

[News story: Toys “R” Us Ltd in administration: how to claim redundancy or register as a creditor](#)

Information for former employees:

Information: [Your rights if your employer is insolvent](#).

If you’ve been dismissed

If you’ve been dismissed, you might be entitled to redundancy pay and statutory notice pay from the Insolvency Service.

Other money you’re owed will be paid to you automatically through the company’s payroll. This includes holiday pay, salary, wages, or overtime you’re owed.

Who is eligible

You can to apply to the Insolvency Service for redundancy pay and statutory notice pay if:

- you worked for Toys “R” Us under an [employment contract](#)
- you live in England, Scotland or Wales

[Workers](#) and [self-employed contractors](#) who provided services to the company are not eligible to apply. Instead, these individuals should [contact the administrator to register as creditors](#).

How to apply

The administrator will give details about how to apply and will also give you a case reference number (eg CN12345678).

Once you have this information you can [apply online](#).

Paying your claim

Once you submit your online application, it takes us an average of 14 days to process your application and pay claims.

However, sometimes we need to get additional information from you or from the administrator. This can take a bit of time.

We’ll contact you directly if we need anything from you.

We always try to pay eligible claims within 6 weeks of receiving the application.

Please don't contact us to check the status of your application until after the six weeks have passed. This will help us deal with everyone's application as quickly as possible.

Getting help

Further information for Toys "R" Us team members can be found on the [Toys "R" Us website](#).

If you have questions about your situation or about any wages, salary, overtime, or holiday pay you're owed, you can contact ERA Solutions by:

- phone: 01827 383531
- [email](#)

If you need help completing your application, you can contact the Insolvency Service's Redundancy Payments helpline on 0330 331 0020.

When calling, please have your case reference number (eg CN12345678) and National Insurance number to hand. If you do not have a case reference number, please contact the administrator.

If you need to email us after submitting your claim, please only use the email address you gave on your application form. Otherwise, we won't be able to respond to you for security reasons.

Other support available to you

[Factsheet: finding a new job, managing your finances and benefits available to you](#).

Information for creditors

You'll need to register as a creditor in the administration if:

- you haven't been paid for goods or services you've supplied to Toys "R" Us
- you've paid Toys "R" Us for goods or services that you haven't received

Information about [how to register as a creditor](#) can be found on the Toys "R" Us website.

If you have any question, you can also contact the Insolvency Enquiry Line:

The Insolvency Enquiry Line can give you general information about:

- insolvency
- redundancy
- what redundancy payments offices do
- where you can go to get the information or advice you need

They cannot give you:

- legal or financial advice
 - information on specific insolvency cases
 - information or advice on matters directly relating to other government departments
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Press release: Second year opens on a high for A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon upgrade

As the £1.5bn project enters its second year of construction at full speed, the team this week found out that they have been shortlisted the 2018 Construction News Awards 2018 in the Supply Chain Excellence category.

This nomination to a top industry award comes after the recent news that the team won the BIM Show Live 2018 Award in the Information Management category (on 27 February 2018). Earlier last year, the team also won the Highways Award 2017 for Team of the Year – Procurement & Supply Chain, and the Judges overall winner award.

The project, which will see 21 miles of A14 in Cambridgeshire upgraded to three lanes in each direction (four between Bar Hill and Girton), is continuing to progress to its challenging schedule to open to traffic by the end of 2020 despite the recent severe weather. It is doing so while being recognised as leading the way in the construction industry.

David Bray, A14 project director at Highways England, says:

Since it was given the go ahead by the Secretary of State for Transport in May 2016, the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme has been leading the way in the road construction sector in many ways.

The way the project delivery team is set up in itself is unique – one big team delivering all the construction packages as one. We're matching each project milestone with the best team to deliver it, drawing from specialist areas across all contractors working on the scheme.

This means we're making the most of the expertise at our disposal and it has already been paying off across the board.

Industry leading delivery

The project's environmental team, which is continuing its work to create 18

wildlife habitats as part of the scheme covering a total of 271 hectares of new habitat by the time the scheme is completed, has received a lot of attention from the public over the past few months.

