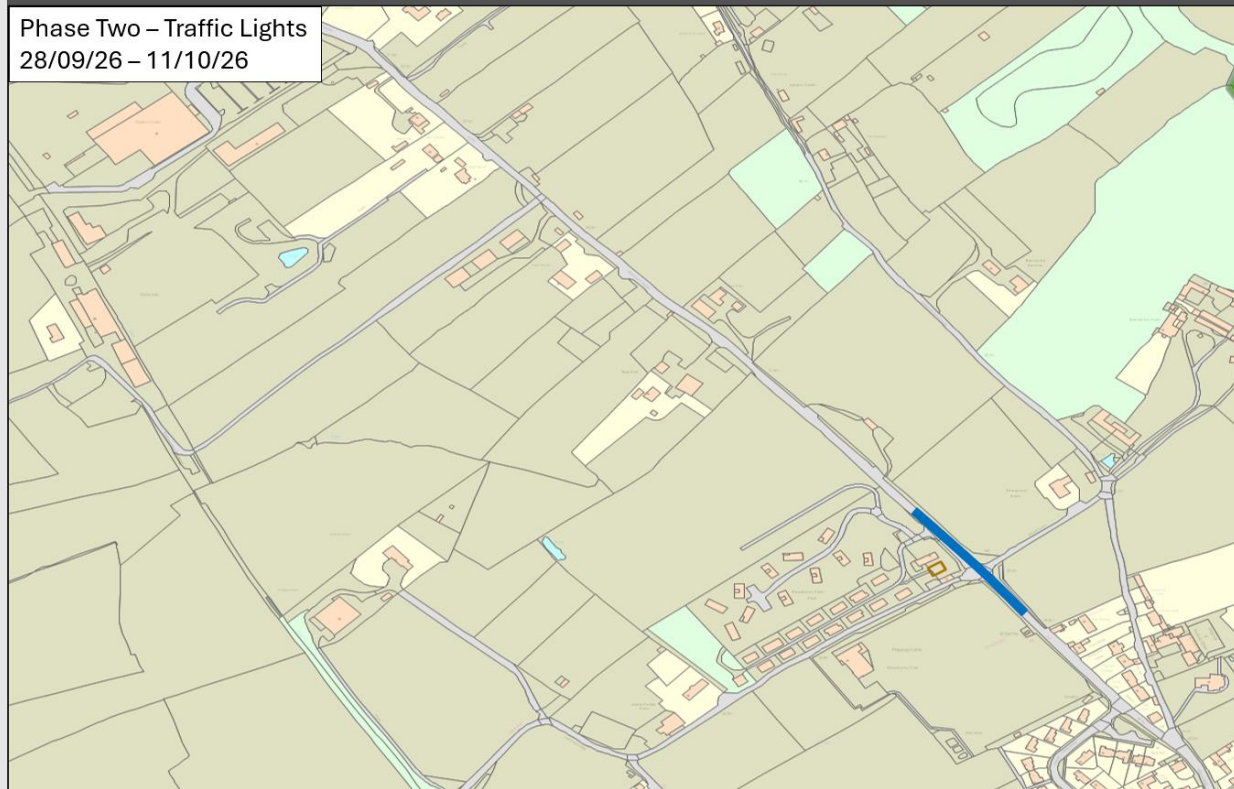
To discourage unsuitable through traffic and support safer local movement while the A371 works are in place.

Road Closure and Traffic Signal Phasing

Phase One – Road Closures
01/09/26 – 27/09/26



Phase Two – Traffic Lights
28/09/26 – 11/10/26



Common Questions & Answers

Q. Why are the works taking place in September rather than during the school holidays?

A. Somerset Council and Wales & West Utilities originally explored a summer holiday programme. However, following discussions with local businesses, councillors and the MP, significant concerns were raised regarding the potential impact on tourism and the local economy. Wales & West Utilities subsequently agreed to defer the works until September.

