

Washwood Heath Saltley Viaduct Road Closure

From 10 May 2026

Toolkit



Introduction

High Speed Two (HS2) is Great Britain's new high-speed railway, delivering zero-carbon journeys between Birmingham and London using British-built trains.

HS2 contractor Balfour Beatty VINCI (BBV) is delivering around 90 km of track between Long Itchington in Warwickshire and central Birmingham, as well as sections through Staffordshire.

Supported by Transport for West Midlands (TfWM), BBV, HS2 and Birmingham City Council (BCC) who are working in partnership to ensure communities and stakeholders are kept informed about the works and associated traffic management.

This toolkit provides information and guidance to help you plan journeys in and around the Washwood Heath and Eastside works areas.

Who are we?

Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) plans, develops and manages an integrated transport system for the West Midlands that is reliable, affordable and accessible for all. We are the transport arm of the West Midlands Combined Authority.

What is happening in the Washwood Heath area

In the Washwood Heath area of Birmingham, works are continuing to support the arrival of HS2. This includes the demolition and reconstruction of Aston Church Road Overbridge and Saltley Viaduct (B4114), with new bridges designed to span the high-speed rail line connecting Saltley, Washwood Heath and Nechells.

Aston Church Road Overbridge has now been rebuilt and reopened in early 2026. Saltley Viaduct is due to be demolished, with construction works starting in May 2026 and lasting up to 18 months into 2027.

The works now require a full closure of Saltley Viaduct to all motorised traffic in both directions, with signed diversion routes in place and some bus services rerouted.

Pedestrians and cyclists will also be unable to use the viaduct during the closure, with alternative routes clearly signposted.

This toolkit aims to clearly communicate the travel impacts of the works and provide communities and stakeholders with the information needed to plan journeys ahead of construction.

Project Overview

Aston Church Road Overbridge and Saltley Viaduct are existing structures that carry roads over Network Rail tracks, the River Rea, and the Birmingham and Warwick Junction Canal.

To accommodate the new HS2 line, additional clearance is required beneath both structures.

As a result, the existing overbridge and viaduct are being demolished and completely rebuilt, with new designs allowing HS2 to pass underneath.

Aston Church Road was closed in October 2024 and reopened at the end of January 2026, with traffic now travelling along the new road and new pavements and cycleways installed.

Saltley Viaduct will close on 10 May 2026 with traffic diverting along Aston Church Road.

How to use this toolkit

Please share this toolkit with your marketing and communications team to help inform audiences about the ongoing improvement works. If you don't have a dedicated team, please use the relevant information from the toolkit to communicate with your staff, customers, and visitors.

Included in this toolkit:

- A5 flyer
- A4 poster
- Screensaver
- Graphics for digital channels
- Suggested copy suitable for digital channels

Key travel advice

TfWM has provided the following travel advice to help you get around during the closure:

Plan ahead: Allow extra time for journeys in and around Washwood Heath. If travelling through the area, please avoid Alum Rock Road, Aston Church Road, Heartlands Parkway and Washwood Heath Road where possible.

Public transport: Bus routes will change during the closure. Services 14, 8A, 8C, 94 and 95 may use different stops or routes, and journeys may take longer. Please plan ahead. Rail services will not be affected.

Cycling and active travel: Pedestrians and cyclists will be unable to use the road during the closure, but a full diversion route will be signposted. For short local trips, consider walking or cycling and follow signed diversion routes.

Travel times: If possible, avoid peak travel times, particularly 08:00–09:00 and 14:00–16:00 during school hours.

Key messages

Please allow extra time for travelling. Check latest traffic conditions before you leave and plan your journey.

Allow more time for your journey - traffic will be busier on Washwood Heath Road, Alum Rock Road and Heartlands Parkway and Aston Church Road.

Journeys may take longer if travelling by bus so please plan your journey and allow extra time for travelling.

For shorter journeys, could you walk or cycle to your destination?

Suggested copy for your material

Messaging for newsletter:

Saltley Viaduct will close on 10 May 2026 for approximately 18 months. If you travel in or around the Washwood Heath area, please allow extra time for your journey. A signed diversion route will be in place via Aston Church Road.

