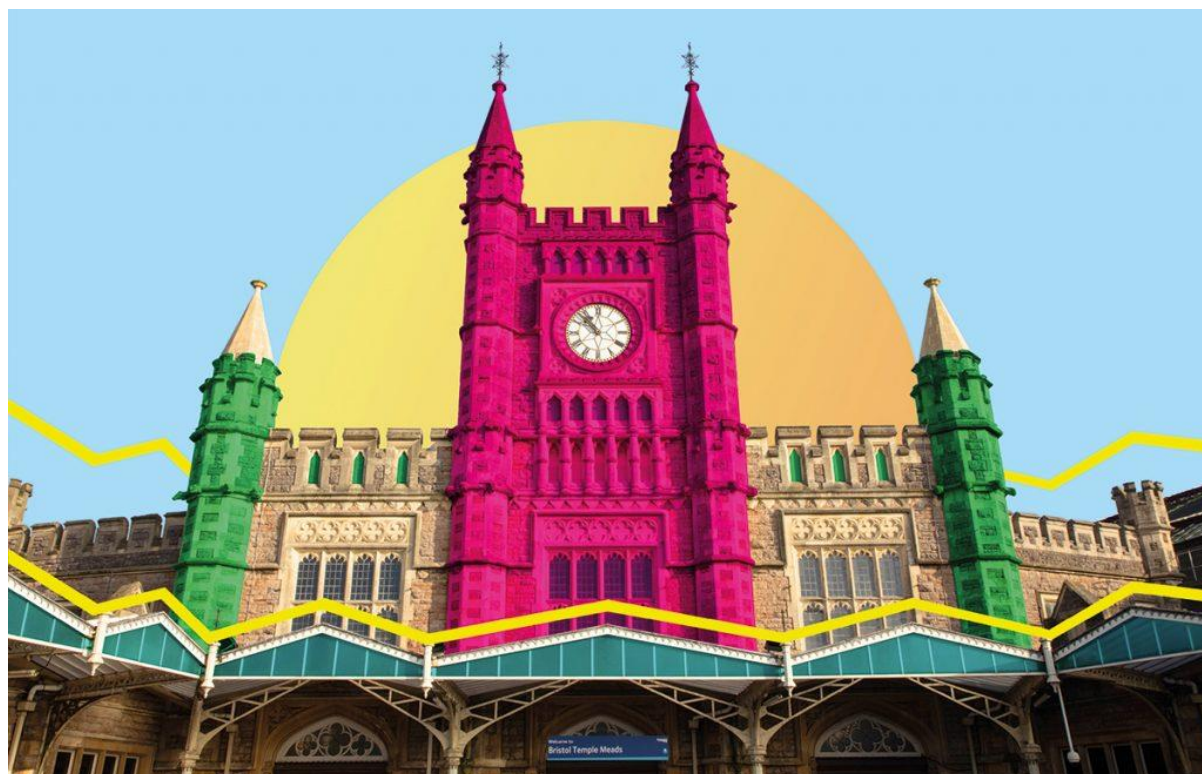


# Bristol Rail Regeneration FAQs:

Updated: 19.01.2021



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WEST OF  
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## Work taking place

### Q) What work is going on at Bristol Temple Meads and the surrounding area?

A) Bristol Temple Meads is at the heart of a major programme of investment in the railway, linked to city and regional aspirations for the surrounding Temple Quarter District and beyond.

Within the immediate footprint of the station, we will be refreshing the roof and canopies, rewiring the station, improving platforms, creating a new eastern entrance, and installing a free, public WiFi network.

Just outside the station, on the London-side, we are changing the track layout at Bristol East Junction to improve flexibility, capacity and reliability.

## Q) Why is the roof being refurbished?

A) Work to fully refurbish the roof of the main train shed at Bristol Temple Meads is well underway. As well as refreshing the Victorian roof for a cleaner, brighter experience for passengers, work on the Grade I listed structure will protect it from further deterioration for future generations.