Q. What is being done about school transport?

A. Somerset Council, Wales & West Utilities and transport providers have been working together to identify suitable arrangements. Schools have been contacted in advance and transport mitigation has been a key part of the planning process. Somerset Council will contact parents directly to confirm on revised pick-up point times and routes for school children on school transport services

Q. Will public bus services still operate?

A. Yes, although normal routes cannot operate through the closure. Arrangements have been developed to maintain connections, including shuttle bus services linking Draycott to both Wells and Cheddar. These services will connect with existing public transport routes where possible.

Q. How will residents access healthcare, schools, colleges and essential services?

A. Access to key destinations has been a major consideration throughout planning. Shuttle bus arrangements have been developed to maintain links to Wells and Cheddar, providing onward access to schools, colleges, healthcare facilities and other essential services.

Q. Will traffic divert onto local roads?

A. Some displacement of traffic is expected. Somerset Council and Wales & West Utilities have been reviewing potential mitigation measures, including additional traffic restrictions and local traffic management arrangements, to discourage inappropriate use of minor roads.

Common Questions & Answers

Q. What is being done to limit rat-running

A. The closure will be signed in advance, with digital message boards, signage all to discourage through traffic from reaching the closure points and so putting pressure on the narrow roads linking the communities of Draycott and Rodney Stoke.

Q. Will residents in Draycott and Rodney Stoke be expected to follow the diversion route?

A. A signed diversion route must be provided so to provide a suitable diversion route for all types of traffic being diverted. However, many motorists may choose to use alternative routes.

Q. Will I still be able to access my property

A. Yes, but you may need to follow the signed diversion route in place at the time

Q. Will my refuse collections be affected

If needed the refuse and recycling collectors will put in alternative arrangements and WWu will be able to assist on site

Q. I have specific medical needs

A. Please make WWu aware, and they will do their best to assist with access when and where possible

Q. Will access to the Village Hall be maintained during the works

A. Access to the Village Hall will be maintained throughout the closure

Q. How will the road closure be communicated on the ground

A. There will be variable message signs at either road, and the point of closures will be indicated by supporting information boards

Draycott – Westbury Sub Mendip – Wells

126 Replacement Shuttle Service

Draycott, Back Lane Bus Stop	0759	0911	1003	1116	1242	1335	1449	1606	1733	1820
Rodney Stoke	0801	0913	1005	1118	1244	1337	1551	1608	1735	1822
Westbury, Post Office	0806	0918	1010	1123	1249	1342	1556	1613	1740	1827
Wells Bus Station	0820	0930	1023	1135	1311	1404	1518	1625	1752	1839
First bus time, clear bay between times	0822			1140		1410	1540		1805	
First bus stays on bay between purple times, we fit around it						Driver Swap				
First bus time, clear bay between times	0845		1038			1358	1511		1755	
Wells Bus Station	0850	0932	1042	1222	1314	1428	1545	1644	1800	
Westbury, Post Office	0902	0954	1004	1234	1326	1440	1557	1656	1812	
Rodney Stoke	0908	0959	1110	1239	1331	1445	1603	1701	1817	
Draycott, Back Lane Bus Stop	0910	1001	1112	1241	1333	1447	1605	1703	1819	

Draycott – Cheddar Tweentown

126 Replacement Shuttle Service

Draycott, Back Lane Bus Stop (South Bound Stop)	0705	0855	1150	1420	1550	1817	
Cheddar, Tweentown Bus Stop	0726	0916	1211	1441	1611	1838	
126 departs Cheddar Tweentown to Weston at	0733	0923	1218	1448	1618	1845	
126 arrives Cheddar Tweentown from Weston at	0743	0958	1318	1433	1718	1845	
Cheddar Tweentown Bus Stop	0748	1003	1323	1438	1723	1850	
Draycott, Back Lane Bus Stop (South Bound Stop)	0809	1024	1344	1459	1744	1911	
Saturdays							
Draycott, Back Lane Bus Stop (South Bound Stop)	0705	0840	1057	1220	1435	1600	1815
Cheddar, Tweentown Bus Stop	0726	0901	1118	1241	1456	1621	1836
126 departs Cheddar Tweentown to Weston at	0733	0908	1125	1248	1503	1628	1843
126 arrives Cheddar Tweentown from Weston at	0743	0948	1125	1338	1503	1718	1843
Cheddar Tweentown Bus Stop	0748	0953	1130	1343	1508	1723	1848
Draycott, Back Lane Bus Stop (South Bound Stop)	0809	1014	1151	1404	1529	1744	1909

