

Urgent gas mains replacement – Whitchurch Hill B471, Whitchurch – planned road closure

From the **27st July to 21st September 2020**, SGN will commence a programme of work to replace the gas main on **Whitchurch Hill B471** from the junction of **High Street to just short of the junction of Goring Heath Road**.

The gas main being replaced has a history of leaks, by replacing it with a new plastic pipe this will ensure we can continue to deliver gas safely and efficiently to your local area and reduce the risk of further leaks in the future. This essential work has been given priority to ensure we maintain network integrity, we are also completing this during the summer when the demand on the gas network is significantly reduced and the roads are quieter than normal during the school holidays.

We will start work on 27 July working under traffic lights until we have confirmation from Oxfordshire County Council for a **road closure that will be required on the B471 at the junction of Hartslock Bridleway to the junction of B471 and Lower Hitch**. We will keep you informed of the date for this closure.

A signed diversion will be in place for vehicles coming in to the area, however local road users will have alternative routes they will naturally use to avoid the closure.

There will be no planned interruptions to local gas supplies whilst we complete this work other than those previously contacted.

We appreciate the nature of our work especially road closures are disruptive, and understand that this work comes at a time when businesses are trying to return to some normality following the lockdown of COVID. You may also be questioning why could this work not have taken place during lockdown when there was no traffic on the roads and businesses were closed. Like all companies, SGN have been following Government instructions and are only now returning to complete planned (essential) replacement work that is not classified as an emergency.

We would like to reassure you that we have been working closely with the government and public health bodies to make sure we work safely and in line with expert advice during the coronavirus outbreak. We have extra safety precautions in place to protect our colleagues and our customers from catching or spreading the virus as we carry out our safety-critical and urgent projects.

If you'd like to get in touch with SGN about this project, please call their Customer Service team on 0800 912 1700 who will be happy to direct your enquiry. There's more information about SGN coronavirus plans and measure in place for safety of the public and their engineers, as well as other ways to contact SGN, on their website: sgn.co.uk/coronavirus.

Please accept our apologies in advance for any inconvenience this essential work may cause.

SGN (Scotia Gas Networks Limited)

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