

## Willesden and Kensal Green Connection project: Community Update

Dear Neighbour,

Welcome to the latest newsletter for the Willesden and Kensal Green Connection project.

The project will provide a new connection for a data centre in the Park Royal area near to the Grand Union Canal, between our substations at Willesden and Kensal Green. This involves replacing cables along the Grand Union Canal towpath, using the existing high voltage cable troughs.

Since our last update we have **successfully completed phase one of the works**, which involved the removal of the existing cable. We are now entering **phase two, which will see the installation of the new replacement cable**.

In this edition, we'll share an update on the progress so far, highlight our community engagement activities, and look ahead to the key milestones planned for the rest of the year.

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### Entering phase two

With the first phase successfully completed in May 2025, we are now gearing up for the second phase of the project. Starting in July 2025 and scheduled to complete by winter 2025, this phase will see the installation of new link boxes, fibre cables, and joint bays along the canal towpath. Our team will also be planting new hedgerows, adding a touch of greenery to the area.

Sections of the towpath will need to be closed during the second phase of works to enable our engineers to work safely and efficiently along the canal. **During works, there will be no end-to-end access along the towpath, meaning pedestrians and cyclists will need to follow diversion routes.**

Whilst pontoons were installed for the works that took place during phase one, this is not viable during the second phase of works. The installation of new cables is a 'rolling process' rather than static, which means that lengthy sections of the Grand Union Canal towpath need to be closed to enable cable installation.

We appreciate your cooperation as we work to complete the project. We understand that the upcoming works may cause inconvenience and are committed to minimising disturbance where we can.

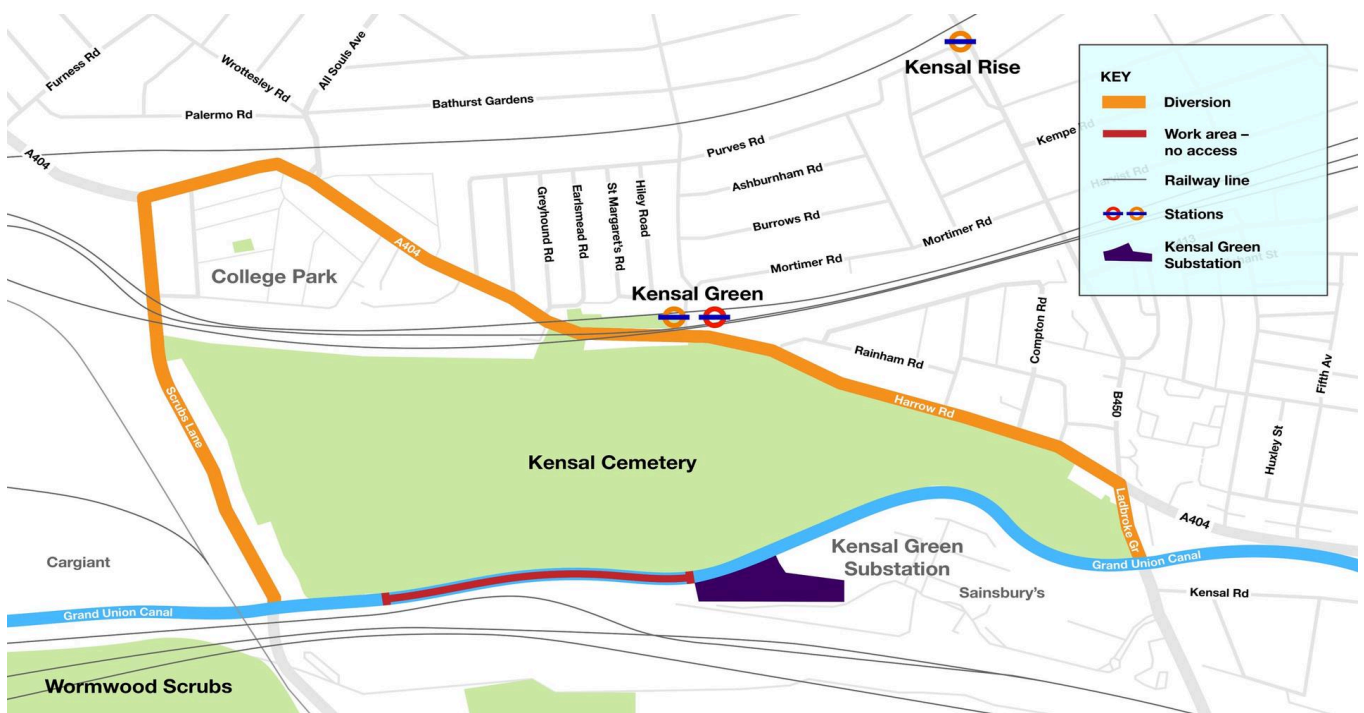
As part of phase two, there will be three separate diversions. These will be carefully implemented in stages to ensure they do not overlap.

