

Keeping you informed

Way finding

With over 11 million visitors every year it's not surprising that some people get lost walking around South Kensington. Walking is a great way of getting around London. But many people are put off by poor signage and not knowing how far it is to their destination. We want to help residents and visitors on foot find their way quickly and easily, so we are adopting Transport for London's 'Legible London' way finding system in Exhibition Road and South Kensington.

This easy to use system uses a network of panels with detailed maps. The panels will show a map of the immediate area, a map of the area within a 15 minute walk, all the local bus stops and tube stations and a list of street names as well as local landmarks and destinations. The maps are 'heads up' so they are orientated to face the same way as the user, rather than facing north. You'll have probably seen the system on the new hire bike docking stations.



We will install 13 panels covering south Kensington and Exhibition Road, three of which will be small finger post signs. This may sound a lot but it means we will not need any other directional signs, so overall this new system will reduce street clutter and stop visitors who want to go to the V&A ending up in Hyde Park.

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THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
**KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA**

New programme

Last June we published the planned programme of paving for the Exhibition Road project. Since then National Grid have been working in Cromwell Road and Exhibition Road for nearly four months, the owners of various buildings have been carrying out their own work to properties in Exhibition Road and it's been one of the coldest Decembers on record.

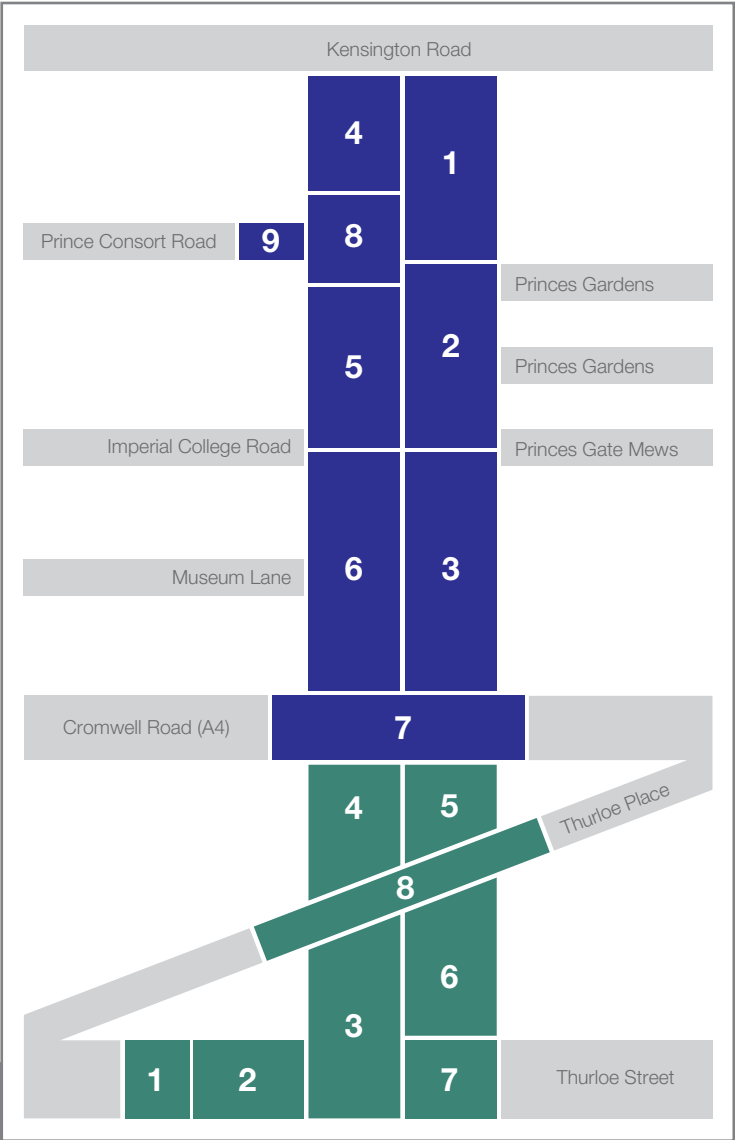
Unfortunately, the cumulative effect of all this disruption means that we need to make changes to our planned programme. We are still on track to finish the project this year in plenty of time for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, but we'll be a little behind our original schedule. To hit our completion date we'll be working in several areas at the same time rather than carrying out the straightforward staged approach we first planned.



A face on the street

This is Colin Warren; he works for Balfour Beatty supervising the granite paving. Colin coordinates the two engineers setting out the granite pattern, ensures deliveries of mortar and granite setts arrive on time and constantly checks the quality of the paving. Setting out the granite paving is a complex process. The exact locations and finish levels for each band of pink granite have to be marked out before the string guide lines can be fixed in their correct positions. These lines are then used by the granite layers to ensure all the setts fit into place to form the criss cross pattern. The biggest challenge when paving Exhibition Road is the huge amount of setts that have to be cut to suit the 45 degree angle in the design.

Colin, who comes from Stevenage, Hertfordshire, has worked on many large paving projects over the years but this is by far the most sophisticated design he has ever seen. But he thinks it will be worth it when it's finished.



New paving schedule

- Paving north of A4**
- 1. Mar 10 - Dec 10
 - 2. Jun 10 - Apr 11
 - 3. Sep 10 - Jun 11
 - 4. Jan 11 - May 11
 - 5. Mar 11 - Oct 11
 - 6. May 11 - Nov 11
 - 7. Oct 10 - Sep 11
 - 8. Jun 11 - Aug 11
 - 9. Sep 11 - Nov 11

- Paving south of A4**
- 1. Jan 10 - Mar 10
 - 2. Jan 10 - Oct 10
 - 3. Feb 10 - Jan 11
 - 4. Jun 10 - Mar 11
 - 5. Sep 10 - May 11
 - 6. Feb 11 - Jun 11
 - 7. Jan 10 - May 11
 - 8. Feb 10 - Jun 11

This newsletter is delivered to all homes, businesses and organisations in the Exhibition Road area. Every month we will let you know how the project is progressing, as well as introducing you to some of the people and the work they are carrying out on this £25 million project.

