

North West UPGRADE

BUILDING A STRONGER GREENER WATER NETWORK

United Utilities
Water for the North West

Between 2025 and 2030, United Utilities are delivering one of the biggest infrastructure upgrades in over a century, helping to create a more resilient North West.

The programme is one of the most ambitious the region has ever seen, bringing an environmental transformation that improves 500km of the region's rivers and enhances the resilience of water services whilst helping one in six families struggling with their bills.

This five year, £13bn programme addresses the challenges of climate change, population growth, and rising demand. Transformative investment in infrastructure that boosts the reliability of supply and reduces spills from storm overflows; that introduces nature- based solutions and rainwater management; that supersizes metering and slashes leakage; and investment that creates new jobs and supports local businesses.

Building a stronger network

At the heart of this upgrade is the jewel in the North West network, the 110km Haweswater Aqueduct, a vital artery supplying 570million litres of top-quality drinking water to over 2.5million customers across the region.

Over the next 8 years, the Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP) - the largest ever water infrastructure scheme to be delivered in the North West - will see nearly £3 billion invested in building long-term reliability, ensuring a more resilient water supply for now and generations to come.

Working in partnership

Core to this renewal programme, construction partners Cascade Infrastructure and STRABAG UK have been appointed to design, build and deliver the project. To construct over 50km of new underground tunnels – much of them big enough to drive a vehicle through – the consortium will use state of the art boring machinery to tunnel 100m below the surface to replace six sections of the existing aqueduct in locations across Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester.

Operational by 2034, the upgraded aqueduct will ensure we have a water system that supports the ambitions of the North West, one that safeguards drinking water supplies for generations to come and one that benefits both our communities and our environment.

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Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP)

Part of the Big North West Upgrade and our biggest ever investment in water and wastewater infrastructure, HARP will maintain drinking water supplies across Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester for future generations.

It will see 50km of tunnels replaced within the 110km long Haweswater Aqueduct replaced by Cascade Infrastructure who have been appointed to design, build, finance and maintain the new infrastructure. STRABAG UK are delivering the design and build of the tunnels on behalf of Cascade Infrastructure.

pipeline built between 1933 and 1955

litres of drinking water transported daily

customers supplied in Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester

of tunnels, across six sections, replaced through HARP



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HARP in your area

From our Haslingden compound, we will build a tunnel south to our treatment works in Bury.

