

nationalgrid

Enhancing London's gas supply

Chelsea to Battersea

Below the streets there is a network of pipes that has supplied gas virtually unnoticed for over a century. This network connects to more than two million customers in London, providing a safe and reliable gas supply. However, if it is to be depended on to continue to provide safe energy every day it needs work to replace and upgrade it.

As part of this work we need to lay a new gas pipeline from Chelsea to Battersea in a tunnel beneath the River Thames. We also plan to install some equipment in the grounds of Royal Hospital Chelsea and Battersea Park to control the gas flow. This will be mainly underground with a small kiosk and pipe above the ground. Throughout all the work public access will be maintained in Battersea Park.



The locations for the tunnel and our equipment have been chosen following discussions with the landowners. We have considered the visual impact on the surrounding area. We are also working with the landowners to reduce the inconvenience during construction as much as we can. The location in Battersea Park reduces the need to dig new trenches and lay new pipe through the park.

We are continuing to work with the landowners and their representatives, Royal Hospital Chelsea, Battersea Park, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the London Borough of Wandsworth, to plan and agree this work. We will be talking to the local community and we will work with local interest groups to do everything we can to do this work with as little disturbance as possible.

We are making sure we minimise the environmental impact and that that we design and carry out the work in a sympathetic way.

Keeping you informed

When planning and carrying out our work we consider local community needs and how to reduce the impact.

We are committed to keeping you informed with advanced information about our work.

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How do you put the pipe below the river?

We will dig a shaft into which we will lower a tunnel boring machine. The machine will make a tunnel into which sections of concrete will be placed. The gas pipe will then be inserted into these concrete sleeves.

How long will the construction work take?

At each site we will be working for around 16 months in total. We're planning to work from September 2016 until March 2017 and again from September 2017 to March 2018 but this is subject to having all the necessary permissions in place.



What will we see above the ground?

During construction we will need a compound both sides of the river, in the Royal Hospital Chelsea grounds and in the north-east corner of Battersea Park, for our machinery and vehicles. Once we have put the pipe through the pre-formed sleeve most of the equipment will be beneath the ground. Above the ground there will be a kiosk, typically half a metre long and one metre high, and a three-metre-tall pipe. Together these will keep the equipment that is below ground working safely and efficiently.

Is planning permission required?

We will be applying to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the London Borough of Wandsworth for a Certificate of Lawful Development for each site. This work is needed to provide the energy that we all take for granted in everyday life.

Contact us

To find out more about our work, visit our website: www.londongasmains.co.uk.

If you have any questions or concerns, we have a dedicated community relations team who can be easily contacted on **0800 389 8261**, or via email at **nationalgrid@londongasmains.co.uk**.

