



We are building a new three-tier junction at Black Cat roundabout, set to open to traffic in spring 2027.

1

Once the new dual carriageway is open, the three-tier junction at Black Cat will help the smooth flow of traffic on the A1 and A421.

2

Traffic on the A421 will pass over the junction on a new bridge and continue towards Caxton Gibbet.

3

Traffic on the A1 will pass through the junction via a cutting below ground level.

4

Local connections between the A1, A421, and Bedford Road will be maintained at ground level.

Road layout changes at Black Cat roundabout

The construction team will be switching traffic onto new roads to enable them to start constructing the northern and central parts of the new A421 flyover and to lower the A1 carriageway. Excavation work will follow in preparation for the A1 traffic to run beneath the new junction once completed.

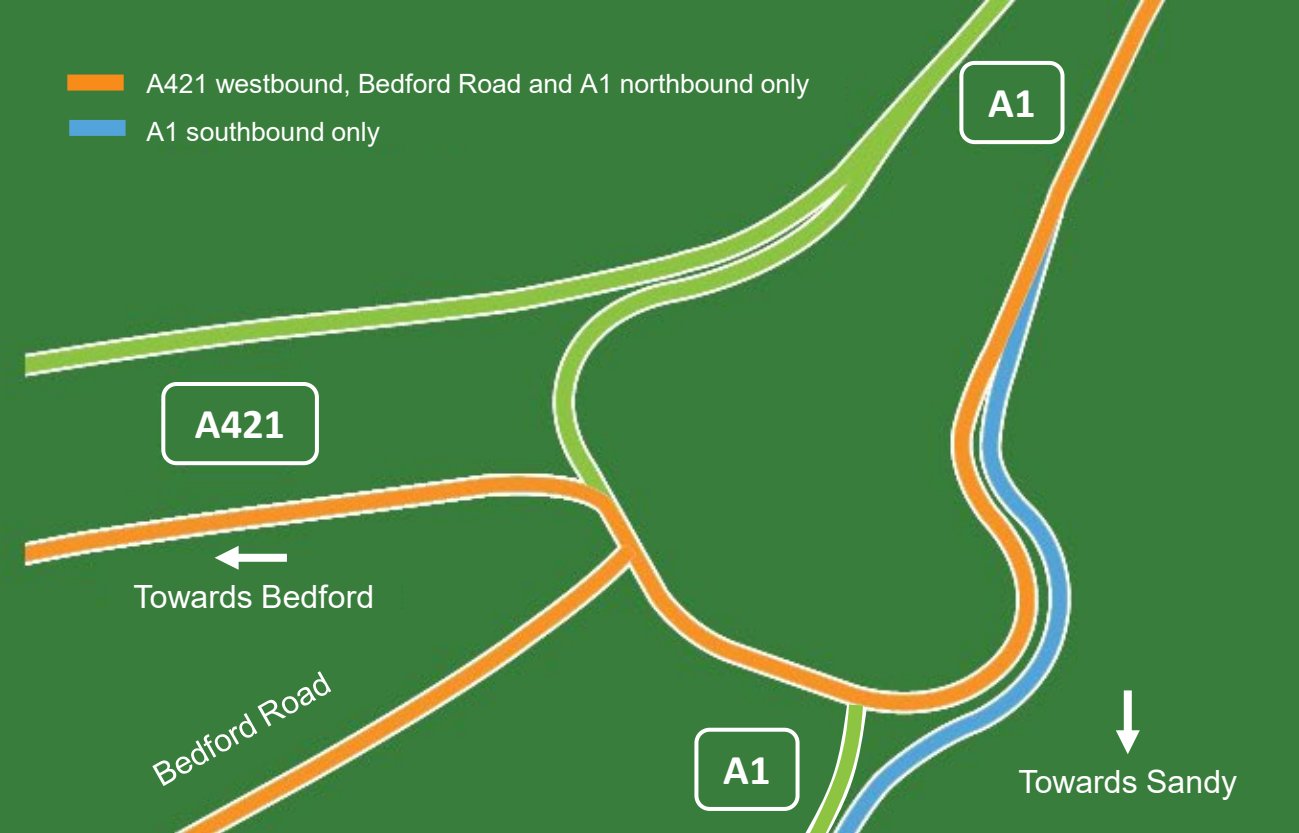
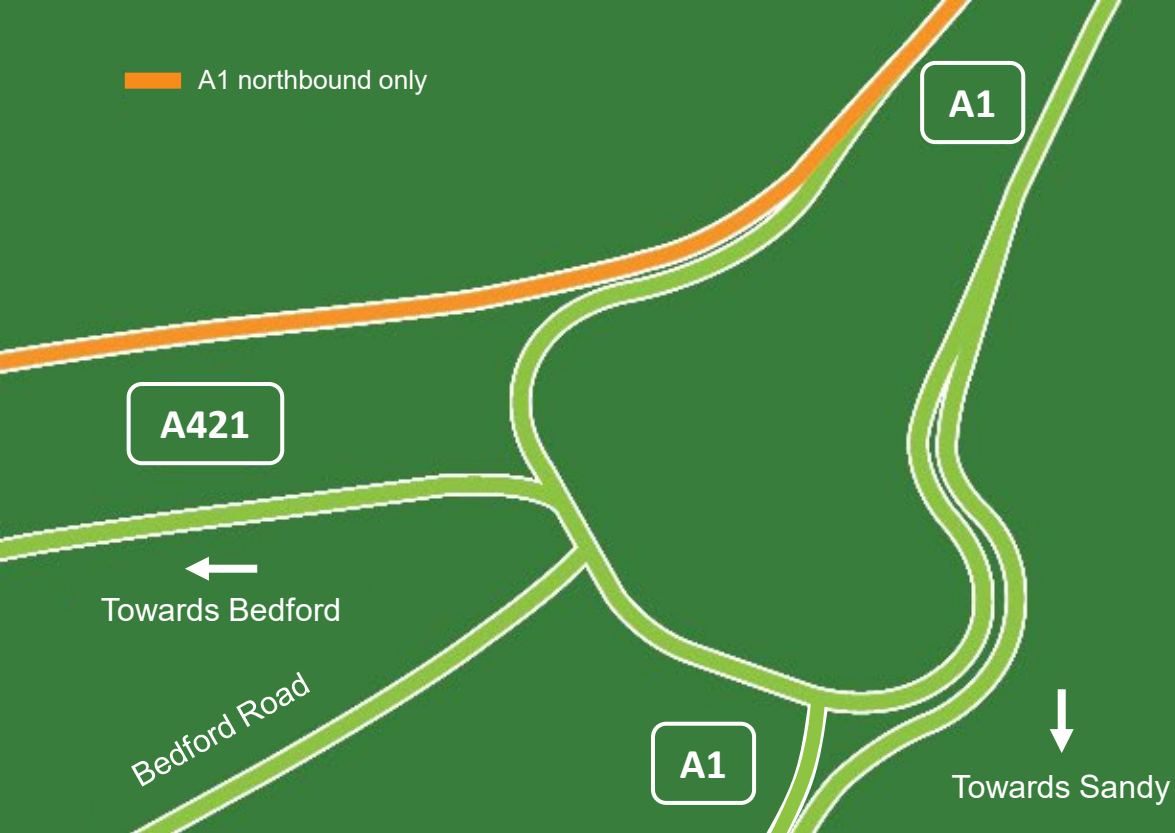
To facilitate this, the following traffic switches will take place from the 15th August 2025:

