

Albion Place Bus Hub and Urban Park

Construction dates:
Early 2024-Autumn 2024

Overview

In the heart of the city centre, construction will start in early 2024 for an urban park and new bus hub at Albion Place. This will create a new green space within the heart of the City Centre, whilst helping to provide a safer and more convenient passenger experience for bus users by creating a state-of-the-art bus hub.

The park will create the first public green space within the Old Town for almost 60 years, transforming the Castle Way car park into a green park that will celebrate Southampton's rich heritage and past experiences by improving access to the city walls, creating tree-lined lawns and gardens with an art-scape motif that can be viewed from Arundel Tower.

The historic City Walls around the bus hub and the new urban park will also be repaired as part of Southampton's heritage investment programme where many of the monuments in Southampton are being restored over the coming years.

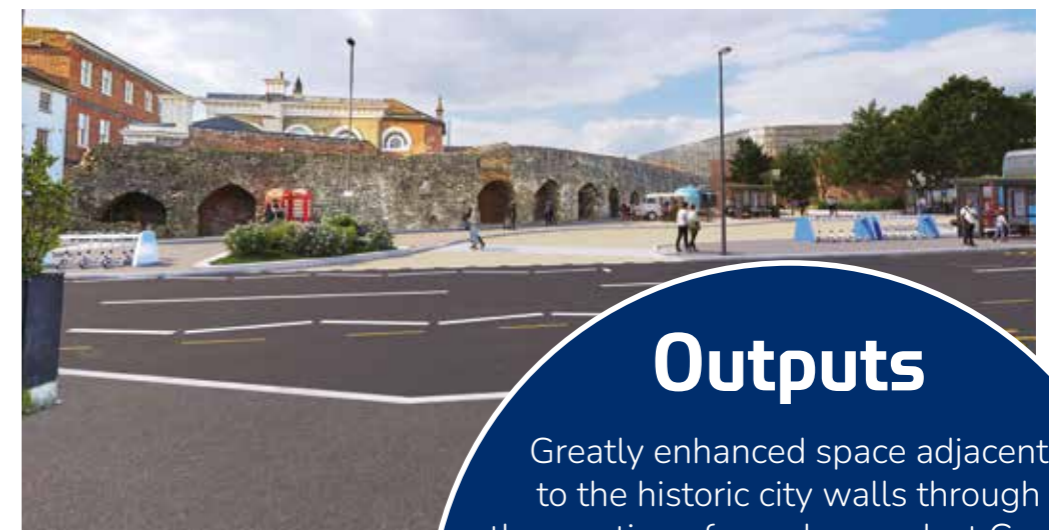
Amenities at the bus hub include:

- New waiting facilities using high quality public realm materials
- Public seating
- Improved lighting and CCTV for passenger safety
- Access to e-mobility (e-scooter and cycle hire)
- Travel information

To prioritise access for buses to the new Albion Place bus hub, the stretch of road between Spa Road, to the rear of Boots, and Castle Way Car Park on Portland Terrace is now bus/cycle/taxi only. This will reduce through traffic along Portland Terrace, improving bus journey times by up to 10 minutes for buses crossing the city from east to west and back again.

Benefits

- New bus hub to include new waiting facilities, seating, travel information all using high quality public realm materials enhancing the old town heritage setting.
- New urban park at Castle Way car park using high quality public realm materials, landscaping features and ambient lighting to enhance the public space and reflect the city's rich heritage by strengthening the connection with the historic city walls.
- Improved bus access along Portland Terrace and enhanced pedestrian environment along the length of Portland Terrace bus/taxi/cycle only section of road.



Outputs

Greatly enhanced space adjacent to the historic city walls through the creation of an urban park at Castle Way car park, and a new bus hub at Albion Place car park to increase the number of available bus stops, which together with the Portland Terrace bus/taxi/cycle only section of road will significantly improve public transport access into and around the City Centre.

Outcomes



Provide a high quality gateway in the form of a new bus hub.



Increase the number of bus journeys into and through the City Centre.



Reduce the longer-term impact on climate change and air quality through increased use of sustainable transport.



Improve the health and wellbeing of residents, including deprived communities through creation of a new urban park.



Provide opportunities to attract additional outdoor events within the new urban park.

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