Maps outlining the three diversion routes can be found below.

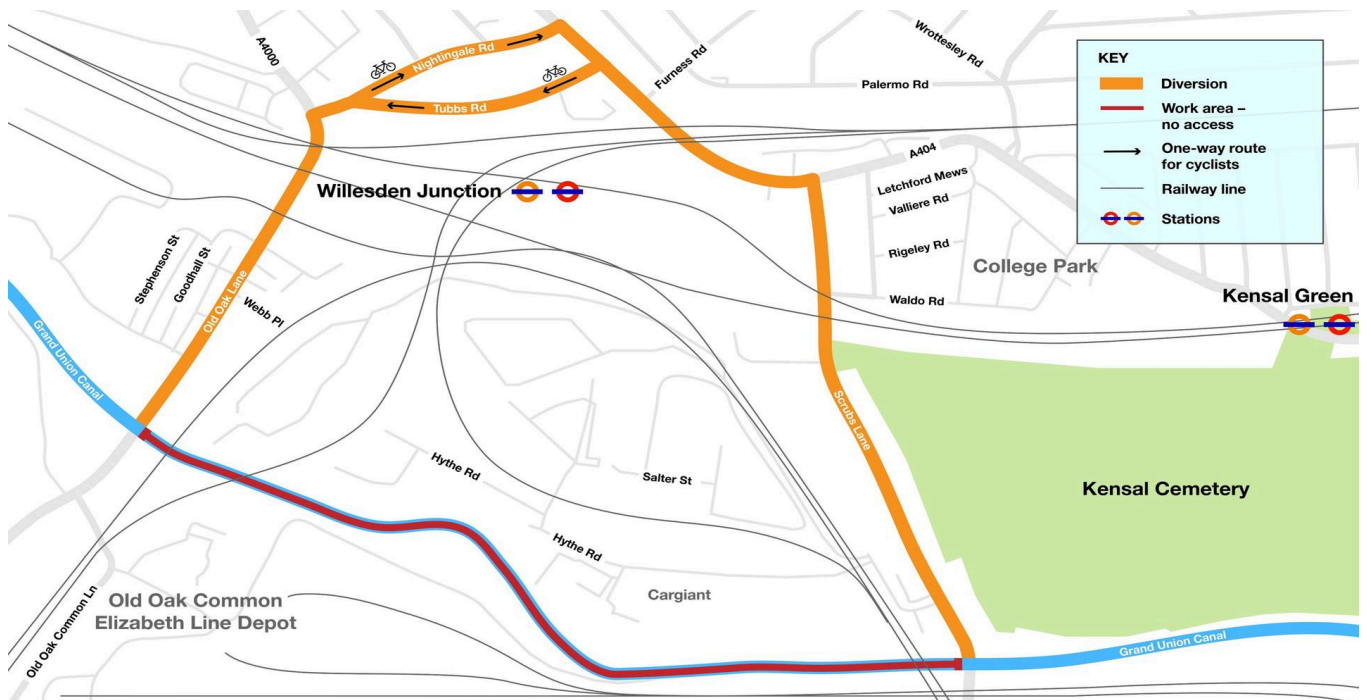


## Timeline of diversions

**Scrubs Lane to Ladbroke Grove Road (Monday 14 July - Sunday 3 August 2025)**

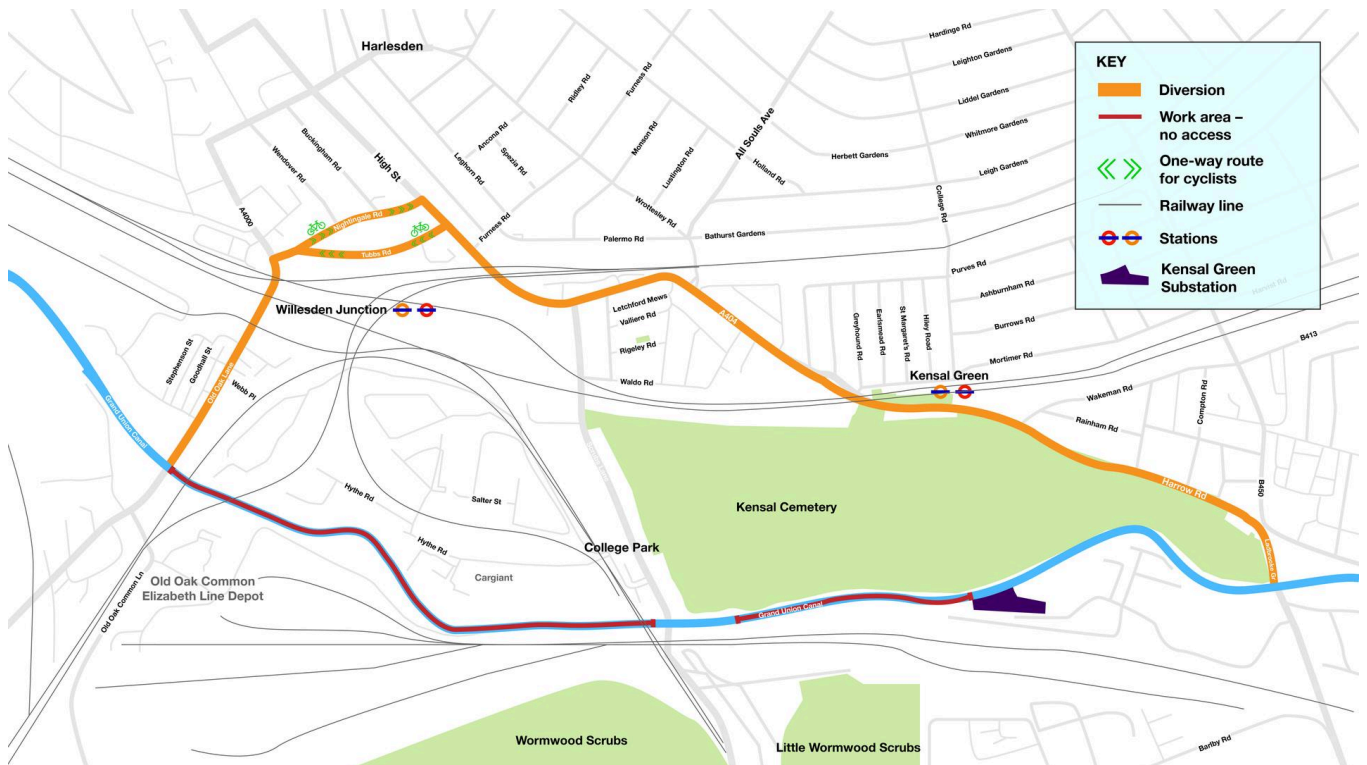