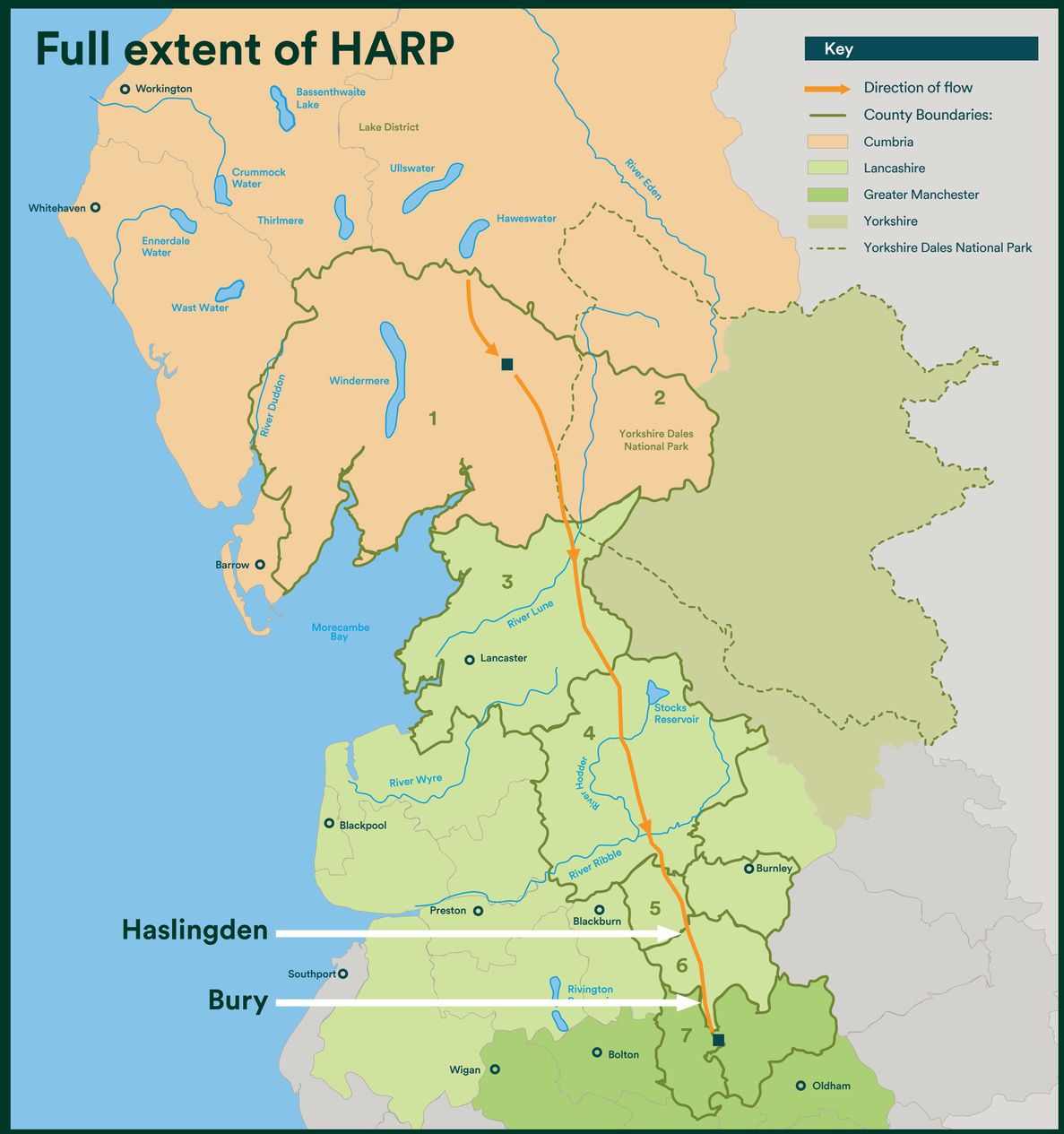
What's been happening in your area

We have started on site at the existing treatment works. We have begun constructing our new access route to the compound from Castle Hill Road.

What's happening next

To keep traffic flowing whilst we deliver our works, we have carried out alteration works at the junction of Castle Hill Road with Rochdale Old Road.

We will continue to create our new permanent access to the Woodgate Hill compound off Castle Hill Road.



Giving back as we work in local areas

- We will volunteer in local communities
- 30% of our workforce will be from local communities
- 25% of project spend will be with small medium enterprises
- We will deliver a local apprenticeship programme
- Launch of a community fund to support local causes

