



EWR Alliance

Connecting People

Calvert Area Liaison Meeting

29/07/2021



Environmental Compensation Sites

- Mitigates our impact on the local ecology and includes features that allow local species to flourish
- Network Rail/ EWRA are committed to achieving a 10% Biodiversity Net Gain
- Created nearly 100 ha of connected habitats
- 21 sites across the project



Exclusion zones



Badger setts/ Otter Holts



Bat houses
Swanbourne



Over 18000 plants
Charndon

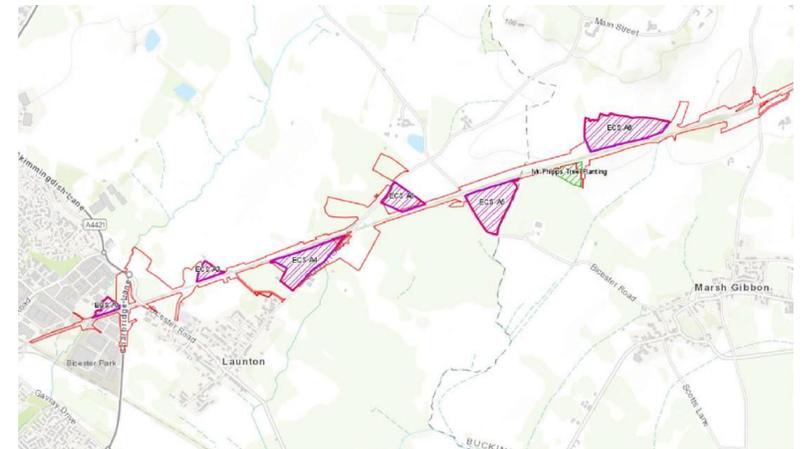
Aquatic habitat for Great
Crested Newts etc



GREEN CORRIDOR ALONG THE LINE OF ROUTE

For information regarding plans of the project, please visit:

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/running-the-railway/railway-upgrade-plan/key-projects/east-west-rail/bicester-to-bletchley-milton-keynes/>



SUSTAINABILITY
IN EVERY CHOICE

Verney Junction Wildlife Retreat

East West Rail

The Verney Junction Wildlife Retreat has been created by the East West Rail Alliance as part of The Network Rail (East West Rail Bicester to Bedford Improvements) Order. This project is upgrading and re-opening nearly 80 km of railway line between Bicester and Bedford and down to Aylesbury. The two ponds you can see before you have been created as mitigation for great crested newts, a species protected in the UK and throughout Europe due to a rapid decline in population.

The habitats within the Verney Junction Wildlife Retreat have been designed for the translocation of great crested newts from ponds with known populations of great crested newts, close to this wildlife retreat, that are impacted by the project. These habitats have also been designed for the translocation of other amphibians, such as toads and smooth newts.



The Meadows and ponds

The ponds and meadow within Verney Junction Wildlife Retreat provide a source of food and refuge for wildlife.

Wildflower meadows are important habitats which support a wide range of species from small mammals such as voles and field mice to invertebrates such as bees and butterflies. The meadow is located on former pasture land through soil management which creates optimal conditions for a wildflower meadow to establish. The meadows have been sown with a native species-rich seed mix containing crested dogs-tail, salad burnet, common knapweed and wild carrot and are managed to promote a species-rich wildflower meadow. Scrub has also been planted which includes blackthorn, the larval food plant for the nationally rare black and brown hairstreak butterflies which thrive in the local area.

The ponds contain aquatic plants including foils water-ress, meadowsweet, broad-leaved pondweed and spiked water milfoil. The ponds have been designed to support a range of wildlife including amphibians (newts, frogs, toads), waterfowl,

dragonflies and damselflies. Toads are considered to be a Species of Principal Importance listed in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) as they are an indicator of biodiversity.

The Verney Junction Wildlife Retreat also contains an area of marshy grassland which has been enhanced by planting bulbs of new species including marsh marigold, water mint and marsh violets. This species have been selected support a wider range of insects such as butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies within the Verney Junction Wildlife Retreat.

In addition, there are hedgerows within the Verney Junction Wildlife Retreat which provide habitat for amphibians, birds, butterflies and small mammals such as hedgehogs (another Species of Principal Importance).

All habitats within the Verney Junction Wildlife Retreat are under adaptive management to promote biodiversity.

Wildlife refuges

The wildlife bank and refuges are mounds constructed of logs, bricks, dead wood and rubble placed in layers to provide refuge and hibernation habitat for many small animals such as newts, frogs, toads, reptiles, mice and insects. The wildlife refuges are covered in topsoil and turf for protection and insulation. They also have gaps between the logs and other debris to allow access for small animals. The wildlife bank is south-facing with bare areas to provide basking places for reptiles. Limestone rubble was used to construct the wildlife bank and now the bank supports flowers found on chalk grasslands.