The A14 upgrade aims to leave a positive footprint on the local environment when it is complete by the end of 2020.

David explains:

Thanks to the publication of the team's high-standard work via the media earlier this year, the team was nominated by the public for this year's BBC Countryfile Award in the Conservation Success of the Year category. Even though we didn't win the award, being one of five finalists nationwide is still an amazing achievement!

Another aspect in which the A14 upgrade is a trailblazer for the construction industry is via the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS). For the past 18 months, the project has been one of 12 pilot 'Ultra Sites' – the first major road infrastructure project to be recognised as such. This has meant that we've helped CCS develop and refine the initiative, which has been an invaluable opportunity for the team.

The Ultra Sites initiative, which was launched on 14 February 2018, demonstrates and promotes the highest standards of considerate construction. Ultra Sites actively seek to become beacons of best practice in the construction industry and a catalyst for exceptional leadership, collaboration and innovation. To find out more, visit the [Considerate Constructors Scheme website](#).

We've also taken community engagement very seriously right from the start

using as many ways as possible to communicate with people living along the A14 in South Cambridgeshire and beyond. We've been using a mobile visitor centre, social media, newsletters, and more to give people a chance to find out more, get involved or even gain skills, get a job or secure funding for community projects. And we're also planning to open our doors to the public soon!

On Saturday 24 March, the project team will participate in the nationwide 'Open Doors – Get in to Construction' initiative, welcoming people to visit one of the project's three compounds. There will be opportunities to talk to the team to find out more about what it takes to build such a huge road

project, as well as come out on a guided tour of the project's construction site. Places are limited and can be booked via the [Open Doors website](#).

The A14 Community Fund has also been very successful in helping the local community forge meaningful links with the road upgrade. The A14 Writer in Residence project led by the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education, which secured funding from the Community Fund last year, has now concluded. A collection of writing inspired by the road called A14 Voices was published on 11 March 2018. The 120-page book contains poems, letters, fiction and short stories from people who live locally.

Recent milestones achieved

David Bray continues:

A lot has happened since the construction phase of the project reached its first anniversary at the end of November last year.

Nearly 40 percent of the project's main construction work has been successfully completed and work is currently focusing on the scheme's 34 bridges and structures while winter continues, marking a pause in the earth works side of the project.

Giant steel beams have been delivered steadily to site since the end of December and many have now taken up their permanent positions on a number of bridges near Huntingdon, including the bridge over the East Coast Main Line train line and a bridge near Brampton Hunt junction which will carry the future A14 over the A1. The 750m long River Great Ouse viaduct, with its 17 spans of piling, has also seen seven of its spans fitted with steel beams, with the rest to come between now and this summer.

And a second bridge was opened to traffic in February: the Brampton Road bridge over the A1, linking Brampton and Grafham. The old bridge it replaces was demolished that same week in just under 19 hours.

Demolition of the old Brampton Road bridge over the A1 on 17 February 2018

Coming up next

We will start the new earth works season as soon as the weather turns milder and drier.

By the time the project is completed at the end of 2020, we will have moved ten million cubic metres of earth across site, equivalent to 4,000 Olympic swimming pools, to build the foundations for the new road. Last year, we moved a quarter of that amount.

This second year of construction will see yet more project milestones reached as well as work starting on new sections of the

scheme's 21 miles of road upgrade. A crucial but challenging part of the project will be the redesign of the Bar Hill junction, on which we will start work after Easter.

We need to build a completely new junction which will span eight lanes of A14 traffic as well as link with the future local access road – at the exact location of the old bridge, which is still being used by traffic every day. This will mean some disruption to local residents at times, though we are planning the work to minimise impact as much as possible and will make sure people are kept informed so they can plan ahead.

More information about work at the Bar Hill junction will be available in the coming weeks.

Other work planned for the coming months includes the installation of beams across the A14 at Swavesey as part of the redesign of the Swavesey junction, where the current path of the A14 veers off to the south marking the start of the future Huntingdon southern bypass.

The Swavesey interchange taking shape – picture taken in January 2018

Work to widen the A1 from two to three lanes in each direction near Alconbury has also been progressing well and a section of the new southbound carriageway is planned to open to traffic by Easter.