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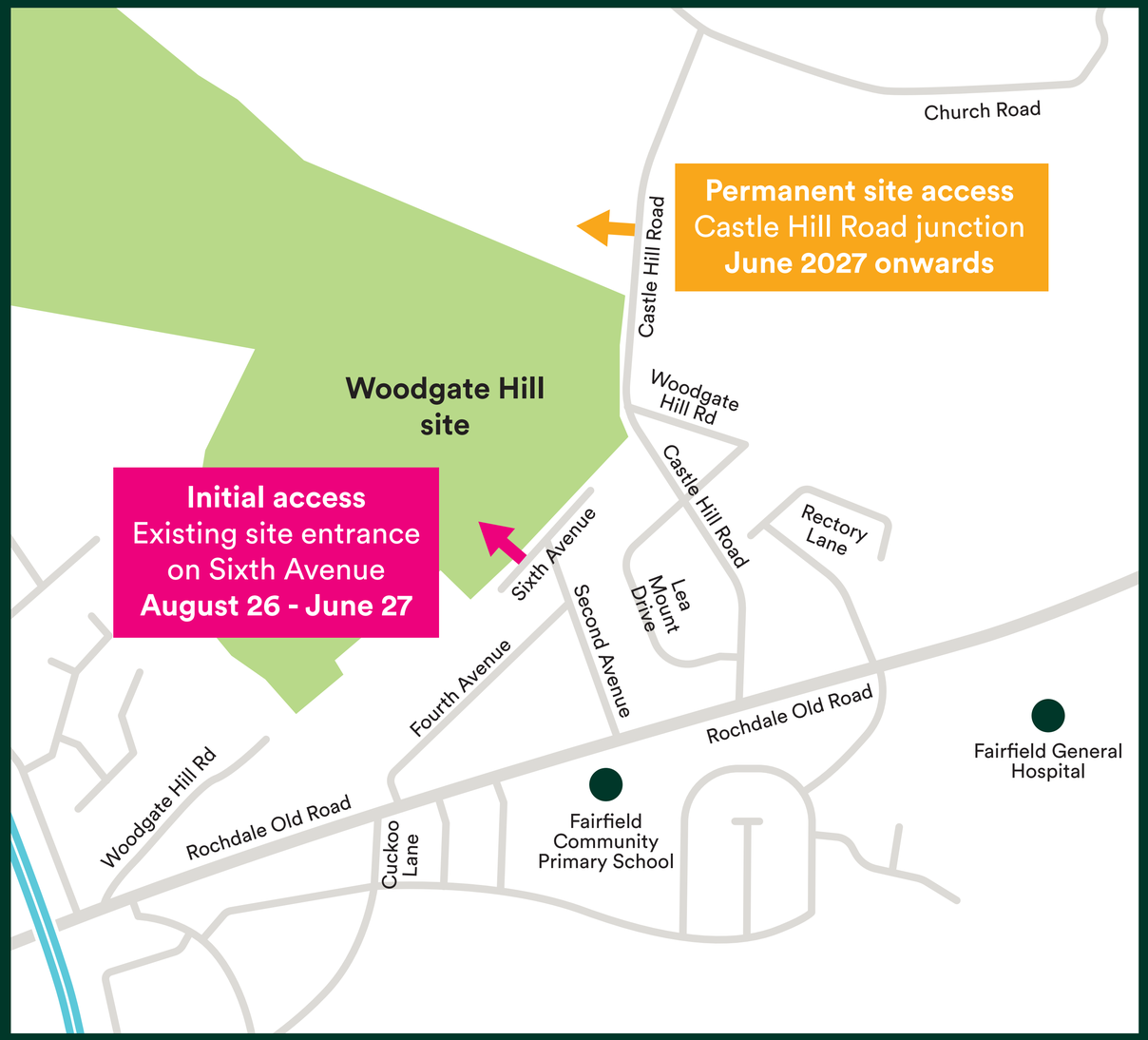
Our plans for your area

To build our compound and keep traffic flowing, we:

- have improved the junction where Castle Hill Road and Rochdale Old Road join
- have put in restrictions on Sixth Avenue are already in place, Castle Hill Road restrictions will come inbto force from March 2027

Building our compound

- All roads will be kept open at all times with no road closures
- We'll create a new access road onto the site from Castle Hill Road
- Deliver plant and material to site
- Construction activity - 2026-2028



Earthworks, road works and site construction started in September 2026. Shaft construction will begin in Summer 2027.