The project is part of a wider programme of railway upgrades in the area to improve reliability, capacity and the overall passenger experience.

Read [here](#) for more information.

## Q) Why is the station being rewired?

A) We will be rewiring Bristol Temple Meads station, to bring it up to modern standards. The work will improve the stability of the power supply at the station and allow for future expansion.

Alongside the rewire, a free station WiFi network is being created at Bristol Temple Meads, offering passengers fast, free and reliable internet connectivity within the station area.

## Q) Why are we changing the track layout at Bristol East Junction?

A) Transforming Bristol East junction will improve capacity, flexibility and reliability, making more efficient use of platforms at the station and reducing delays for passengers.

An extra line is also being introduced to support additional suburban services being planned for the future.

## Q) What's going on with the building site next to Bristol Temple Meads?

A) The building site next to Platforms 13 and 15 is the site of the old GPO building on Temple Island. There are plans for a new Bristol University campus on the site.

We are planning to create an eastern entrance for Bristol Temple Meads via the new campus, by extending the passenger subway at the platform 13/15 end. This will offer access to the east of the city, as well as to the new University of Bristol campus itself.

## Q) When is the work taking place?

A) A two-year programme of **roof refurbishment** on the main train shed roof and platform canopies and Bristol Temple Meads is getting underway (early 2021) and will be due for completion in 2023.

**WiFi** is due to be installed at Bristol Temple Meads throughout February and March and will be rolled out from the beginning of April 2021.

A contract is being awarded in early 2021 for the full **rewire** of the station over a two-year period. The ticket office is due to be temporarily relocated late spring/early summer.

Phase one of work to create the **eastern entrance** is due to get underway later this year, when we aim to punch through the existing passenger subway. Construction and fit-out of a small entry building will then take place (phase 2) with the aspiration to complete the project in autumn 2023, ready for the new University of Bristol campus.

Much of the preparatory work for **Bristol East Junction** was completed during 2020. Further track work takes place inside the station in February 2021 and the full layout changes are planned for an eight-week period during the summer. Finishing work is then likely to run until the end of 2021.

## Passenger impact

### Q) What impact will it have on my journey to/from or through Bristol?

Track work is planned on the mainlines out of Bristol Temple Meads on the weekend of Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 February.

This means:

- Buses replace trains between Bath Spa and Bristol Temple Meads
- Most services between London Paddington and Bristol Temple Meads will be diverted via Bristol Parkway at Swindon, and therefore won't call at Chippenham or Bath Spa. These will run to an amended timetable.
- Trains between Cardiff Central and Portsmouth Harbour will start/terminate at Swindon for onward connections to South Wales.
- Trains between Cardiff Central and Taunton will still run via Bristol Temple Meads as usual.

Please remember to check before you travel at [National Rail Enquiries](#) or [GWR.com/Bristol](https://www.gwr.com/Bristol)

## Q) Where can I find out more information and stay up to date?

A) If you have any additional questions about the work taking place in your area please call our dedicated 24-hour National Helpline on **03457 11 41 41** or visit our [contact us page](#).

For updates: [networkrail.co.uk/bristolrailregen](https://www.networkrail.co.uk/bristolrailregen) or [#BristolRailRegen](#) on our [Twitter feed](#).

## Q) How are you keeping passengers safe while work is being undertaken on the station roof?

A) huge safety screen is being installed to protect passengers and staff while the work is carried out overhead.

The work site will be fully wrapped to prevent dust and other materials from escaping into the station below.

## Future plans

### Q) Will you be completing electrification for Bristol and Bath?

A) Electrification of the railway in the Bristol and Bath area is deferred but not cancelled. We await further news from the Department for Transport.

In the meantime, all of the work that we do on the line in this area needs to be future proofed for potential electrification. For example, while replacing the signalling gantry for Bristol East Junction to make it wider to allow room for the new planned track layout, we also needed to make it taller to allow clearance for overhead line equipment that may be installed in the future.