Local bus services 14, 8A, 8C, 94 and 95 will be diverted during the closure. Your usual bus route or stop may change, so please check before you travel.

Saltley Viaduct will also be closed to pedestrians and cyclists; however, clearly signed and safe diversion routes will be available for those walking or cycling.

Stay up to date with the latest travel information at www.tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath and use a journey planner to help keep your journey moving.

Text messaging:

From 10 May, Saltley Viaduct is closing with traffic diverted around Aston Church Road. Please allow more time for your journey and stay up to date on www.tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath

Up-to-date information regarding traffic management will be shared on the [HS2 Saltley webpage](#), as well as at www.tfwm.org.uk

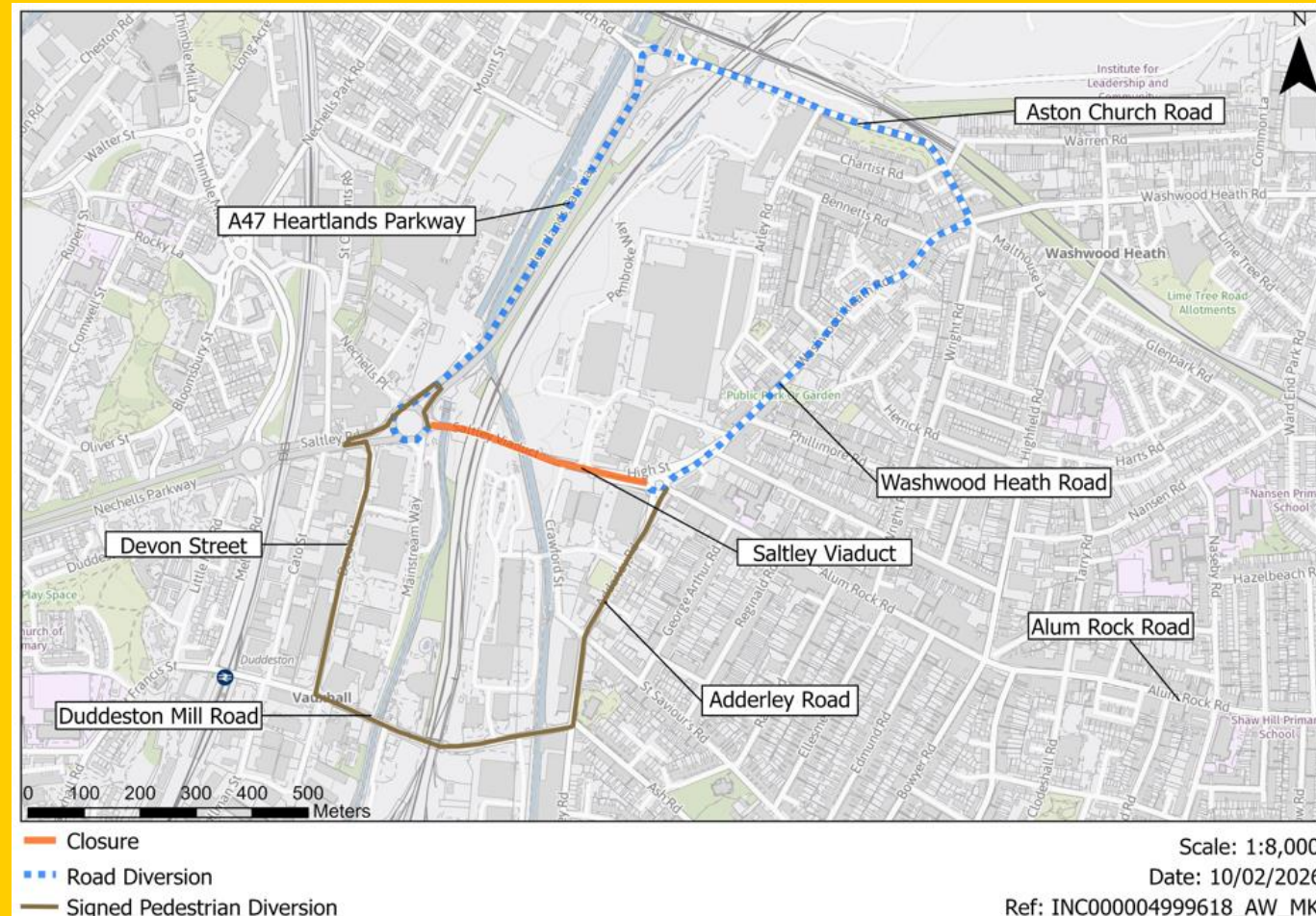
To receive updates about the closure, subscribe to HS2 in Birmingham at www.hs2.org.uk/birmingham