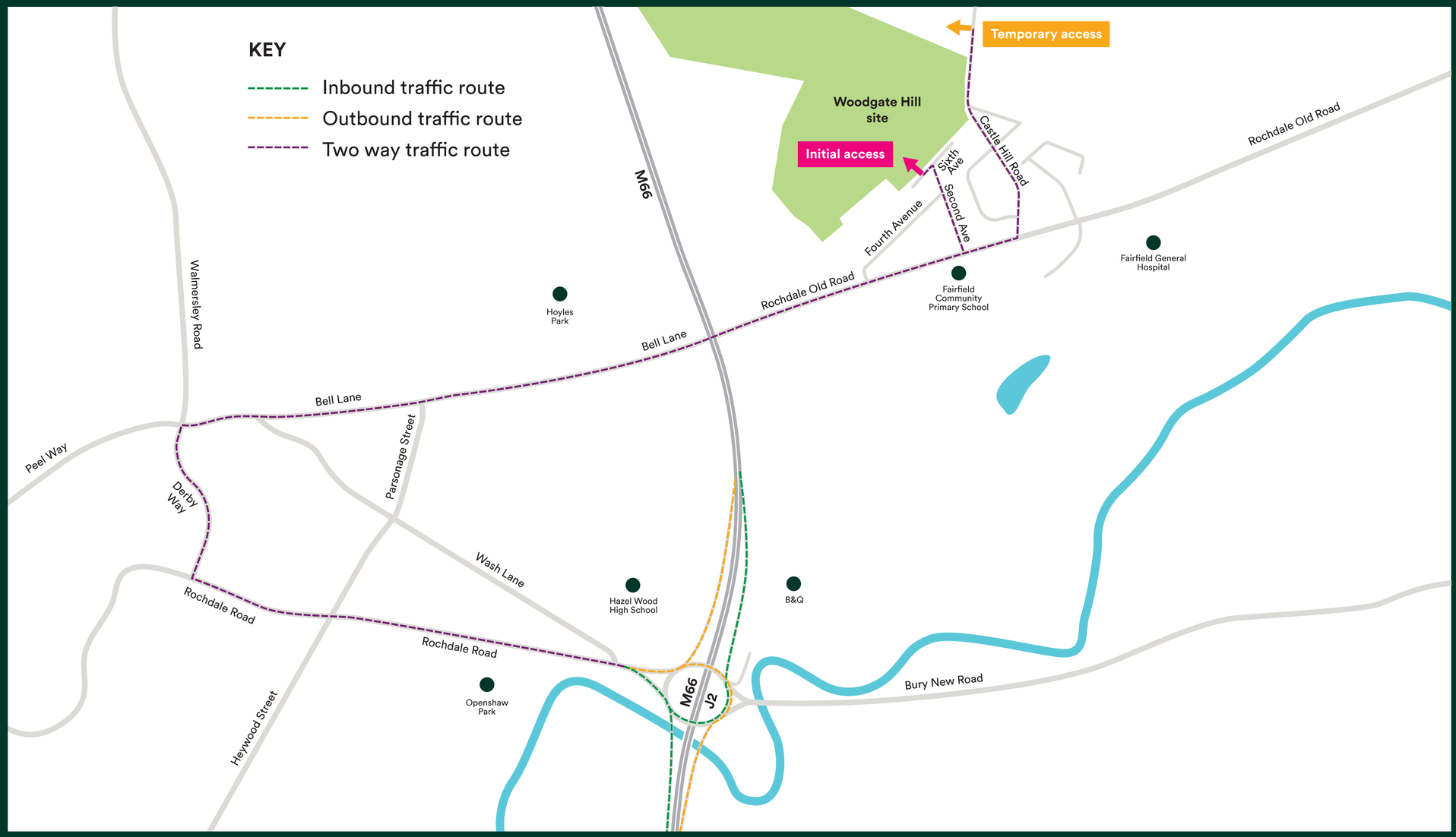
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Construction traffic route

The roads our vehicles will use to access the Woodgate Hill site.



