

A27 Chichester Bypass Improvement Scheme Update – April 2016

This update is for residents and stakeholders who are interested in the A27 Chichester Bypass improvement scheme. If you would like to be removed from our contact list, please reply to this email and type “unsubscribe” into the subject bar.

Progress on developing scheme options

We are looking at a number of options to improve the existing A27 Chichester Bypass and assessing their ability to meet the scheme objectives which are to:

- Reduce congestion
- Improve road safety
- Reduce the environmental impact of the road, particularly on air and noise
- Improve journey time reliability on the national road network
- Support the growth of local and regional economies
- Deliver the scheme in advance of the provision of new housing, in line with the Chichester Local Plan
- Improve regional connectivity
- Improve accessibility to areas with tourist activity

We will improve up to four junctions on the A27 between Fishbourne Road and Portfield Way. At present the options are still being refined to determine their performance in catering for forecast traffic flows and their environmental impact. We are also making sure they are affordable.

The main congestion hotspots are the Fishbourne Road and Bognor Road roundabouts. The solutions for these junctions are likely to be the most significant but as yet we have no preferred option and a decision will not be made until after a full public consultation has taken place. Some of the options we are considering are:

Grade separation

This means that one or more junctions will be rebuilt so they operate as flyovers, most likely by elevating the A27 over an existing roundabout, separating the long distance and the local traffic to reduce congestion and the conflict points.

Installing traffic lights

Traffic lights manage traffic flow, allowing priority to be given to particular journeys. For example, at the busiest times of the day, traffic can be allowed to move more freely along the A27 or local traffic can find it easier to cross. It may also reduce overall delays if some movements are restricted such as right turns. Installing traffic lights can also provide opportunities to improve facilities for cyclists, pedestrians and other non-motorised road users.

‘Hamburger’ roundabouts

Hamburger roundabouts are named after the shape they resemble on a map and are also sometimes called ‘through-about’. They are designed to allow a major road to pass through the centre of the roundabout whilst local traffic is still able to drive around. These can be controlled by traffic lights.

Consultation in the summer

We are working collaboratively with West Sussex County Council and Chichester District Council to ensure the local community are able to tell us what they think about the options.

After taking your views into account, we will present a Consultation Report to the Minister for Roads who will make the final decision on any recommendations and officially issue a Preferred Route Announcement, expected in autumn 2016.

Key dates for the scheme

We understand the need for improvements to the A27 at Chichester due to the problems which residents and businesses experience on a daily basis. The postponed consultation has not affected our timeline for delivering of the scheme:

Full public consultation on the scheme options	Anticipated in late June 2016
The preferred route designed in more detail	2017 (dates to be confirmed)
Full public consultation on the preferred route	
Start of works (if planning consent is granted)	2019
Works complete and open for traffic	2021-2023 (depending on which option is selected)

Keep in touch

The A27 Chichester bypass improvement scheme is essential to improve traffic, safety and economic growth in the region. To find out more:

Visit: www.highways.gov.uk/a27chichester

Call: 0300 123 5000

Email: A27ChichesterBypassImprovements@highwaysengland.co.uk