Birmingham Connected Briefing October 2018

Joe Green – Transportation Behaviour Change Manager, Economy, Birmingham City Council
• A period of transformational change for the city centre and beyond
• Creating a cleaner, greener, healthier, more sustainable city
• A city where public transport, walking or cycling are the preferred ways to travel for many more people
• Major investments in public transport, walking & cycling to support this
• We need to keep the city moving while multiple works take place
• ... and Christmas is coming!
Christmas in Birmingham

• Frankfurt Christmas Market will be open from 15 November until 23 December

• Big wheel and ice rink proposed new location in Southside Square (newly pedestrianised area by the Hippodrome theatre)

• Proposed craft market in St Philip’s Cathedral Square

• All city centre venues are open for business and leisure as usual, including Broad Street and Brindley Place

#ChristmasinBham
Key messages for #ChristmasinBham

Birmingham is a hive of festive activity again this year, with so much going on it makes sense to plan your journey.

• Plan ahead for travel: [www.birmingham.gov.uk/christmastravel](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/christmastravel)
• Leave the car at home and travel by bus, train, tram, bike or on foot
• Beat the traffic by travelling at quieter times
• Leave extra time for your journey
Westside development
• Construction of Westside Metro extension continuing
• Paradise Circus remains closed to traffic until summer 2019
• A38 underpass is still open in both directions
• Redevelopment of Centenary Square expected to be completed summer 2019
• Changes to pedestrian routes in the vicinity of Broad Street (near HSBC)
• Requirement for width reduction of Centenary Way (walkway linking city centre & Victoria Square with Centenary Square)
Midland Metro extension

• Next phase of Metro extension from Victoria Square to Centenary Square began in September 2018
• Complementary highway measures have been provided at Sheepcote Street and Bath Row/Islington Row
• Grand Central Metro Stop services currently arrive and depart from same platform outside New Street Station
• Interactive map by TfWM found at: www.birmingham.gov.uk/paradise

Harborne Road bus lane

• New bus lane will be introduced as a trial for a minimum of 12 months – works now underway until mid November
HS2 in Birmingham

- Only ‘low impact’ works scheduled for the rest of 2018
- Park Street and A47 Heartlands Parkway works to be carried out off-peak to minimise disruption to traffic
- Works affecting Moor Street Queensway & Lawley Middleway postponed until 2019 (from early January) - these will have a bigger impact on traffic
- Design for Curzon Street Station released, information sessions throughout October: [https://hs2inbirmingham.commonplace.is/](https://hs2inbirmingham.commonplace.is/)
Birmingham Cycle Revolution (BCR)

• Final pilot area for 20mph scheme currently being implemented (B2 - Central SW). Due to launch November with a package of education and enforcement activity
• 20mph toolkits available for employers, communities, residents and schools: [www.birmingham.gov.uk/20mph](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/20mph)
• A34 & A38 construction of cycle routes continuing - completion due early 2019
• Night time works carried out to reduce disruption on both A38 and A34 routes, including overnight closure of Newtown Row out of city (until mid Nov)
• Pershore Rd/Priory Rd/Edgbaston Rd junction scheme - consultation now open: [www.birminghambeheard.org.uk](http://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk) linking to A38 route & NCN route 5
• Driver education being organised in partnership with WM Police/TfWM
Ashted Circus upgrade (A4540 Birmingham ring-road)

- Now operating as a signalised junction (crossroads)
- Overnight lane closures recommenced this week
- Jennens Road & Nechells Parkway closed overnight to traffic (22/23/24 Oct)
- Pedestrian subways closed and pelican crossings in place
- Due to complete early 2019
Car Club

- Co-wheels has been awarded a three year contract to deliver car sharing in Birmingham
- Adding to their established operation of 11 cars in south Birmingham
- From Mon (15 Oct) Co-Wheels took over 10 additional bays in the city centre
- Possibly more than doubling their fleet in future

www.co-wheels.org.uk/birmingham
Looking beyond 2018…

• Publishing a Birmingham Transport Plan, as an update to Birmingham Connected
• Major investment in public transport, walking and cycling continues apace

Sprint rapid transit

• Introduction of limited stop services with dedicated bus lanes and priority through areas of congestion
• More reliable journey times with a high level of comfort for passengers
• Consultation on first three routes now closed – these routes to be ready by 2022
Rail Investment

- As part of HS2 Connectivity Programme, 3 new rail stations are being developed for the Camp Hill line - at Moseley, Kings Heath, and Hazelwell
- Public engagement this November, prior to planning applications being submitted by the end of the year and services to be running from 2021/22
- West Midlands Rail Investment Strategy is currently out for consultation: [www.wmre.org.uk/strategy/wmris](http://www.wmre.org.uk/strategy/wmris)
- This sets out how rail services will develop across the region over the next 30 years.
Further improvements in Birmingham

• The Snow Hill Project – reducing traffic & improving the environment for active travel. Work starts from April 2019 (tbc)

• Bike share scheme to be available from spring 2019

• Selly Oak New Road – improvements to the ‘Selly Oak Triangle’, works starts from March 2019 (tbc)

• Dudley Road improvements – consultation now open: [www.birmingham.gov.uk/dudleyrd](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/dudleyrd)
A Clean Air Zone for Birmingham

- Includes package of additional measures (mitigations/exemptions) to support those most affected, including:
  - Businesses operating in the CAZ
  - Taxi drivers
  - Low paid workers
  - CAZ residents
• Your help is vital to keep Birmingham moving and open for business as usual
• We will keep you informed; please share information and encourage sustainable travel whenever possible
• Roadworks and closures web pages: www.birmingham.gov.uk/roadworks
• Information on utility works is mapped on www.roadworks.org
• Business Travel Network for support: www.birmingham.gov.uk/BTN