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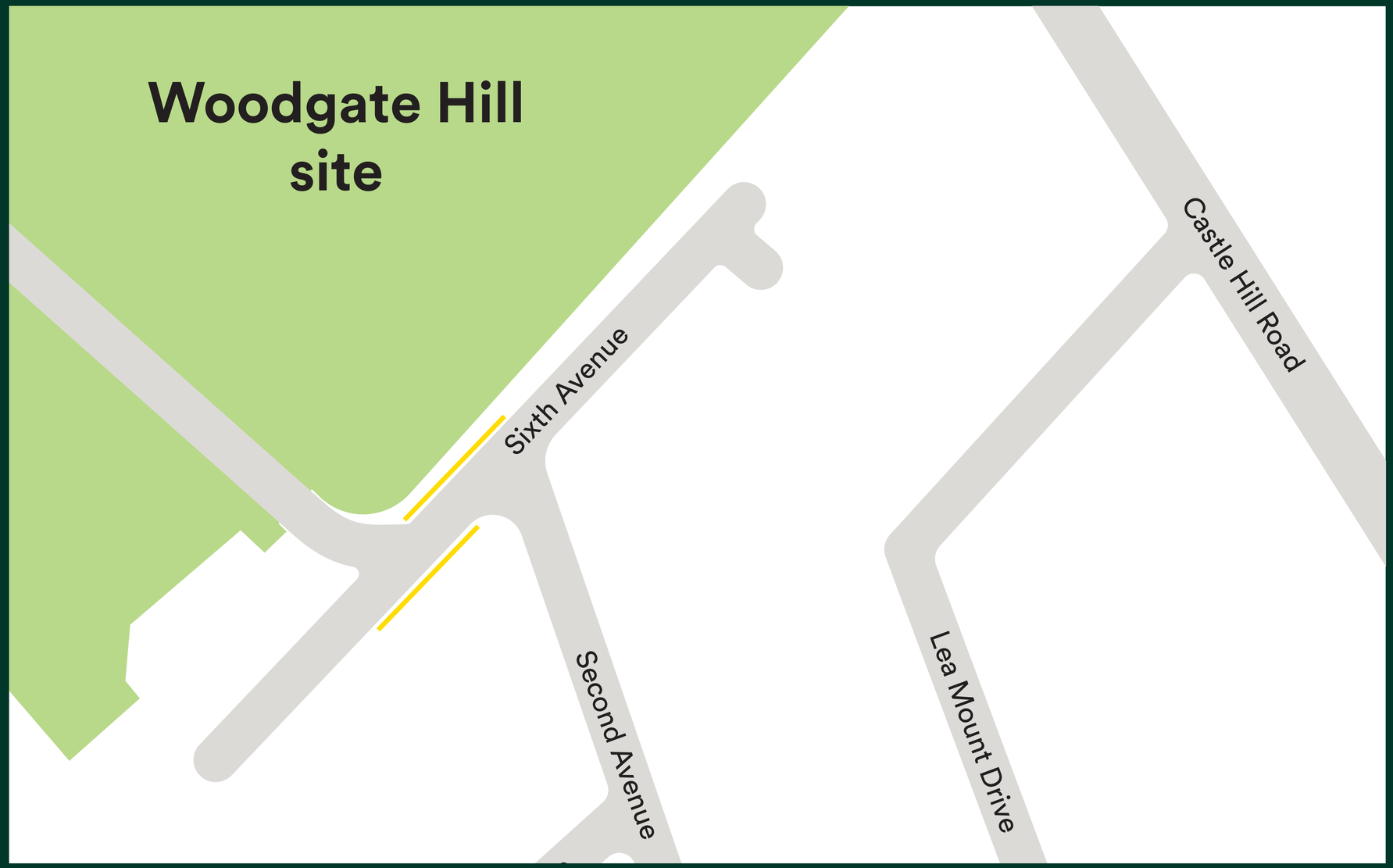
Sixth Avenue temporary parking restrictions

On Sixth Avenue we have implemented temporary parking restrictions on sections of both sides of the road near the treatment works entrance. This is to allow our vehicles room to access our site from the current entrance.