Timetable for 126 Service During closure of A371 Draycott Wells to Weston Super Mare

Inbound

Timetable report								
(Printed Date: 2026-05-16)								
126								
Wells - Weston-super-Mare								
Service: Monday to Friday								
	Service No	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	
Wells Blue School			08:30			15:30		
Wells Bus Station		06:55	08:45	11:40	14:10	15:40	18:05	
Cemetery		06:58	08:48	11:43	14:13	15:43	18:08	
Cheddar, Tweentown		07:33	09:23	12:18	14:48	16:18	18:45	
Axbridge, Surgery		07:44	09:34	12:29	14:59	16:29	18:55	
Sandford, Church		07:59	09:49	12:43	15:14	16:44	19:10	
Helicopter Museum		08:15	10:05	12:59	15:30	17:00	19:26	
Weston-super-Mare, Interchange		08:34	10:24	13:17	15:49	17:19	19:39	
Weston-super-Mare, Station Approach		08:36	10:26	13:19	15:51	17:21	19:41	
Service: Saturday								
	Service No	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	
Wells Bus Station		06:55	08:30	10:40	12:10	14:25	15:50	18:05
Cemetery		06:58	08:33	10:43	12:13	14:28	15:53	18:08
Cheddar, Tweentown		07:33	09:08	11:25	12:48	15:03	16:28	18:43
Axbridge, Surgery		07:44	09:19	11:36	12:59	15:14	16:39	18:53
Sandford, Church		07:59	09:34	11:50	13:14	15:29	16:54	19:08
Helicopter Museum		08:15	09:50	12:06	13:30	15:45	17:10	19:24
Weston-super-Mare, Interchange		08:34	10:09	12:24	13:49	16:04	17:29	19:37
Weston-super-Mare, Station Approach		08:36	10:11	12:26	13:51	16:06	17:31	19:39

Outbound

Timetable report								
(Printed Date: 2026-05-16)								
126								
Weston-super-Mare - Wells								
Service: Monday to Friday								
	Service No	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	
Weston-super-Mare, Station Approach		06:43	08:55	12:15	13:30	16:05	17:35	
Weston-super-Mare, Interchange		06:45	09:00	12:20	13:35	16:10	17:40	
Helicopter Museum		07:00	09:15	12:35	13:50	16:33	17:55	
Sandford, Church		07:17	09:32	12:52	14:07	16:50	18:12	
Axbridge, Surgery		07:31	09:46	13:06	14:21	17:06	18:26	
Cheddar, Tweentown		07:43	09:58	13:18	14:33	17:18	18:45	
Cemetery		08:18	10:33	13:53	15:08	17:53	19:20	
Wells Bus Station		08:22	10:38	13:58	15:11	17:55	19:23	
Wells Blue School		08:29			15:16			
Service: Saturday								
	Service No	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	126 Closure	
Weston-super-Mare, Station Approach		06:43	08:45	10:20	12:35	14:00	16:15	17:40
Weston-super-Mare, Interchange		06:45	08:50	10:25	12:40	14:05	16:20	17:45
Helicopter Museum		07:00	09:05	10:40	12:55	14:20	16:35	18:00
Sandford, Church		07:17	09:22	10:55	13:12	14:37	16:52	18:17
Axbridge, Surgery		07:31	09:36	11:09	13:26	14:51	17:06	18:31
Cheddar, Tweentown		07:43	09:48	11:25	13:38	15:03	17:18	18:43
Cemetery		08:18	10:23	12:00	14:13	15:38	17:53	19:18
Wells Bus Station		08:21	10:26	12:03	14:16	15:41	17:56	19:21
Wells Blue School								

Common Questions & Answers

Q. I have a question, not here who can I ask

Wales and West contact details:

enquiries@wwutilities.co.uk

0800 912 2999

Streetworks Contact details:

Streetworks@somerset.gov.uk