A421 eastbound traffic will use a new link that allows continuous flow onto the A1 northbound, and westbound traffic will use the new on-slip from Black Cat roundabout.

The northern section of the roundabout will remain closed. Road users will not be able to travel south down the A1 from the A421. They will need to take the A603 to Sandy before they head towards the Black Cat junction.

Bedford Road realigned and open to traffic.





Travelling north from the A421 eastbound:

As you approach the Black Cat roundabout on the A421, you will be diverted onto a new single-lane free-flow link, which will take you directly onto the A1 northbound.

Due to the closure of the northern section of the roundabout, southbound access will not be possible.

Drivers wishing to travel southbound have two options:

- Continue north on the A1 to Wyboston, then loop back southbound.
- Take the A603 via Moggerhanger towards Sandy.

Travelling west from A1 southbound:

We have reduced the A1 southbound to three lanes. Drivers traveling south on the A1 and intending to head west towards Bedford or Roxton should position themselves in the right-hand lane. Those continuing southbound towards Sandy should use the two left-hand lanes.

On the roundabout itself, we have installed a concrete barrier which separates the lanes for Roxton and the A421 from the A1 southbound. This safety measure ensures that road users stay in their designated lanes while using the junction.

Your Questions

How long will this road layout at the Black Cat roundabout be in operation?

The road layout at the Black Cat roundabout will be in place until autumn 2026.

Why have you closed a section of the roundabout?

We needed to close part of the roundabout to construct the northern and central sections of the A421 flyover and lower the A1 carriageway.

What will the speed limit be through the Black Cat roundabout?

The speed limit will remain at 40mph until the scheme is complete.

How will you manage unsafe driver behaviour?

To deter unsafe driving behaviour, we will install a concrete barrier around the roundabout, along with solid white lines and painted road markings.

Will traffic flow through the roundabout better?

Yes, we have reduced the number of traffic lights, allowing vehicles to flow more freely through several parts of the roundabout.

How do I travel north from A421 eastbound after the switch?

As you approach the Black Cat roundabout on the A421, you will be diverted onto a new single-lane free-flow link, which will take you directly onto the A1 northbound.

How do I travel north from A1 northbound after the switch?

The Black Cat roundabout will be reduced to one lane for A1 northbound traffic. Drivers must be in the correct lane before reaching the junction.

- To continue north towards St Neots, use the right-hand lane.
- To access the A421 or Roxton, use the left-hand lane.

Due to the northern section of the roundabout being closed, northbound vehicles can only continue west on the A421 or north on the A1.

How do I travel west from A1 southbound after the switch?

As you approach the Black Cat roundabout, the A1 southbound will be reduced to three lanes. Drivers traveling south on the A1 and intending to head west toward Bedford or Roxton should position themselves in the right-hand lane. Those continuing southbound toward Sandy should use the two left-hand lanes.

How do I travel south from A1 southbound after the switch?

There will be no change to the A1 southbound.

What is happening to the Black Cat statue?

The Black Cat is safe and sound at one of our site offices and will return to the junction once construction is complete.

