

# Gas mains upgrade in the pipeline for Wolverhampton

Essential gas mains renewal starts in Bell Street this Thursday

06 Mar 2017

- **Older gas mains to be replaced with plastic pipe**
- **Lane closure necessary in Bell Street and temporary diversion route needed for lorries**

Thursday (9 March) will see the start of a gas mains upgrade in the centre of Wolverhampton, that will keep the gas flowing to local residents until the end of the century.

National Grid will be renewing gas pipes in Bell Street where it meets Cleveland Street. The upgrade is due to take five weeks.

This vital work is being carried out because the older gas mains have reached the end of their working lives and need to be renewed. They will be replaced by new hard-wearing plastic pipe which, once in the ground, will last for several generations and will need little or no maintenance.

To carry out the work safely there will be a lane closure in Bell Street. Cars can still turn left at the end of Bell Street. However, lorries will only be able to turn right and will have a signed temporary diversion to follow.

Steve Murray, National Grid's head of contract, said: "This vital work will ensure that local people continue to benefit from safe and reliable gas supplies for many years into the future.

"We're sorry for any inconvenience the work may cause. We'll make every effort to complete this essential project as soon as possible."

It will be business as usual for local shops.

For any enquiries about this work people should contact National Grid's customer services team on 0800 096 5678.

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

**Notes to Editors:**

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

**National Grid in the UK:**

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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