

Rawtenstall - South Gyrotory FAQs

What is the South Gyrotory Programme?

The South Gyrotory Programme is a major road improvement project led by Rossendale Borough Council and Lancashire County Council. It aims to improve traffic flow, safety, and reduce journey times and congestion.

The improvements will benefit both road users and pedestrians, making it easier to walk and cycle around Rawtenstall's southern road network, from Bacup Road junction (Queen's Bistro) to the A682 bypass.

Why is this work needed?

These upgrades will help Rawtenstall's roads handle more traffic by creating a safer, more efficient, and sustainable transport system.

They also support the goals of the Rawtenstall Masterplan by enhancing public spaces with additional planting and greenery, encouraging a vibrant café culture, and creating more attractive, welcoming, and safer areas for people to connect and travel through Rawtenstall town centre.

What will be changing?

A number of improvements will upgrade the gyratory's infrastructure to ease congestion. The main change is the addition of a second lane leading onto the A682 bypass, increasing capacity and improving traffic flow. Roads will be resurfaced and widened, and traffic signals will be upgraded to align with the north gyratory upgrades. A responsive traffic system will be installed near the fire station to support quicker emergency response times.

Pedestrian safety will also be improved through better crossings and tactile paving. To enhance the look and feel of the area, new landscaping will be added, along with upgraded walkways linking the East Lancashire Railway to the town centre.

Who is delivering the project?

Rossendale Borough Council has secured external funding to support these improvements and will oversee the project's delivery. Lancashire County Council, as the authority responsible for Rossendale's highways, will lead the design, construction, and overall coordination of the works.

Both councils will collaborate throughout the project to ensure efficient delivery.

When will the works start and finish?

Construction is scheduled to begin early 2026 and is expected to last approximately 12 months, with completion targeted for spring 2027, subject to any unforeseen delays or circumstances.

How will traffic be affected during the works?

Temporary lane closures, diversions, changes to junction priorities, and reduced speed limits may occur during construction. Lancashire County Council and Rossendale Borough Council will provide regular updates on traffic management via website and social media channels.

Will access be maintained for residents and businesses?

Yes. Maintaining access to homes, businesses, and essential services is a top priority. Any necessary restrictions will be communicated well in advance and scheduled, where possible, outside of peak times.

Will noise and disruption be managed?

Yes. Works will be planned to minimise disruption, with consideration given to peak travel times and local sensitivities.

What about emergency services?

The project includes a reactive traffic management system to ensure emergency vehicles have priority and uninterrupted access at all times.

What is happening to the subway?

The existing pedestrian subway near the gyratory will be infilled and replaced with improved, accessible crossings to enhance safety and ease of movement. Details and timings of these works will be shared as the project progresses.

Where can I see the design plans?

The latest South Gyratory design plans are now available to view online via the council's website.

How will I find out about changes and updates?

The Council will keep residents informed through regular updates on its website and social media channels.

Who can I contact with questions or concerns?

For enquiries, please contact Rossendale Borough Council at 01706 217777. Additional information will be provided as the project progresses from both Lancashire County Council and Rossendale Borough Council.