Parking restrictions

- Until Christmas 2026
- Restrictions are currently in place

— Single yellow line



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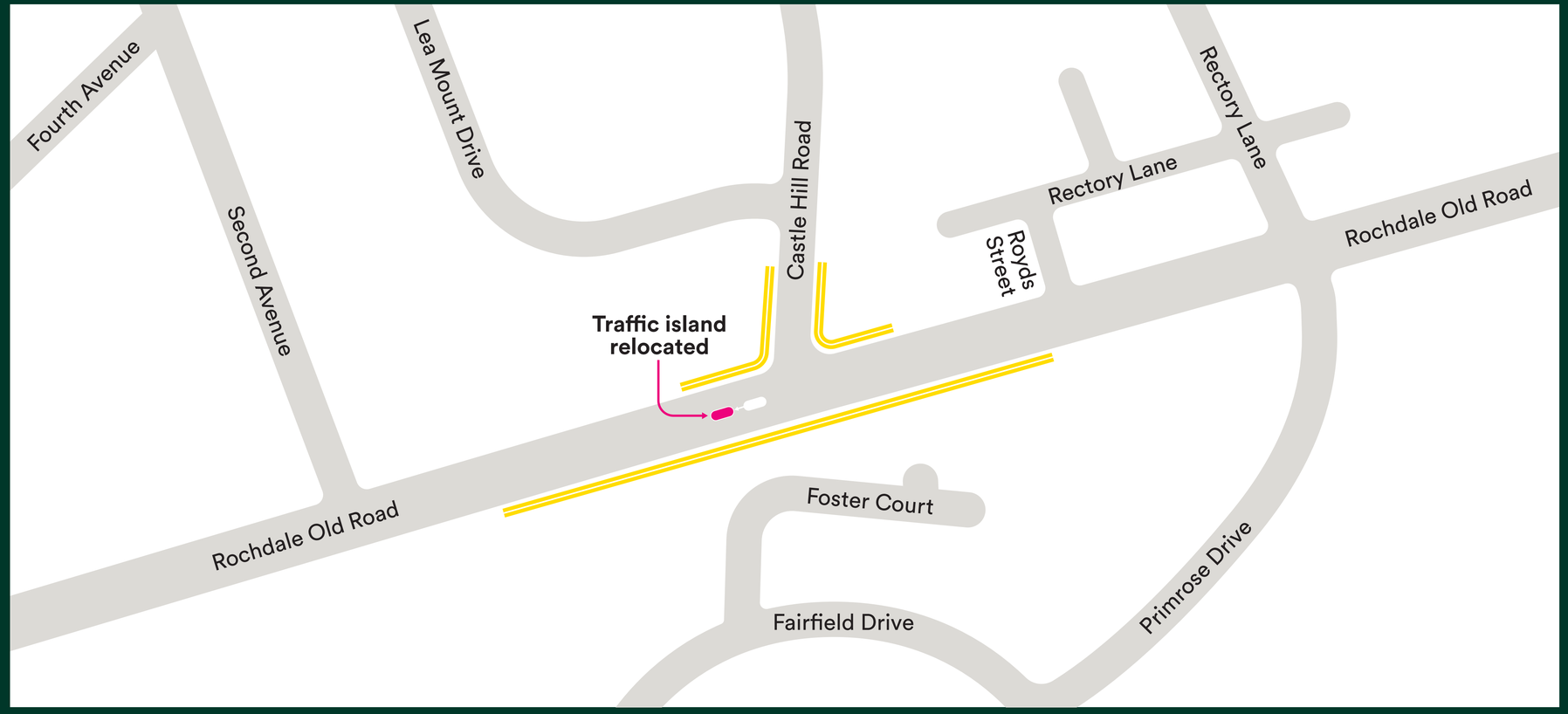
Junction improvements
What we've done

We have made changes to the junction of Rochdale Old Road and Castle Hill Road, so our vehicles can safely use the junction.

The works included relocating the existing traffic island, lowering kerbs to improve vehicle movements, and resurfacing the junction bell-mouth at Castle Hill Road to facilitate the safe access and manoeuvring of vehicles entering and leaving the site.

Parking restrictions

Double yellow line



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Castle Hill Road

Changes we're going to be making to parking arrangements

We're going to be putting parking restrictions on the left hand side of Castle Hill Road from May.

The restrictions will start at the junction with Rochdale Old Road, and continue to our new site entrance on Castle Hill Road.

There will be double yellow lines at the junctions of Rochdale Old Road and Castle Hill Road, and at the junctions of Castle Hill Road and Lae Mount Drive.