Great crested newts

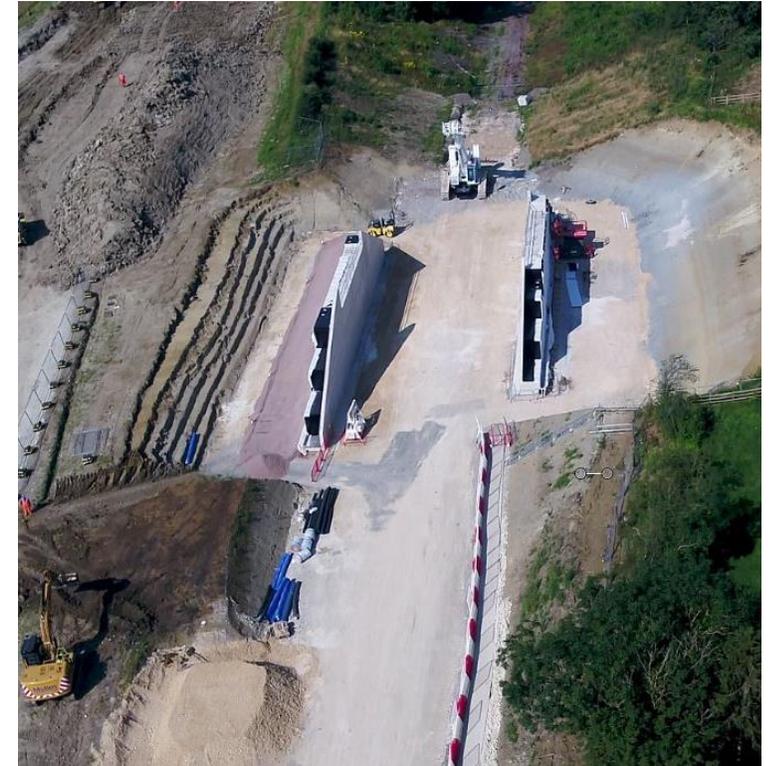
Great crested newts are a European Protected Species and are afforded the highest level of legal protection in the UK. Great crested newts are rapidly declining throughout Europe and it is illegal to capture, take, injure or kill them or destroy their habitat without an agreed licence from Natural England. Between March and June great crested newts breed in ponds, laying their eggs on aquatic or marginal vegetation within the pond. Then from July to February adult great crested newts live on land, feeding on insects and hibernating through the winter in tree roots, rubble piles, under hedges and logs or in piles of debris. The ponds, meadows and wildlife refuges within the Verney Junction Wildlife Retreat provide a safe habitat for great crested newt and other wildlife in the future and the numbers of species using this retreat will hopefully increase over time.



Sandhill Road



Verney Junction



Queen Catherine Road

Structures

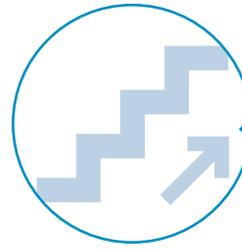


Look ahead: Station Road, Marsh Gibbon Closure From 31/08/2021 to 29/10/2021

Access to Coal Yard and residential properties
will be maintained



Bridge Reconstruction:
Strengthening the
structure to be suitable
for use for 120yrs



Create Future Network
Rail Permanent
Access (incl. steps)



