

B4234 Forest Road, Lydney: Road Closure Extended to Complete Essential Stabilisation Works

Gloucestershire County Council are extending the current road closure on the B4234 Forest Road between Whitecroft and Lydney to allow additional essential ground stabilisation works to be completed safely and efficiently.

The extended closure is expected to remain in place until summer 2027, subject to ongoing ground conditions and construction progress.

The decision follows recent inspections and ongoing monitoring, which have identified additional areas of ground movement along the B4234. While work was underway at the original landslip location, further deterioration was discovered at two additional sites. These areas now require essential ground stabilisation works before the road can safely reopen.

Taking the Opportunity to Complete All Necessary Works

We recognise that the continued closure of Forest Road is challenging for residents, businesses and road users. However, the discovery of these additional issues now provides an opportunity to address these areas of ground instability in a single, coordinated programme of work.

By carrying out the additional essential repairs now, while the road is already closed and specialist teams and equipment are on site, the Council can avoid reopening the route under temporary traffic signals before having to return for further major works at a later date under full road closure. This approach minimises the longer-term impact on the community and will deliver a better outcome for everyone who relies on Forest Road.

Delivery benefits:

- Deliver necessary stabilisation works through one coordinated programme.
- Avoid the need to reopen the road under temporary two-way traffic signals at multiple locations.
- Reduce the risk of a future road closure.
- Make best use of the current site set-up and specialist resources already in place.
- Improve long-term safety and resilience along the route.
- Provide a more durable solution for this important connection between Whitecroft and Lydney.

Background

Following a landslide in November 2023, temporary traffic signals were installed to keep Forest Road open while a permanent engineering solution was developed.

In February 2026, the road was fully closed to enable remediation works to begin at the original landslide site.

The works at Site 1 progressed well and have been completed ahead of time, demonstrating good progress on the original repair programme.



Progression of Ground Movement

During mobilisation and further detailed inspections, additional deterioration was identified at Site 2 and at a newly identified failure area, Site 1a. Ongoing monitoring has since shown accelerated increases in cracking and subsidence at both locations, confirming that further intervention is required before the road can safely reopen:

- At Site 1a, cracking has increased from approximately 15 metres in February 2026 to around 45 metres by July 2026.
- At Site 2, cracking has increased from approximately 6 metres when first identified in November 2023 to around 110 metres by July 2026.



This rapid deterioration reinforces the importance of undertaking the additional stabilisation works now, ensuring the route can reopen with greater confidence in its long-term resilience.

Delivering a Safer, More Reliable Route

Safety remains the Council's top priority. Current engineering assessments show that further stabilisation is required before the road can reopen to unrestricted traffic.

Completing the newly identified works alongside the original repair scheme will allow Gloucestershire County Council and its contractor, Montel Civil Engineering, to address the wider ground stability issues affecting this section of Forest Road in a comprehensive and efficient way.

Rather than introducing temporary traffic management and returning for further closures, this approach will provide a stronger, more resilient and reliable route for local communities and road users.

Thank You for Your Patience

We understand the impact the closure is having on local journeys, residents and businesses, and we would like to thank the community for its continued patience and cooperation.

While extending the closure now means a longer period of disruption in the short term, it allows the additional issues to be addressed at once, helping to avoid temporary traffic signals and further major works. This proactive approach will deliver the best long-term outcome for residents, businesses and everyone who uses Forest Road.

Gloucestershire County Council and Montel Civil Engineering will continue to provide updates as the project progresses on the project web page: [Forest Road, Lydney | Highways](#). If you have any questions or concerns regarding the construction works, please contact forestroad@montel-group.com