## Old Oak Lane to Scrubs Lane (Monday 4 August - Sunday 5 October 2025)



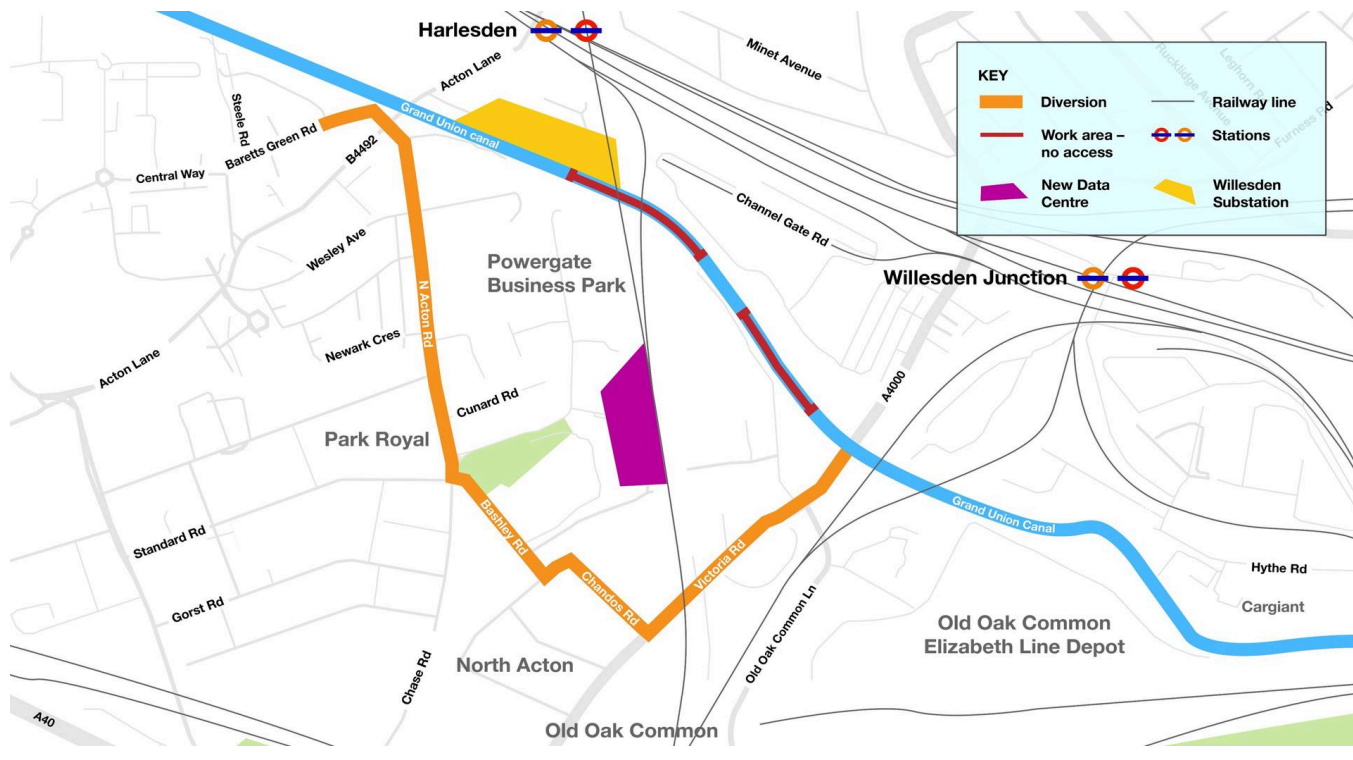
## Step-free access from Ladbroke Grove to Old Oak Lane (Monday 14 July - Sunday 5 October 2025)

Please note, there will be no step-free access between Scrub Lane and the towpath from Monday 14 July to Sunday 5 October. If you require step-free access between Old Oak Lane and Ladbroke Grove Road during this period, please see the additional diversion route.



## Barratts Green Road to Old Oak Lane (Monday 6 October - Sunday 26 October 2025)





## Weekend night works

To complete our cable installation works in the most efficient way, we will need to undertake limited night work. This work will be carried out over two weekends, outside of regular working hours. This approach allows us to finish the works as quickly as possible and reduce the duration of the towpath closures, minimising disruption for the local community.

Nightwork period	Towpath section	Work hours
Saturday 26 July 2025 - Monday 28 July	Ladbroke Grove to Scrubs Lane	7am Saturday - 5am Monday
Saturday 18 October - Monday 20 October 2025	Old Oak Lane to Barratts Green Road	7am Saturday - 5am Monday

## Public information events

We are committed to keeping the community informed ahead of our second phase of works. To ensure this, we are hosting a series of public information events. These events provide an opportunity for the community to meet members of the project team, learn more about the upcoming installation works, and ask any questions they may have. We believe that engaging with the community is essential to ensure transparency and address any concerns.

The events are as follows:

Event	Location	Date and time
<b>Public webinar</b>	Online*	Tuesday 10 June 6-7pm

Event	Location	Date and time
<b>Pop-up event</b>	Entrance to Sainsbury's canal side at Ladbroke Grove	Tuesday 17 June 5-7pm
<b>Pop-up event</b>	Outside The Collective	Wednesday 18 June 5-7pm
<b>Pop-up event</b>	The canal access on Barretts Green Road	Thursday 19 June 5-7pm
<b>Drop-in event</b>	Queens Park Court Community Hall, Droop St, London W10 4QD	Saturday 28 June 10am-2pm

[Click here to sign up to the public webinar](#)

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## Community news

### National Grid cleans up local green space and canal side



20 volunteers from National Grid's Willesden and Kensal Green Connection project team joined forces with the Wesley Playing Fields parks team in March for a community litter pick, ensuring the area remains a clean and welcoming space for local residents to enjoy.

Wesley Playing Fields plays a vital role in the North Acton community as it is one of few open green spaces in an otherwise industrialised neighbourhood. Over 10 full bags of litter were collected and removed by the team, improving the area for residents and visitors alike.

[Read the full story on our website here](#)

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## Community Grant Programme (CGP)

At National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET), we are deeply committed to supporting the communities where we operate. Our Community Grant Programme (CGP) is designed to help community organisations and charities that are making a positive impact in areas affected by our operations and construction activities. We believe in giving back and fostering strong, vibrant communities.

Eligible organisations include those who support hard-to-reach community members, facilitate employment through work placements, or undertake initiatives with a direct and positive environmental impact.

Organisations can apply for up to £10,000 in funding that can be used to benefit the community. Over the last year, the Community Grant Programme has supported projects such as Age UK Bexley, Brixton Wings and

Loughborough Junction Action Group.

For further information on the programme, including the full eligibility criteria and the application process, please visit the [Community Grant Programme website](#).

## Contact us

If you would like any further information on the project, please visit our **website**, email our community relations team at **[contact@willesden.nationalgrid.com](mailto:contact@willesden.nationalgrid.com)** or call them on **0800 093 1678**.

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