Recommended vehicle diversion route

During the road closure, a clearly marked diversion route will be in place via Aston Church Road and A47 Heartlands Parkway.

The following roads will have heavier traffic as an impact

- Alum Rock Road
- A38 Lichfield Road
- Aston Church Road
- Bromford Lane
- Washwood Heath Road
- Birmingham A4540 Ring Road
- Duddeston Mill Road
- Bordesley Green Road
- Adderley Road
- A47 Heartlands Parkway

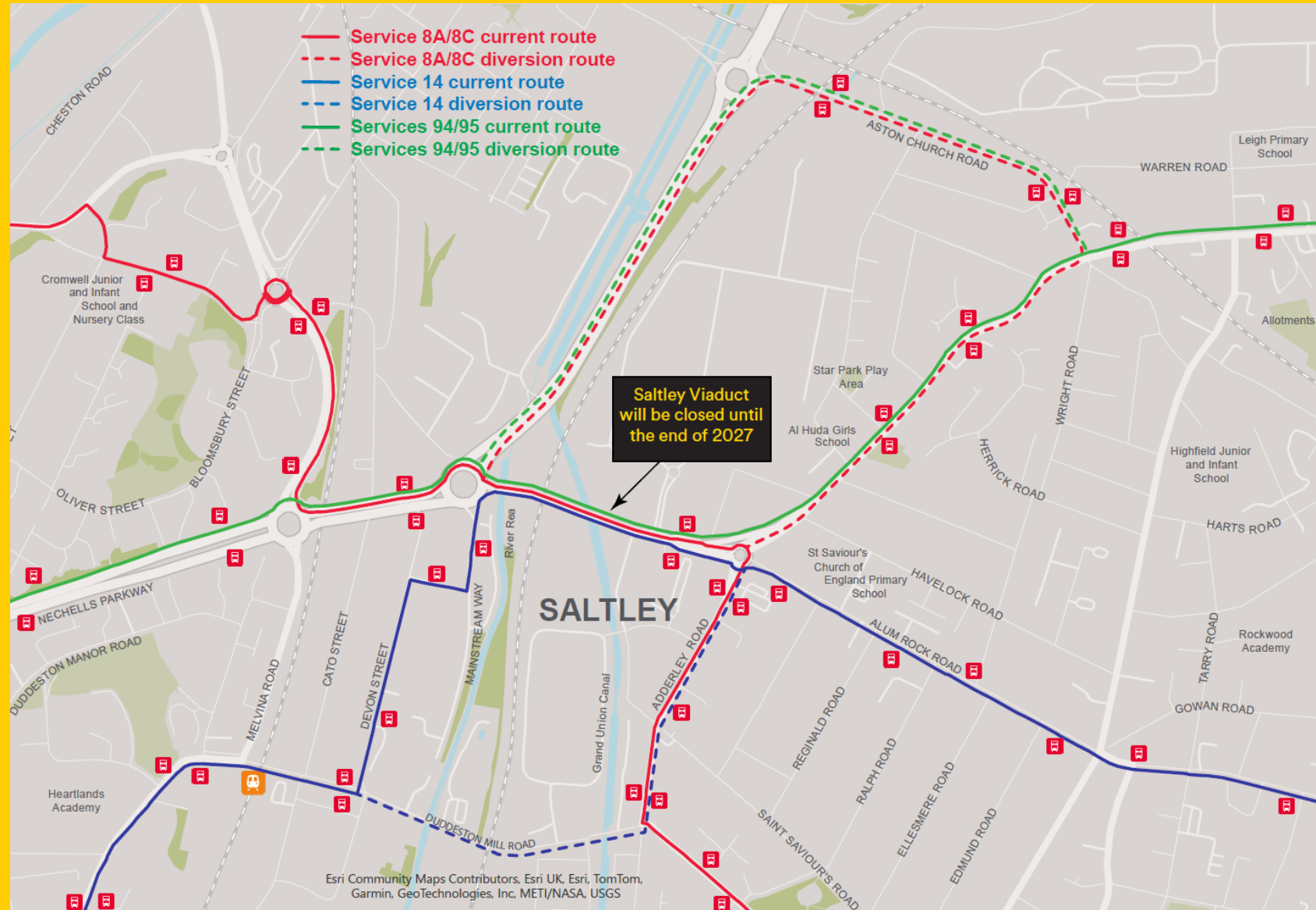


Changes to Bus routes on services in Washwood Heath

Combined Map – with changes to bus routes

- 14
- 8A/8C
- 94 & 95

Please [click here](#) to download map



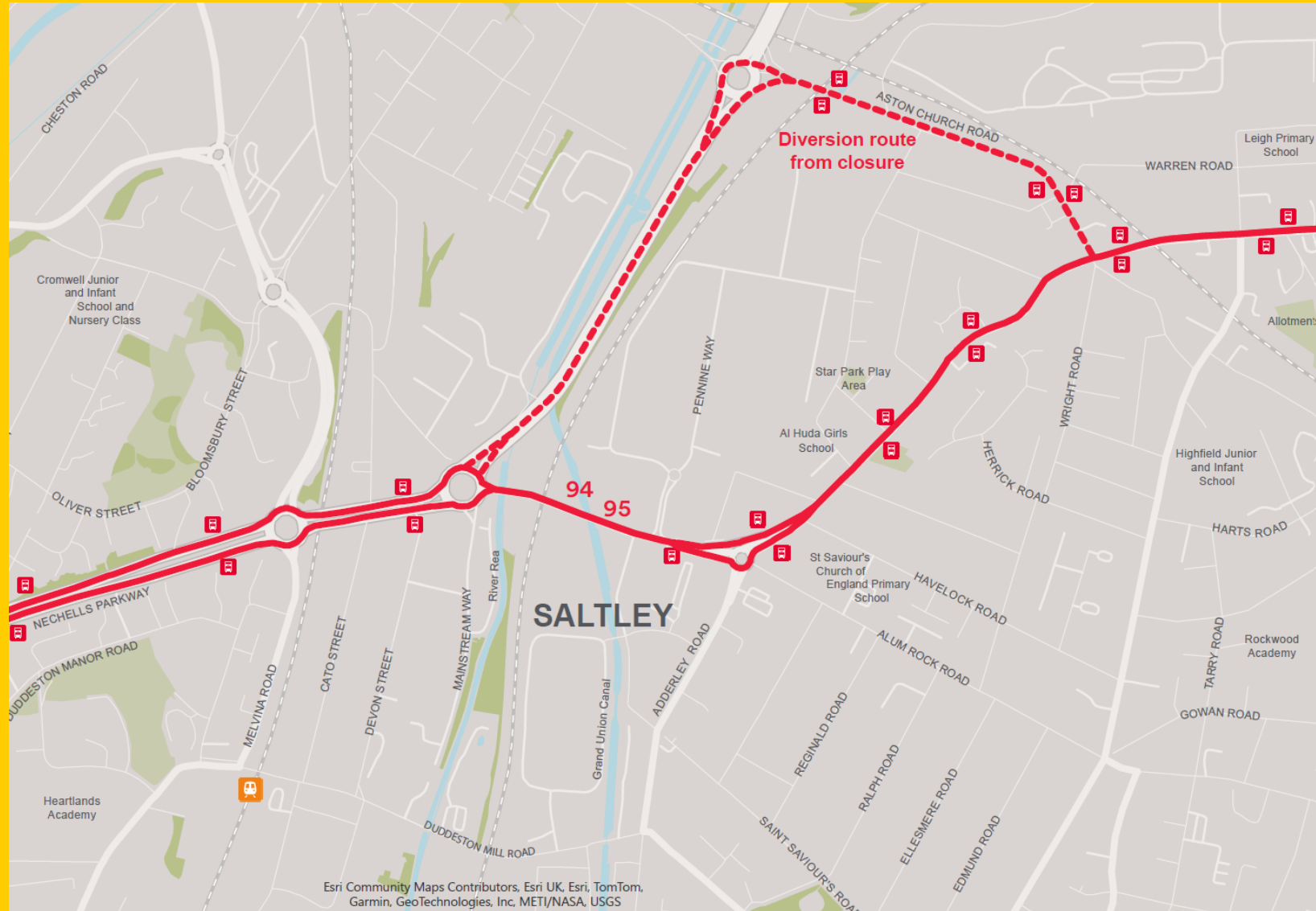
NX bus services – 94 & 95 – Bus route changes