Culvert works
associated with the
highways

EWRA Construction Programme 2021

Section 2A - Bicester - Calvert (excl) - Marsh Gibbon --> Station Road

Ecology / Environment / Sustainability Construction

Badger Set Relocation Jul-21 Aug-21

On Trace Civils & Earthworks Construction

Online Earthworks Now Sep-21

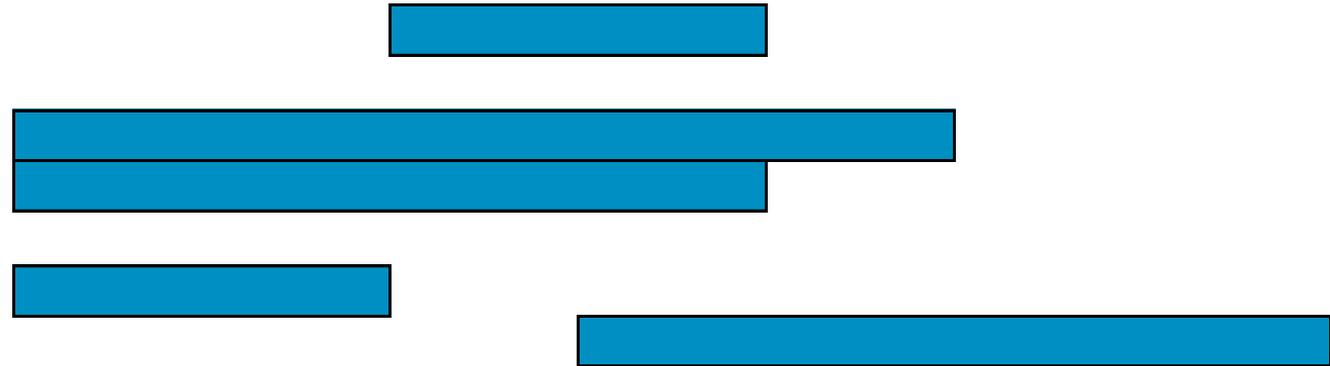
Online Drainage & Culverts Now Aug-21

Over / Under Trace Structures Construction

OXD32A Poundon Footbridge Now Jun-21

OXD32 Station Road bridge Aug-21 Apr-22

May June July August September October November



Section 2A - Bicester - Calvert (excl) - Poundon --> Charndon

Ecology / Environment / Sustainability Construction

Compensatory Flood Storage Now Oct-21

On Trace Civils & Earthworks Construction

Online Earthworks Now Aug-21

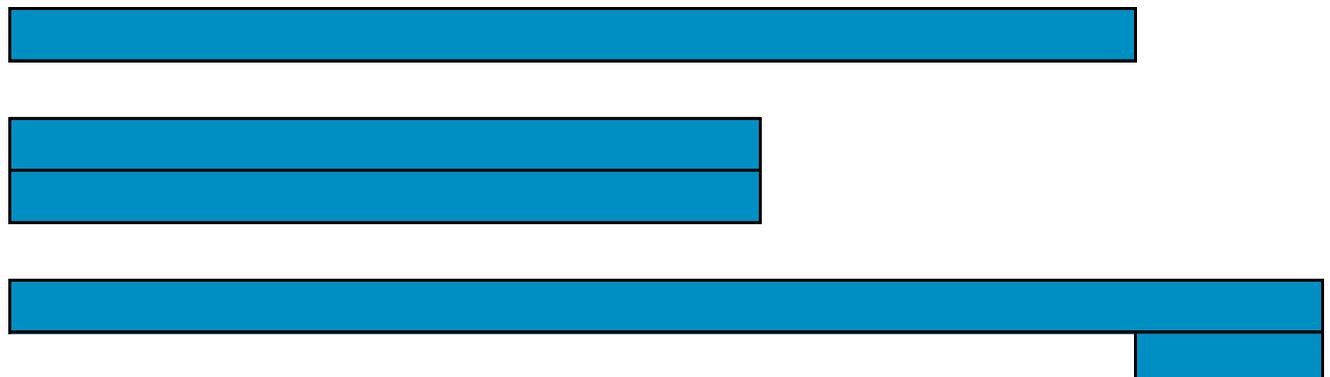
Online Drainage & Culverts Now Aug-21

Over / Under Trace Structures Construction

OXD31 Marsh Gibbon road bridge Now Apr-22

OXD29A Twyford Footbridge Nov-21 Feb-22

May June July August September October November



Section 2B - The Claydons - West Bletchley - Queen Catherine Road --> Middle Claydon

