

26th August 2020

Dear Resident

We're writing to provide you with an update on the construction of your new Sainsbury's supermarket on Station Road, Staplehurst.

As you know, demolition of the old buildings on-site has been taking place over the last few months and the site has now been successfully cleared. Over the past week, the team has been setting up the site ready for construction works to begin, with temporary site cabins being put in place and internal hoardings erected where necessary.

Construction works will commence in earnest from Tuesday 1st September, when groundworks will begin. These groundworks will involve some excavation work across the site, to install the new site drainage, and around the store footprint in particular, to install the foundations for the new store.

Excavators will be used for this work as the development team has chosen not to use the 'piling' method to install the foundations, which would have been significantly more disruptive for the local community. These groundworks are expected to be completed towards the end of October when the steel frame for the store will start going up.

In total, the construction works are expected to take around seven months, with the new supermarket opening in Spring next year. Sainsbury's principal contractor, Base Build, is a member of the Considerate Constructors Scheme and will ensure that appropriate measures are in place to minimise any impact on the local community throughout the construction of the new store.

Sainsbury's is strictly adhering to Government advice in relation to COVID-19. All on-site work is being undertaken in accordance with the Government's social distancing guidelines and we're keeping working practices under continuous review to ensure they align with the most up to date Government guidance.

The new supermarket, which will create approximately 100 new jobs locally across a range of roles and levels, will provide Sainsbury's own-brand and branded food ranges. An Argos store will also be provided inside the supermarket, which will bring great choice, value and convenience to our customers who will benefit from thousands of technology, home and toy products.

P.T.O

We hope this update is helpful and will continue to keep you updated as the project moves forward. If you have any questions about the construction works or the new store in general, please don't hesitate to contact our community representatives, DevComms, on 0800 080 3262 or by email at sainsburys-staplehurst@devcomms.co.uk and they would be more than happy to assist.

Yours faithfully

Ciaran Johnson
Sainsbury's Construction Project Manager

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