

# Gas mains upgrade under way for March

National Grid upgrading over four miles of gas pipes in March

16 Dec 2015

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- **Work will keep gas flowing until the end of the century**
- **Motorists advised of possible short delays to some journeys**

National Grid has started work this month (December) on a major project to keep the gas flowing to homes and businesses in March until the end of the century.

Engineers will be renewing more than four miles of gas pipes. The existing iron mains will be replaced with tough, long-lasting plastic pipes that will last for at least 80 years.

The work will take place in mainly residential areas on the east side of the town, from Asplin Avenue to Cavalry Drive. Work started last week and is expected to be finished in April.

Traffic management measures, such as temporary traffic lights or road closures, are not currently necessary. However, motorists are warned that there may be short delays to journeys while lorries deliver essential equipment and collect spoil from the excavations.

National Grid authorising engineer Dilbir Chana said: "This vital project will ensure that local people continue to enjoy a safe and reliable gas supply for decades to come. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused but we would urge people to bear with us while we complete this essential work. We will make every effort to minimise any disruption and complete the work as soon as possible."

Work is currently under way in Asplin Avenue. It will be suspended over Christmas, with all excavations filled in and barriers removed. Work will resume on 4 January.

This week engineers will be replacing the gas service pipes, which connect individual homes to the gas main in the road. The gas supply has to be cut off for one day, between breakfast and teatime, while the pipes are replaced.

National Grid is providing electric fan heaters and hotplates to elderly and vulnerable householders while they are without gas. However, if anyone has concerns about a vulnerable neighbour or relative they are urged to call National Grid's customer services team on 0800 0965678 or speak to engineers working in Asplin Avenue.

When Asplin Avenue is completed National Grid will then begin work in Robshaw Close, Morton Avenue and Collingwood Avenue.

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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