# Kirkby residents express frustration over roadworks causing major delays



Residents of Kirkby are expressing significant frustration with the ongoing roadworks causing congestion in the area, which has impacted daily commuting routines. Paul Burke, a 67-year-old father and great-grandfather, voiced his concerns as he struggles to reach his job in the pharmaceutical sector, citing major delays that have turned what was once a quick two-minute drive into a near 40-minute ordeal.

The extensive improvement project for the East Lancashire Road (A580) at the junction with Moorgate Road commenced on February 24, as confirmed by Knowsley Council. This £4.5 million scheme, funded by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, is aimed at alleviating congestion and enhancing active travel options. However, the works are expected to last for ten months, with completion scheduled for December 2023.

Burke, residing on Henlow Avenue, highlighted the frustrations faced by commuters in a community Facebook group, where his observations were met with shared experiences from fellow residents. He remarked, “Which clever person has given the go-ahead to gridlock Kirkby by having roadworks on the two entrances to Kirkby East Lancs/ Moorgate and now Valley Road?”

Fellow resident Chris Alan Deegan shared an account of his lengthy journey, stating, “It took me 1 hour and 5 minutes to get from Tower Hill to the Shell garage in Fazakerley last night at 5pm.” Other locals have also contributed to the discussion, with Angela Arlink calling the situation "madness" as roadworks have severely impeded access at key junctions. Ste Ellison expressed frustration over delays affecting his children's school schedule. Aimêe Dowdeswell even reported being stuck on a bus for two hours, leading her to abandon the service altogether and walk.

In response to the escalating complaints, a spokesperson for Knowsley Council acknowledged the inconvenience. They commented on the essential nature of the works, particularly at one of the busiest junctions in the region, and reassured the public that steps are being taken to mitigate congestion. “We are continuously monitoring the work and traffic in the area, and we are scheduling work to help minimise delays, particularly during morning and evening rush hour and on routes to key locations, including Aintree Hospital,” they stated.

The spokesperson also mentioned the additional drainage work underway on Valley Road, which is intended to address flooding issues, with a completion date set for April 17. Planned operational changes to traffic management are underway to cater to the anticipated increased traffic during significant local events, such as the Grand National Festival.

Scheduled road closures stemming from the construction include a full closure of the right turn onto Ribblers Lane from Moorgate Road North and other diversions until the completion of the works. Such measures are part of the council's broader strategy to invest in and improve the road network despite the temporary disruptions. Residents remain concerned about the immediate impacts of these developments on their daily lives as the works unfold.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/council-and-elections/consultations/highway-infrastructure-upgrade-junction-4-m57-motorway-moorgate> - This URL supports the claim about the improvement project for the East Lancashire Road (A580) at the junction with Moorgate Road, which commenced on February 24 and is part of a broader infrastructure upgrade. However, it does not confirm the completion date as December 2023, suggesting a potential discrepancy in the article's details.
* <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/north-west/north-west-maintenance-schemes/> - This URL provides information on various road maintenance schemes in the North West region, including efforts to minimize traffic disruptions, which is relevant to understanding the context of roadworks and congestion management in the area.
* <https://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/> - This is the official website of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, which is mentioned as the funder of the £4.5 million scheme. It provides background on their infrastructure projects and investments.
* <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/highway-code/traffic-signs-and-signals> - This URL offers guidance on traffic management and road signs, relevant to understanding how diversions and road closures are managed during construction projects.
* <https://www.council-website.com/traffic-management-and-road-closures> - This hypothetical example URL might explain local council strategies for managing traffic during roadworks. However, a real and specific example is not found in the search results, so a placeholder is used here.