94/95 Services

Travelling towards Birmingham city centre, these services will travel along **Washwood Heath Road** then turn on to **Aston Church Road** (rather than continuing along Washwood Heath Road). The 94 & 95 buses will then continue along **A47 Heartlands Parkway** to the **Saltley Road roundabout junction** and carry on its normal line of route to **Nechells Parkway**.

Travelling from Birmingham City Centre –buses will do the reverse of the above.

Please [click here](#) to download map



NX Bus service – 8A & 8C Bus route Changes

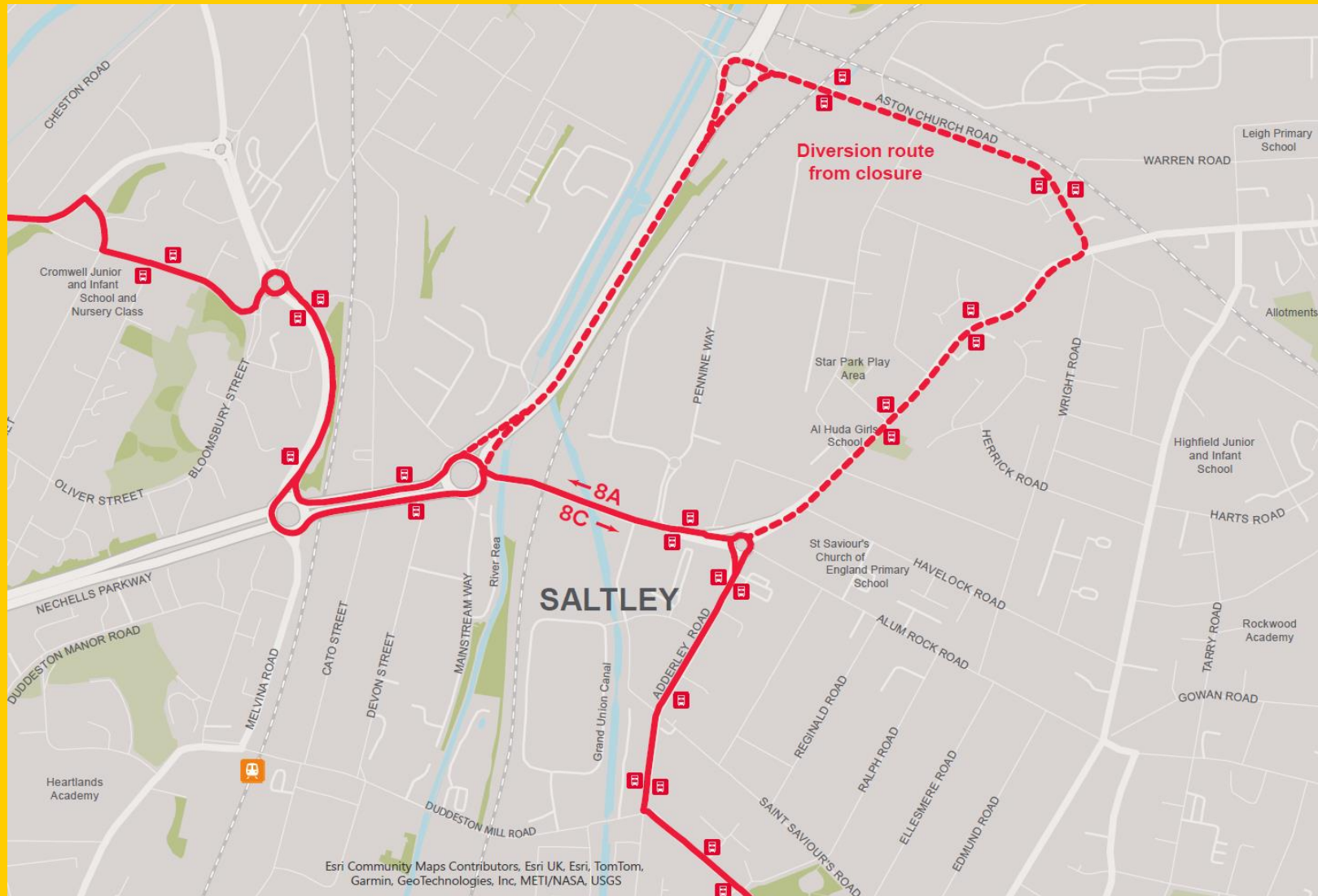
8A Service

This service will turn off **Adderley Road** at the roundabout to **Washwood Heath Road** (rather than travelling over Saltley Viaduct). The bus will then turn into **Aston Church Road** and continue along the **A47 Heartlands Parkway** to the **Saltley Road Roundabout**, joining **Goodrick Way** and the normal line of route.

8C Service

This service will travel along **Goodrick Way** and **Saltley Road** before continuing onto the **A47 Heartlands Parkway** and along **Aston Church Road** turning onto **Washwood Heath Road** and joining **Adderley Road** and the normal line of route.