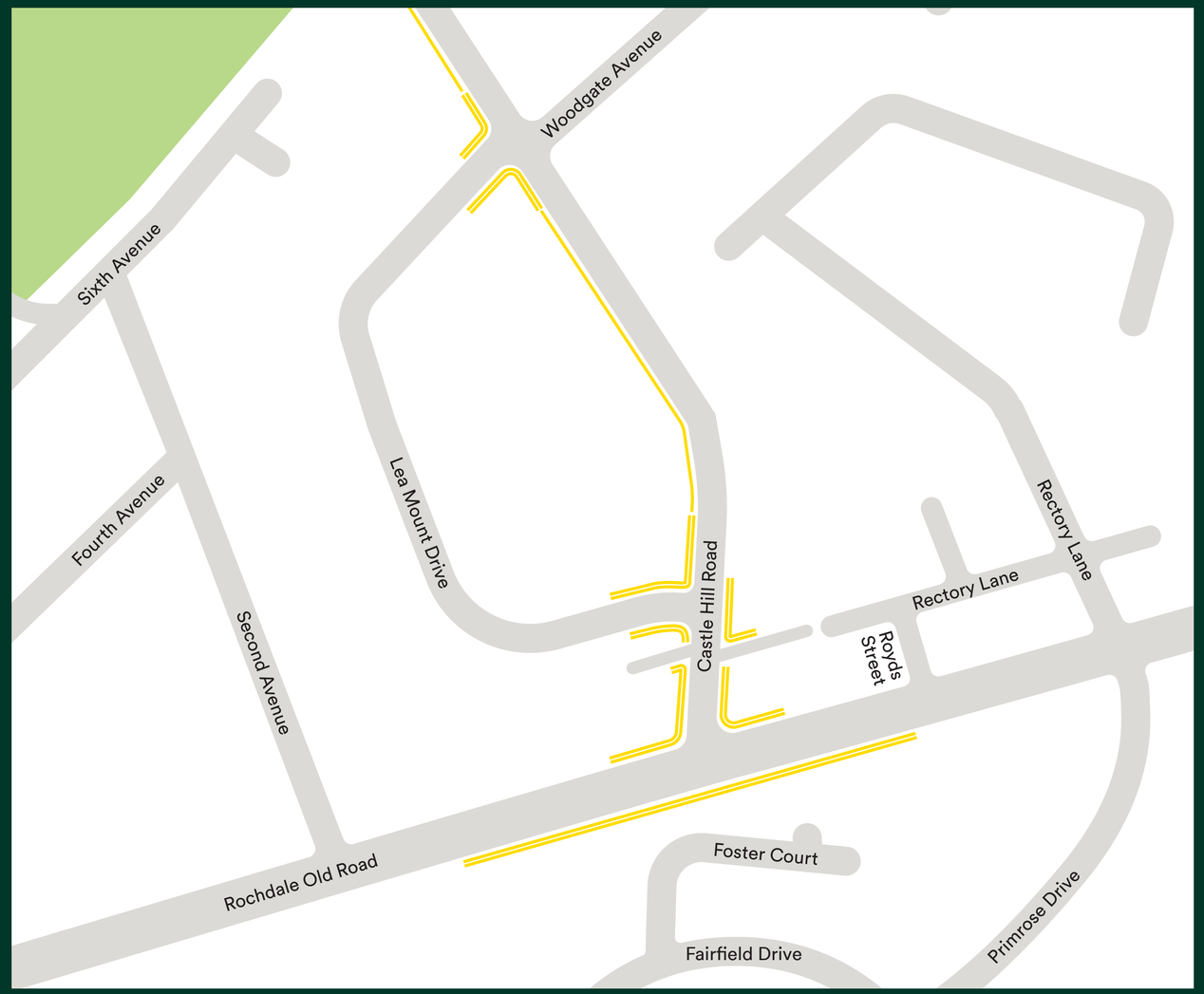
Away from the junctions there will be a single yellow line, which will mean no parking during the restricted daytime hours, Monday to Friday 8am until 5pm and Saturday 8am until 1pm. Vehicles can park there outside these hours and all day on Sundays.

The parking restrictions will be in place for six years.

Parking restrictions

Double yellow line

Single yellow line



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Castle Hill Road

Changes we're going to be making to parking arrangements

On Castle Hill Road near our new site entrance, parking restrictions are currently already in place from the marked line upwards. This is whilst the new permanent acess is being constructed and to allow large vehicles to enter and exit the compound.

The remaining restrictions will then be in place from May.

Parking restrictions

- Double yellow line
- Single yellow line



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Woodgate Hill compound set up

How we will access the compound

- Initial access to the Woodgate Hill compound is currently from Sixth Avenue using the UU compound access.
- Following construction, a new junction will be the main access from Castle Hill Road.

When we will start working

- Construction of the compound began in September 2026.

