

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Lawrence Hargrave Drive closure, Stanwell Park

The NSW Government is funding this \$4.5 million safety project to carry out slope stabilisation work on Lawrence Hargrave Drive at Stanwell Park.

### What were the results of the consultation?

Transport for NSW considered the survey results and additional feedback provided during the consultation period.

Based on feedback, **Option B** - One eight-week road closure during winter months was selected as the preferred option for carrying out this work.

Option B provides a safe environment for workers and allows work to be completed as quickly as possible by avoiding closing and reopening the road daily.

Following consultations with the community key issues raised included:

- extended detour travel time
- timing of the works during summer - in peak tourism period
- the impact of passing traffic to local businesses
- community requests to keep one lane open during this work
- access for emergency services
- request for additional trains and public transport to offset the increased southbound road traffic.

The major slope repair project will start on Tuesday 9 June 2020.

The consultation report is available at [rms.work/lhd-closure](https://rms.work/lhd-closure).

### What additional train and bus services will be provided in Stanwell Park during this work?

During the road closure there will be additional train services to help the community access work, school and other activities.

There will be two additional northbound services during the morning peak on weekdays, with one additional southbound service operating during the afternoon peak on weekdays.

This is in addition to the timetabled services currently stopping at Stanwell Park and Helensburgh. Stanwell Park weekday train services will increase to 23 northbound timetabled services and 27 southbound services during slope stabilisation work.

On weekends express services will make temporary stops at Stanwell Park to provide an hourly train service during the road closures.

Timetable information for additional train services stopping at Stanwell Park will be available in the coming months via [transportnsw.info](https://transportnsw.info).

### Shuttle bus services

We are planning to operate a small bus to transport members of the community to and from train services in Stanwell Park and Helensburgh and to local schools. More information will be provided closer to the closure.

We are inviting the community to register their interest for shuttle bus services by Friday 13 March 2020 on our project webpage at [rms.work/lhd-closure](https://rms.work/lhd-closure).

This information will help us plan and schedule shuttle bus services and timetables.

## What are the benefits of carrying out this work during one eight-week closure period?

Benefits of this option include:

- most noisy activities will be completed during daylight hours or where possible completed before 11pm
- more efficient and safer way to carry out this work
- dates for road closures and reopening the road are confirmed
- potentially less impact to businesses
- less confusing for motorists and tourists than two closures.

## Why are we doing this work?

Lawrence Hargrave Drive crosses the Illawarra Escarpment and slope movement can frequently occur, resulting in cracking in the road surface.

We have conducted investigations and have identified a number of places between Otford Road and Chellow Dene Avenue where we need to carry out work to stabilise the slope and reduce the risk of land slips. This work is essential to keep the road safe and open to traffic in the long term.

## What work will be carried out?

We will be installing mesh and soil nails (steel bars up to 13 metres long) on slopes for around one kilometre along the road to reinforce and strengthen the ground, while as constructing a concrete retaining wall.

During the work we will be repairing the road surface, replacing guardrails and improving drainage to assist with groundwater run-off.

## Why is it necessary to close the road during the work?

Closing the road is essential to ensure the safety of all road users and workers.

The road at this location is steep and narrow, and work involves using large machinery and drilling equipment which doesn't leave enough room for vehicles, pedestrians or cyclists to pass safely.

During some stages of work part of the southbound lane will be excavated and there will be reduced support for the northbound lane.

## Why can't we complete the work with one lane open?

Due to the limited road width available, the steepness of the hill, and size of the machinery, it would not be possible to allow traffic past the work site, while still providing a safe work area.

## What will be the impact of the detour?

Detours will be in place via Bulli Pass and the M1 Princes Motorway.

Motorists should plan their journey and allow up to 40 minutes extra travel time.

Portable electronic messaging boards will display information to motorists about the closure including dates and detour routes.

Heavy vehicles over 19 metres or 42.5 tonnes should use the M1 as normal.

## What plans have been prepared for the detour routes?

Transport for NSW will work to ensure traffic congestion is minimised during the planned road closure and detours. We have identified key locations on the road network, such as the intersection of Princes Highway and Lawrence Hargrave Drive at Bulli Pass, where we will implement measures, such as traffic control or adjusting traffic signals to allow safe gaps for turning traffic, ensure motorists' safety and to reduce delays.

In the event of incidents on the traffic network, additional resources including tow trucks will be on standby to respond and ensure delays to motorists are minimised.

We will work with our heavy vehicle enforcement teams and NSW Police to implement regular safety-related activities on the M1.

## **What happens if there is an emergency in the area – will responders have access?**

We have consulted with emergency services and will continue to work with them to mitigate the impacts.

Emergency services will ensure current service levels are maintained during this work.

Emergency services can use a range of measures which may include:

- on-call rosters for staff living in and around Stanwell Park/ Helensburgh area
- placing additional emergency service vehicles and staff resources at key locations on either side of the road closure.

If required during an ongoing emergency such as bushfires or flooding, emergency services will be able to travel through the work site.

## **What will be done to reduce the noise impact of this work?**

There will be noise during construction, however to reduce the impact on residents, noisier work such as excavation, drilling and tree removal will be completed before 11pm where possible.

We will turn machinery off when not in use and direct lighting away from properties where possible.

We will work closely with nearby residents impacted by noise and minimise impacts where possible.

## **Who has been involved as part of the process?**

We are speaking with local residents and businesses, Wollongong City Council, Destination Wollongong, NSW emergency services, Transport for NSW - Trains, freight industry and schools about this closure.

## **How do I access health services during the closures?**

Individuals are able to contact their healthcare and service providers to make alternate arrangements to their treatment during the closure period.

## **What arrangements will be made for cyclists?**

No traffic, including cyclists, will be able to access the area during work hours. Cyclists can use the Princes Highway via Bulli Pass, or use train services between Stanwell Park, Otford and Helensburgh.

## **Can pedestrians access the area?**

There is currently no pedestrian access on this section of Lawrence Hargrave Drive at any time.

## **How can I find further information about this project?**

Visit our website for more information about the project: [rms.work/lhd-closure](https://rms.work/lhd-closure).