Please [click here](#)
to download map



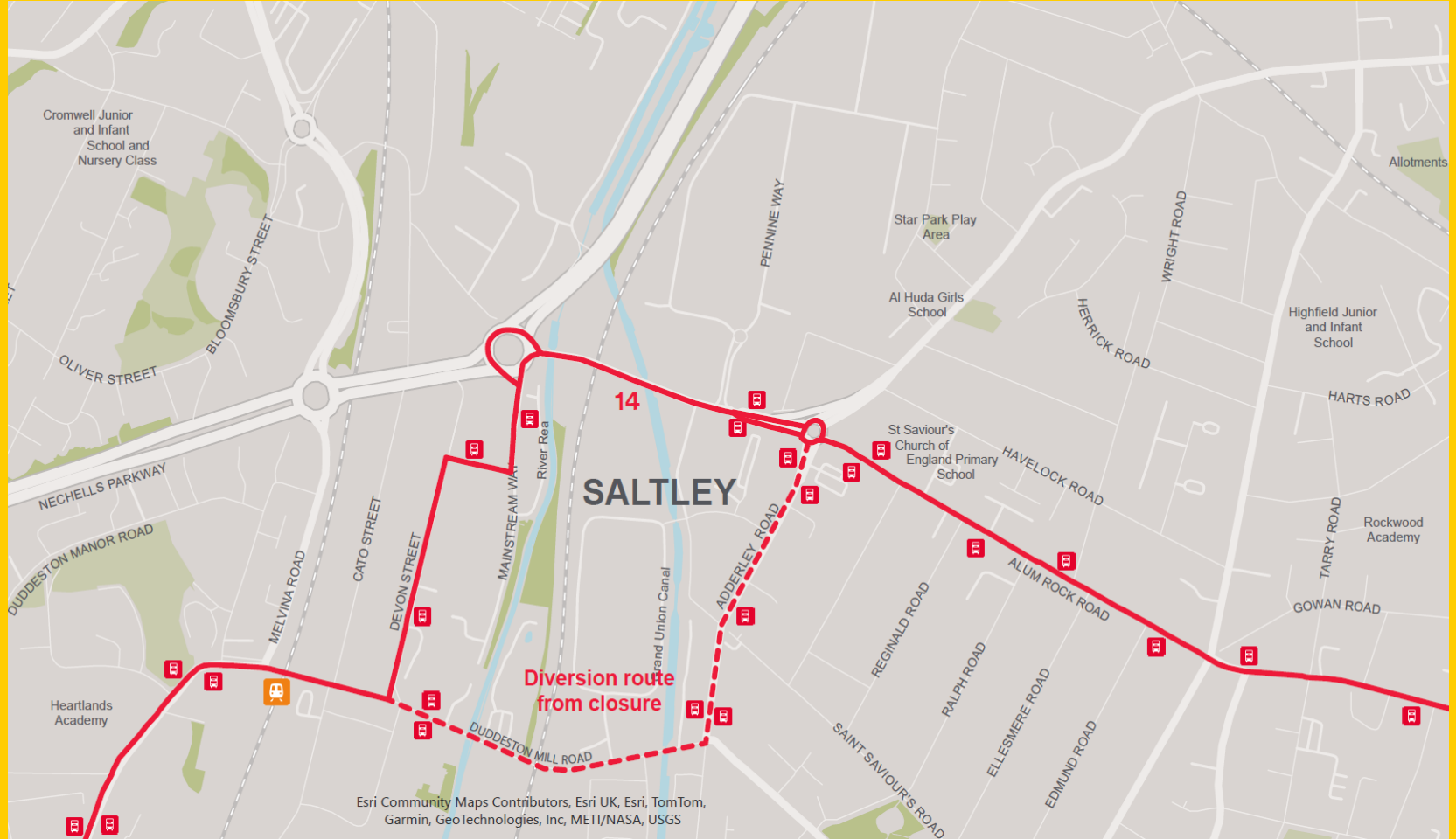
NX Bus service – 14 Bus route change

14 Service

Travelling towards Birmingham city centre, the 14 service will continue along **Alum Rock Road** and then turn on to **Adderly Road**, before turning on to **Duddeston Mill Road** and continuing along **Great Francis Road** on the normal line of route.

Travelling from Birmingham city centre the 14 service will do the reverse of the above.

Note: the 14 service will no longer travel along Mainstream Way or Devon Street with nearest bus stops along Duddeston Mill Road. 94, 95 & 8A/C bus services will continue to serve bus stops at the end of Devon Street on Saltley Road.



Please [click here](#) to download map

Screensaver

Saltley Viaduct

Full road closure from
10 May for 18 months

Avoid area if possible

Signed road diversions
in place

Bus Route changes



Transport for
West Midlands

Please [click here](#)
to download
screensaver asset

Screensaver can be used on reception screens or in
public areas on your site

A5 Flyer

Saltley Viaduct will be closing from May 2026

Full road closure from 10 May for 18 months

Some bus stops will close in the Washwood Heath area, with temporary stops provided along diversion routes

- 14 will no longer use Devon Street/Saltley Viaduct; diverted via Duddleston Mill Road and Adderley Road.
- 94 & 95 diverted via A47 Heartlands Parkway and Aston Church Road.
- 8A & 8C diverted via A47 Heartlands Parkway and Aston Church Road, rejoining Washwood Heath Road at Adderley Road.

Journeys may take longer, please plan ahead and allow extra travel time.