David concludes:

Once again, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the roads users and local residents who use or live near the A14 for their patience.

We're continuing to make great progress and the support we are getting from people locally means a lot to us.

The improvements we are delivering between Cambridge and Huntingdon are vital for the local area and for the country's economy and we're doing our best to make sure they are delivered to the highest standard, leading the way and showcasing best practice for future road investment projects as well as building a positive legacy for when the project is completed.

For the latest information about the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme, including job and training opportunities, visit the [scheme web page](#) follow @A14C2H on Twitter and like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/A14C2H/.

General enquiries

Members of the public should contact the Highways England customer contact

centre on 0300 123 5000.

Media enquiries

Journalists should contact the Highways England press office on 0844 693 1448 and use the menu to speak to the most appropriate press officer.

Press release: Highways England encourages young people into engineering

The company is using its presence at the Big Bang Fair 2018 to encourage young people to take up three challenges to test their engineering skills.

One is a gaming challenge asking 11-14 year olds how they would connect two separated communities.

A second invites young Fair visitors to try their hand at being a Traffic Officer, and the third tests their maths skills to work out the right speed limits to use on motorways to keep traffic moving smoothly.

Highways England's Early Talent Specialist Charlotte Potter said:

Engineering is an exciting career and we are encouraging more children to become the engineers of the future. Our three challenges on our stand at the Big Bang Fair show the variety of work we do, from major projects to connect communities to the daily job of keeping our roads flowing. We hope young people will be inspired by the variety of roles we offer and look to Highways England as an employer.

A Big Bang Fair visitor tries one of the challenges at the Highways England stand

The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair, taking place until 17 March at the NEC, Birmingham, is a celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) for young people in the UK, attracting thousands of visitors each year.

Highways England needs a continuing pipeline of young engineers to help deliver the massive investment planned for the country's motorways and major A-roads, benefitting the economy and improving people's lives. Over the next few months the company will be taking on 75 apprentices and 35 graduates.

Simulator

A Big Bang Fair visitor experiences the Highways England simulator

The Highways England driver simulator will test participants' awareness skills as they use this technology and real-life scenarios to experience life on the road. Could they make it as a Traffic Officer to access the incident safely and quickly?

Connecting Communities

Highways England has developed a gaming challenge for children to try and solve. The task is a classic engineering problem; connecting two separated communities with either a bridge or tunnel. But how will they do it?

Variable Speed Limits

Highways England has devised a maths-based activity around traffic flow data to demonstrate how variable speed limits are needed on motorways to smooth the flow of traffic.

To find out more about the roles, apprenticeships or graduate placements within Highways England, and sign up for e-mail alerts visit [Highways England's careers homepage](#).

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[**News story: New IP and trade toolkits for SMEs**](#)



IP connect is the Intellectual Property Office media service.

The production of the toolkits followed a meeting of the UK – US Trade and Investment Working Group in November 2017.

The Working Group, which will meet for the third time later this month, works to deepen current trade and investment ties between the two nations. It lays the groundwork for a potential, future free trade agreement once the United Kingdom leaves the European Union.

SMEs are the lifeblood of the UK economy and trade in IP is an increasingly important part of UK business activity. The UK's global exports of intellectual property services totalled £11.5 billion in 2015. At the start of 2017, 99.9% of private sector businesses in the UK were SMEs. These toolkits will provide information to SMEs to encourage trade between our two countries.

The following toolkits are available:

The IPO would welcome your views on the toolkits and ways in which they could be used. Our trade team can be contacted at IPOTrade@ipo.gov.uk.

Published 16 March 2018

[Research and analysis: Accounting for adaptive capacity in FCERM options appraisal](#)

Adaptive capacity is the ability to adjust to future change in order to take advantage of opportunities that arise and appropriately manage additional risks that are presented.

The Environment Agency has produced a new guide that provides tools to ensure that future flexibility is properly valued in Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk

Management (FCERM) decision making and options appraisal. This will help to identify cost-effective solutions, able to cope with multiple future uncertainties.

The new tools and guide will supplement existing appraisal guidance, providing practical tools that can be used to assess the value of building in future flexibility.