May June July August September October November

Ecology / Environment / Sustainability Construction

Compensatory Flood Storage Jul Sep-21



On Trace Civils & Earthworks Construction

Online Earthworks Now Oct-21



Online Drainage & Culverts Now Oct-21



Over / Under Trace Structures Construction

OXD26B Queen Catherine Road Bridge Now Oct-22



OXD26A Middle Claydon Road bridge Oct-21 Nov-21



Section 2B - The Claydons - West Bletchley - Middle Claydon --> Addington

May June July August September October November

Ecology / Environment / Sustainability Construction

Compensatory Flood Storage Now Aug-21



On Trace Civils & Earthworks Construction

Online Earthworks Now Apr-22



Online Drainage & Culverts Now Mar-22



Over / Under Trace Structures Construction

OXD 25A Middle Claydon Footbridge Oct-21 Nov-21



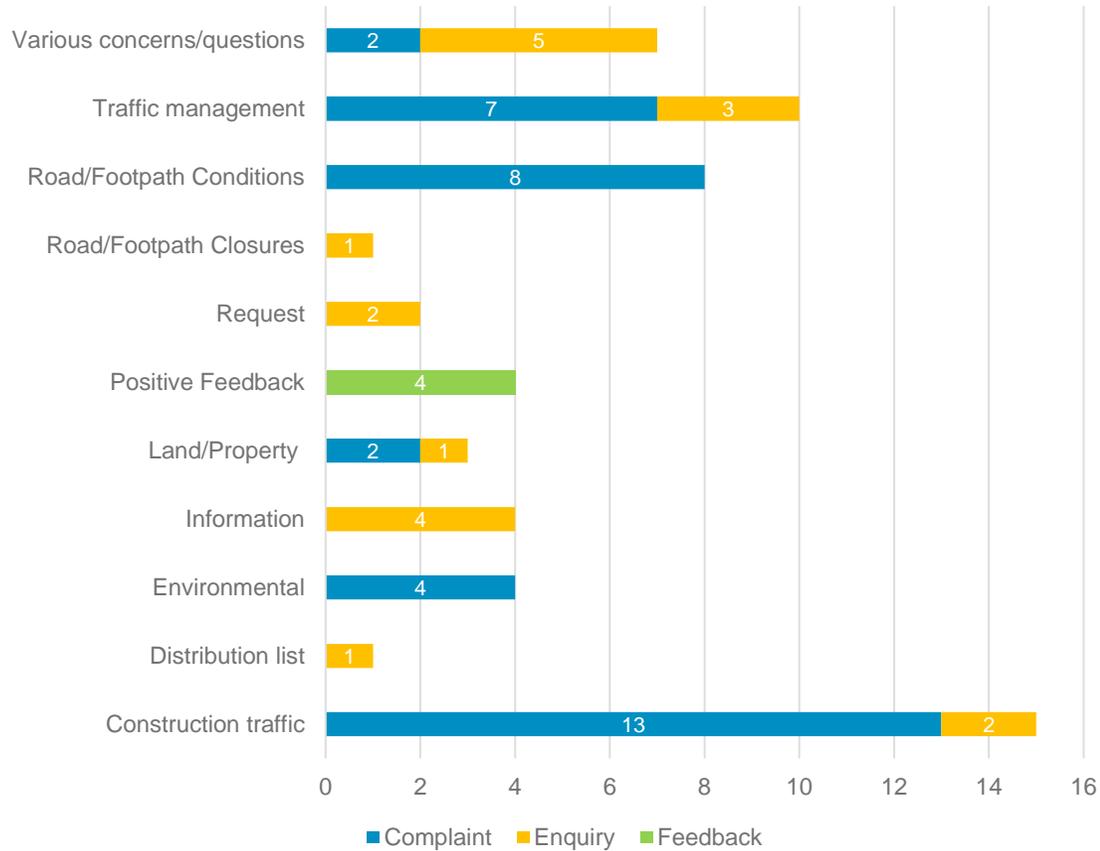
OXD25 Sandhill Road bridge, Middle Claydon Now Sep-21



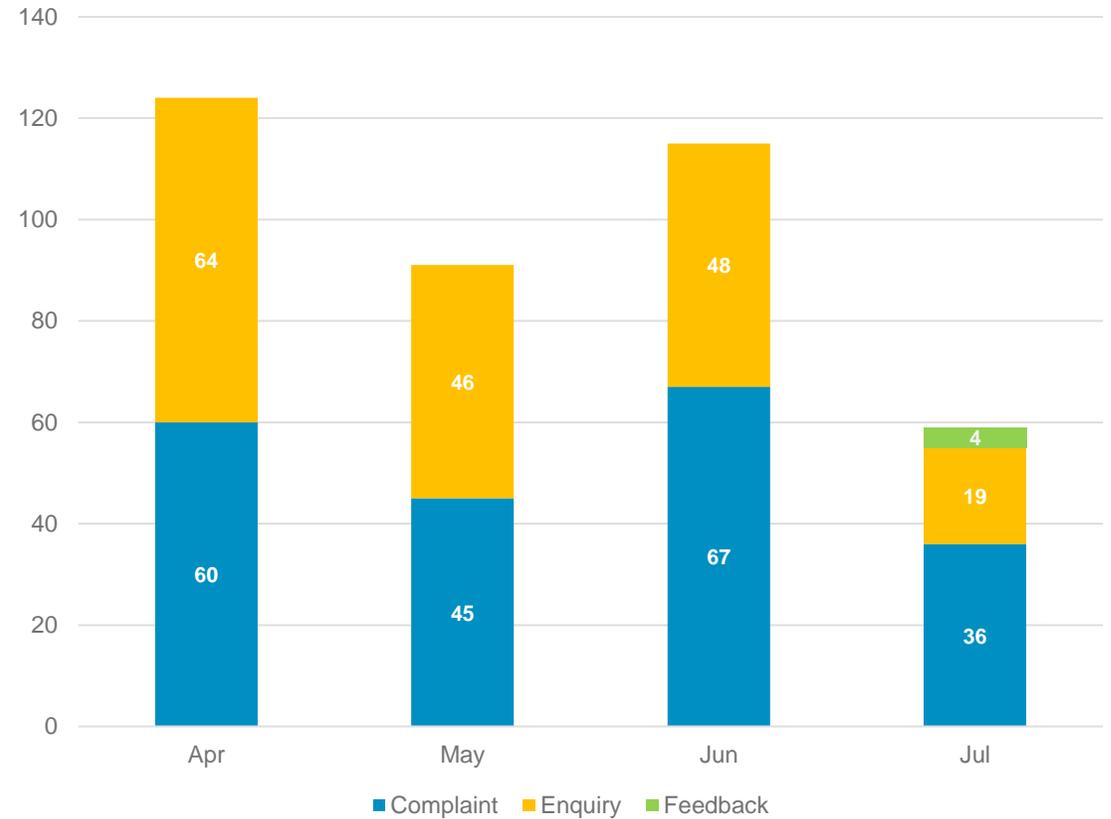
OXD24C Verney Junction road bridge Now Nov-22