Balfour Beatty VINCI Working in partnership with HS2

Transport for West Midlands

Key travel advice

- **Plan ahead:** Leave more time for your journey: If you travel in or around the Washwood Heath area you will need to allow more time for your journey. A signed vehicle diversion route will be in place for local journeys but traffic will be busier on Alum Rock Road, Washwood Heath Road, Aston Church Road and Heartlands Parkway. Avoid the Washwood Heath area if possible.
- **Public Transport:** Bus routes will be altered during this closure and if you travel on 14, 8A, 8C, 94 & 95 bus services you may need to change the bus stop you use or the bus route which runs nearest to your departure point or destination. Journeys may take longer so plan your bus journey in advance and allow more time for travel. Rail travel will be unaffected in this area.
- **Cycling & Active Travel:** Pedestrians and cyclists will be unable to use the road during the closure but a full diversion route will be signposted. Think about your options and if you are travelling locally for a short distance, consider walking or cycling and check local signed diversions for new local routes.

Keep up to date with these works

Visit tfwm.org.uk/washwood-heath



Balfour Beatty VINCI Working in partnership with HS2

Transport for West Midlands

Please [click here](#) to download flyer assets

Flyer can be distributed to cascade the information

A4 Poster

Saltley Viaduct will be closing from May 2026

HS2 works are taking place in the **Washwood Heath** area.

Replacement bridges are being built over the new rail line and Saltley Viaduct will be closing in May 2026 for 18 months.