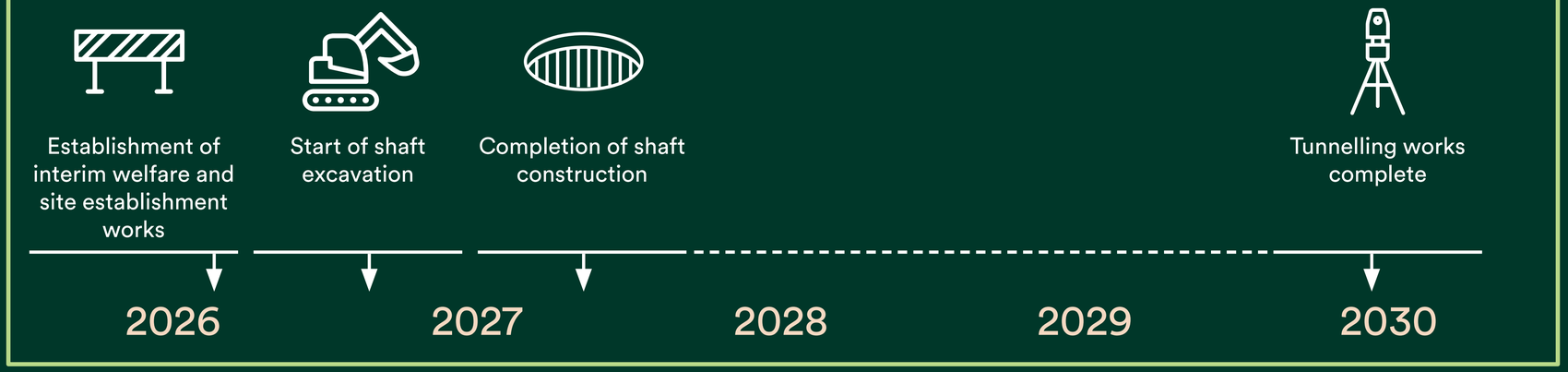
What we will be doing

- We will set up interim welfare units for our workforce, create internal construction roads, carry out earthworks to clear the site create the shafts where the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) will arrive from Haslingden.

How we will use the compound

- The tunnel will be constructed using a Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) starting from the Haslingden Compound and tunnelling to Woodgate Hill.
- We will tunnel approximately 100 metres below the ground.
- The TBM will run 24-hours a day. This will require some activities to be carried out during the night within the site compound area. We will take all possible measures to minimise any noise from this work.
- Vehicle movements to and from site will be limited to between 7am - 7pm during the week and 7am - 1pm on Saturdays.

Timeline



What to expect as we set up

- Traffic management on local roads
- HGV movements to and from site
- Plant and equipment on roads

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Being a good neighbour

We have carefully planned our activities to minimise any impact on local residents, businesses and the environment, and will implement measures including:

Carrying out noise, vibration and ecology surveys

Reducing our impact on air quality by ensuring all our plant complies with Stage 5 emissions standards

Ensuring safe and efficient logistics with minimal environmental impact by enforcing the National Construction Logistics and Community Safety (CLOCs) standard

Employing dust suppression measures

Managing site lighting so we don't cause disturbance

Using wheel washes to prevent muck from going on to the roads





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Keeping you informed

To ensure no one misses out on the latest HARP news, we'll keep you up to date in a variety of ways:

- Direct mail newsletters
- Social media posts aligned to construction milestones
- Sharing information on site signage and hoardings
- Events and roadshows
- Updates to www.unitedutilities.com/harp or scan the QR code
- Door knocking ahead of impactful works
- Advance traffic notifications on roads
- Local press releases
- Setting up dedicated Community Liaison Groups to share information and gather feedback

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Ground improvement works



What is fissure grouting?

- Before tunnelling begins, we will carry out fissure grouting within the Woodgate Hill compound from early next year for approximately 6 months
- Fissure grouting involves drilling a series of deep boreholes and injecting a cement-based grout into small natural cracks within the rock. This helps reduce the movement of groundwater and strengthens the ground ahead of shaft and tunnel construction.
- All works will take place within the site boundary

Why are we doing it?

- To prepare the ground for future tunnelling works
- To help manage groundwater in the area
- To improve ground stability during construction
- To support the safe construction of the shaft and tunnel

What should residents expect?

- Drilling rigs and specialist grouting equipment operating within the compound
- Construction activity taking place within the site boundary
- Some temporary noise associated with drilling works
- Ongoing monitoring throughout the works

Some temporary noise may be noticeable during drilling activities. Noise levels reduce significantly with distance from the site, and nearby buildings provide additional noise reduction. Existing background noise from surrounding roads, including the dual carriageway, is also likely to influence how the works are perceived. Acoustic barriers and other mitigation measures will be used where appropriate to help minimise impacts. Significant disruption at nearby homes is not anticipated.