July's Complaints, Enquiries & Feedback by Category



Total No. of Complaints, Enquiries & Feedback for Apr 2021 - Jul 2021



Enquiries, Feedback and Complaints



Average response time: 2 days

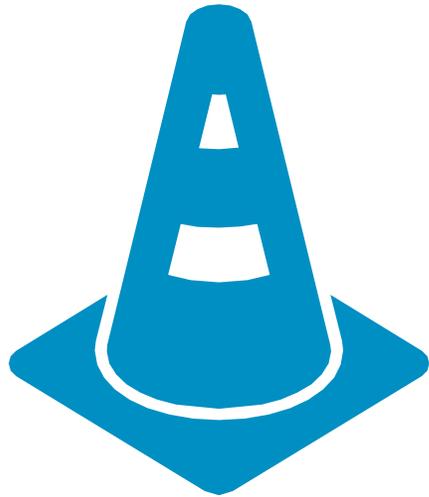


What can we do for you?

- If you have any thoughts and suggestions for community projects that we may be able to get involved with, please contact: publicinformation@ewralliance.co.uk.



EWR Traffic Updates



2-way traffic lights on Steeple Claydon Road and Ox Lane, Padbury until **31/07/2021**

4-way traffic lights on Verney Road, Middle Claydon until **27/05/2022**

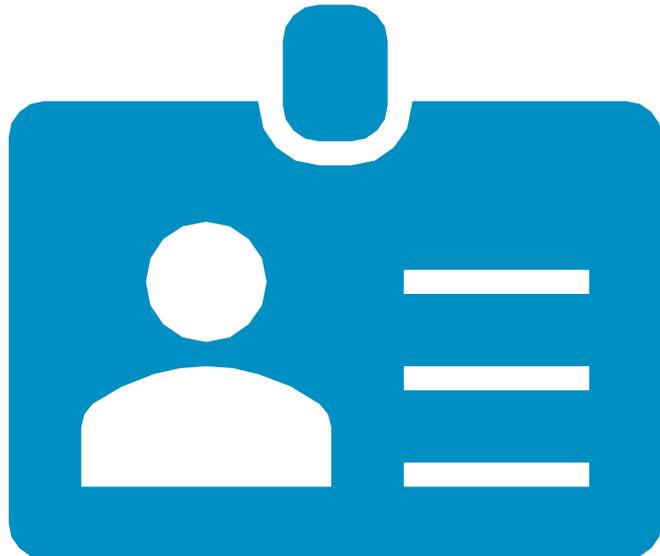
Main St, Charndon/ Twyford road closure until **06/08/2021**

Sandhill Road, Middle Claydon road closure until **TBC**

Station Road, Marsh Gibbon road closure from **31/08/2021** to **29/10/2021**

Bicester Road, Marsh Gibbon road closure from **28/03/2022** to **17/06/2022**

Contact Us



- First Point of Contact:
Community Liaison Officer Thaina Sa'id
bsaid@ewralliance.co.uk / 07385368661
- 24/7 Network Rail Helpline – 03457 11 41 41
- Online portal and live chat – www.networkrail.co.uk/contactus
- Email – publicinformation@ewralliance.co.uk



Thank you