Stay up to date with these works and get travel advice:



Scan the QR code or visit tfwm.org.uk/washwood-heath



Balfour Beatty VINCI Working in partnership with HS2

Transport for West Midlands

Please [click here](#) to download poster asset

A4 Poster can be printed and distributed to cascade the information

Social media posts – Facebook

Saltley Viaduct

Full road closure from
10 May for 18 months

Avoid area if possible

Signed road diversions
in place

Bus Route changes

Plan ahead.



Suggested text

Saltley Viaduct will be closed from 10 May for 18 months.

Visit www.tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath for more information and travel advice.

Please [click here](#) to download social media assets

Social media posts – X (Twitter)

Saltley Viaduct

Full road closure
from 10 May for
18 months

Avoid area if
possible

Signed road
diversions in place

Bus Route changes



Suggested text

#RoadClosure on Saltley Viaduct from 10
May 2026. Please visit
www.tfwm.org.uk/washwoodheath for more
information

Please [click here](#) to
download social media
assets

Information events

Please check the HS2 webpage for details of in-person events which will be taking place prior to the closure of Saltley Viaduct : [HS2 Saltley webpage](#)

Community, School and Business Travel Offers

TfWM support organisations to help those travelling to and from their sites to make sustainable travel choices.

We can provide:

- Bespoke journey planning support
- Bus, Rail and Metro ticketing advice and incentives to promote sustainable travel options
- Travel disruption advice
- Downloadable resources to support sustainable travel at your organisation.
- Cheaper travel to work for new job starters [Get cheaper travel to work | Transport for West Midlands \(tfwm.org.uk\)](#)
- Various cycling initiatives including maintenance classes and cycling support for new riders [Cycling Activities | Transport for West Midlands \(tfwm.org.uk\)](#)

Please contact the team at: behaviourchangehub@tfwm.org.uk for further information

Useful contacts

For up-to-the-minute travel information and help planning your journey, please see below:

Plan a journey	Transport for West Midlands	https://journeyplanner.tfwm.org.uk/	@TransportForWM
Plan a journey	National Express Bus	https://nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands/journey-planning	@nxwestmidlands
Plan a journey	Google	https://www.google.co.uk/maps/	
By train	National Rail	nationalrail.co.uk/Contact-Us	@nationalraileng
By bicycle	Cyclestreets	https://www.cyclestreets.net	

Most up to date project information can be accessed via:

TfWM



HS2



If you require any materials in an alternative format, get in touch:

customerservices@tfwm.org.uk

HS2

HS2 is a new high-speed railway that will link up the North, the Midlands and South-East, serving eight of Britain's 10 largest cities. It is critical for the UK's low carbon transport future and will provide much-needed rail capacity across the country. It is integral to other rail projects in the North and Midlands – helping rebalance the UK economy. For more information about HS2, please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 and for more information about the works we are doing in the Birmingham area please visit www.hs2.org.uk/birmingham



Balfour Beatty VINCI is responsible for designing and building part of the most exciting and challenging railway project in Europe: HS2. We are building the West Midlands section of HS2's Phase One route, spanning approximately 90km from Long Itchington in Warwickshire to Handsacre in Staffordshire. We are employing thousands of people in the area to design and build the civil infrastructure for HS2 through the West Midlands area.



National Highways operate, maintain, and improve England's motorways and major A roads. Our roads network is vital to the running of the country and our customers, and their safety remains our priority. We are committed to working with HS2 Ltd and other partners to plan and co-ordinate our works programmes where we can. While HS2 carry out these works we will make every effort to keep road users updated and informed in advance of works to help you plan your journeys and help support a better-connected future.

Email: info@nationalhighways.co.uk

General enquiries: 0300 123 5000



Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) is part of the **West Midlands Combined Authority**. We work with bus and train operators to make sure that public transport is safe, reliable, affordable and accessible for everyone

[Transport for West Midlands | Journey planning, tickets and help \(tfwm.org.uk\)](http://tfwm.org.uk)



Local Government for Birmingham, England. Birmingham City Council, based in The Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BB, is the largest local authority in the UK. Serving a population of a million citizens daily.

[Birmingham City Council Homepage](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk)