

REVEALED: Draft Options For New Chichester Bypass

Spirit FM has received maps from an anonymous source, which show the seven draft options for the new Chichester bypass. Highways England has commissioned roads company Mott MacDonald to come up with potential routes around the city to take traffic off the A27.

As part of our joint campaign with the Chichester Observer for transparency we are publishing them in tandem now, ahead of any official release. We would like to stress these are draft maps only which are subject to change. Today the organisation revealed it shared these drafts of technical proposals with stakeholders.

What The Maps Show

Option Four and Five show a new route north of Chichester, diverting off at Fishbourne and through Lavant, where a major new junction would join the A286, run through Goodwood and join back with the current A27 just before Tangmere and Boxgrove.

The first four options all show upgrades to the current route, but perhaps of most surprise is the final option, which shows part of a new southern route which would cut through Runcton, Oving and Tangmere, where it would rejoin the current route.

The first four options (Option One, Two, Two with alternative link road, and Three) all show upgrades of the existing route to the south of Chichester, with the construction of new junctions at all five roundabouts along the stretch.

The two options that have caused most concern amongst Chichester Deserves Better campaigners, and those living north of the city, are options Four and Five. They both propose a new northern bypass, with one appearing to run north, and the other south, of housing at West Broyle.

Both appear to show a major new roundabout junction on land between north Chichester and Lavant, which would link the A286. Both then seem to follow the same path along the Goodwood Straight, just north of the Airfield, and then join the current A27 just east of the flyover for the A285.

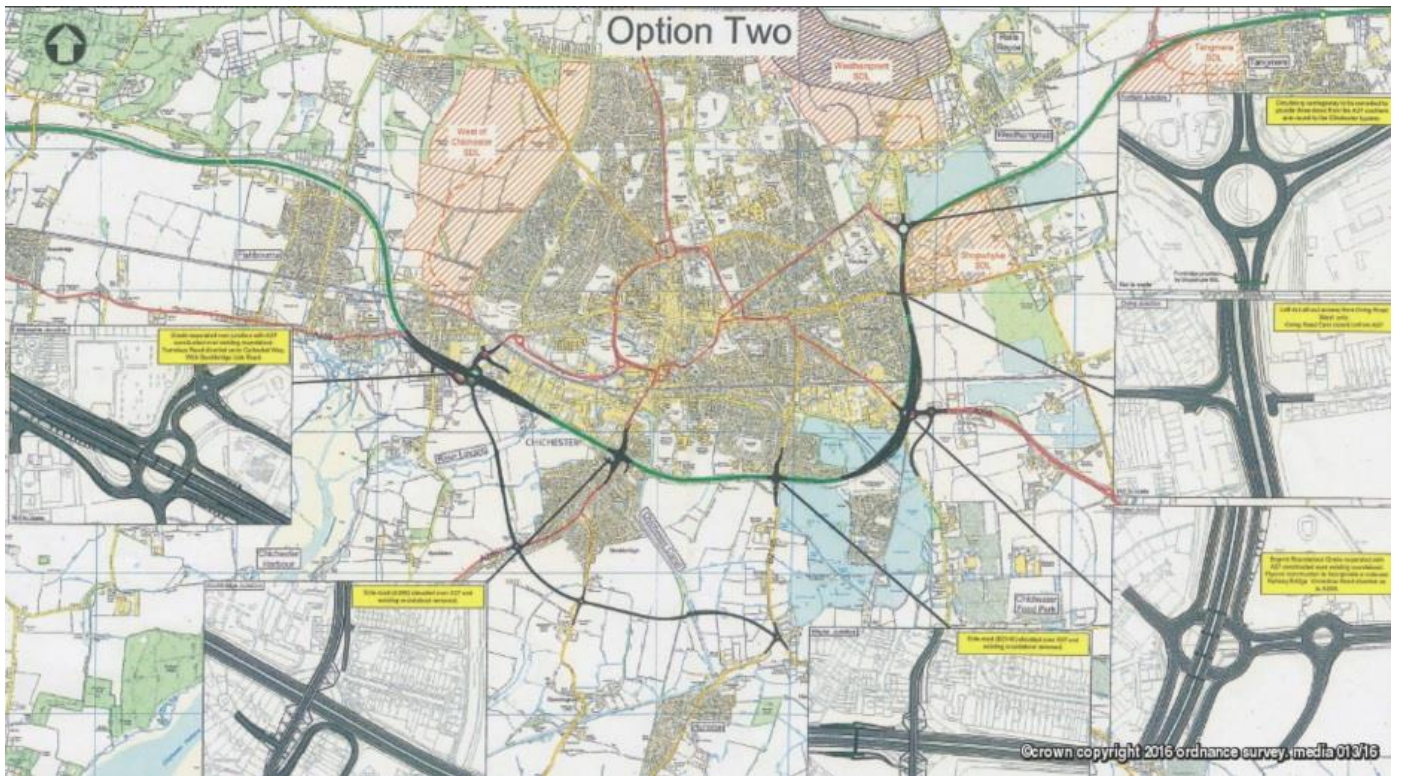
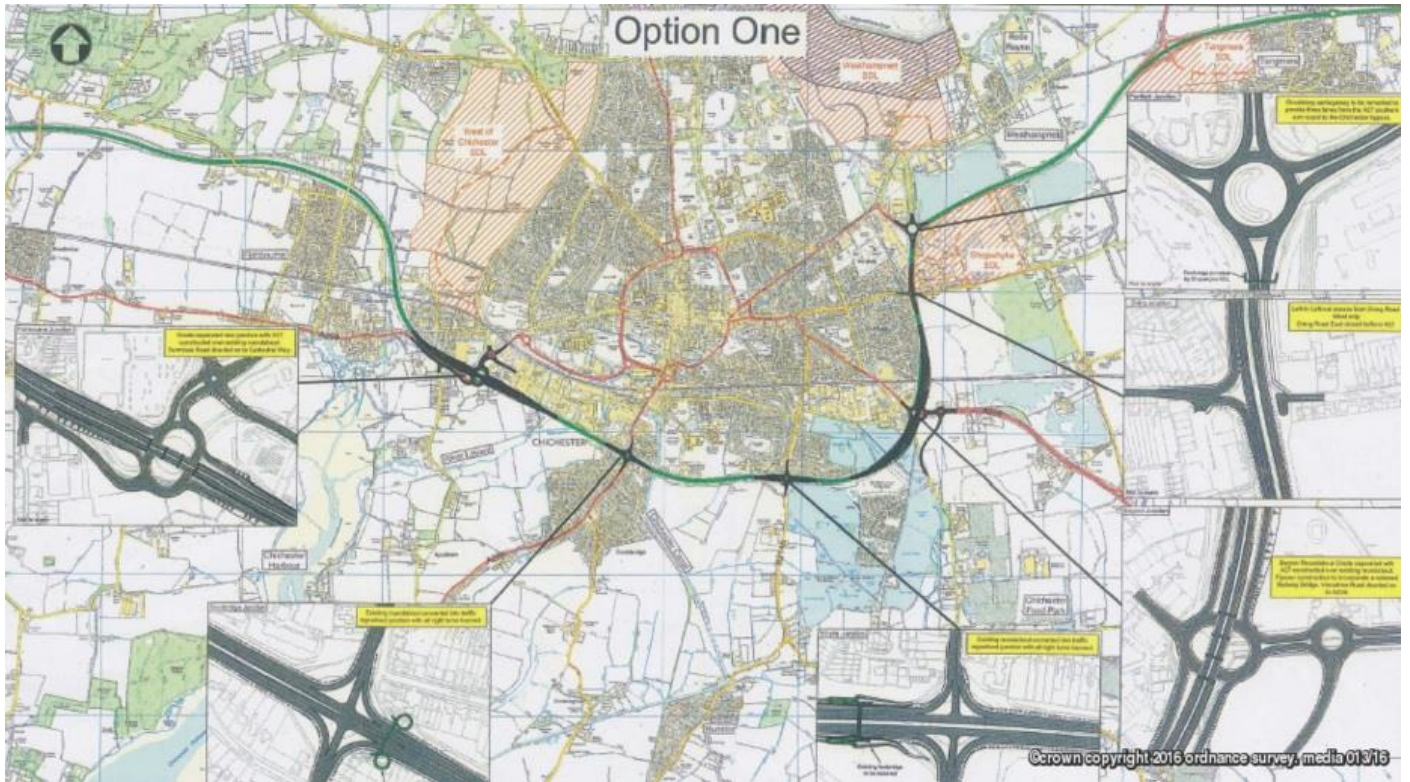
The final option proposes using the same current A27, but then diverting south at Runcton, through land at Drayton, Oving and Tangmere, where it would rejoin the current trunk road.

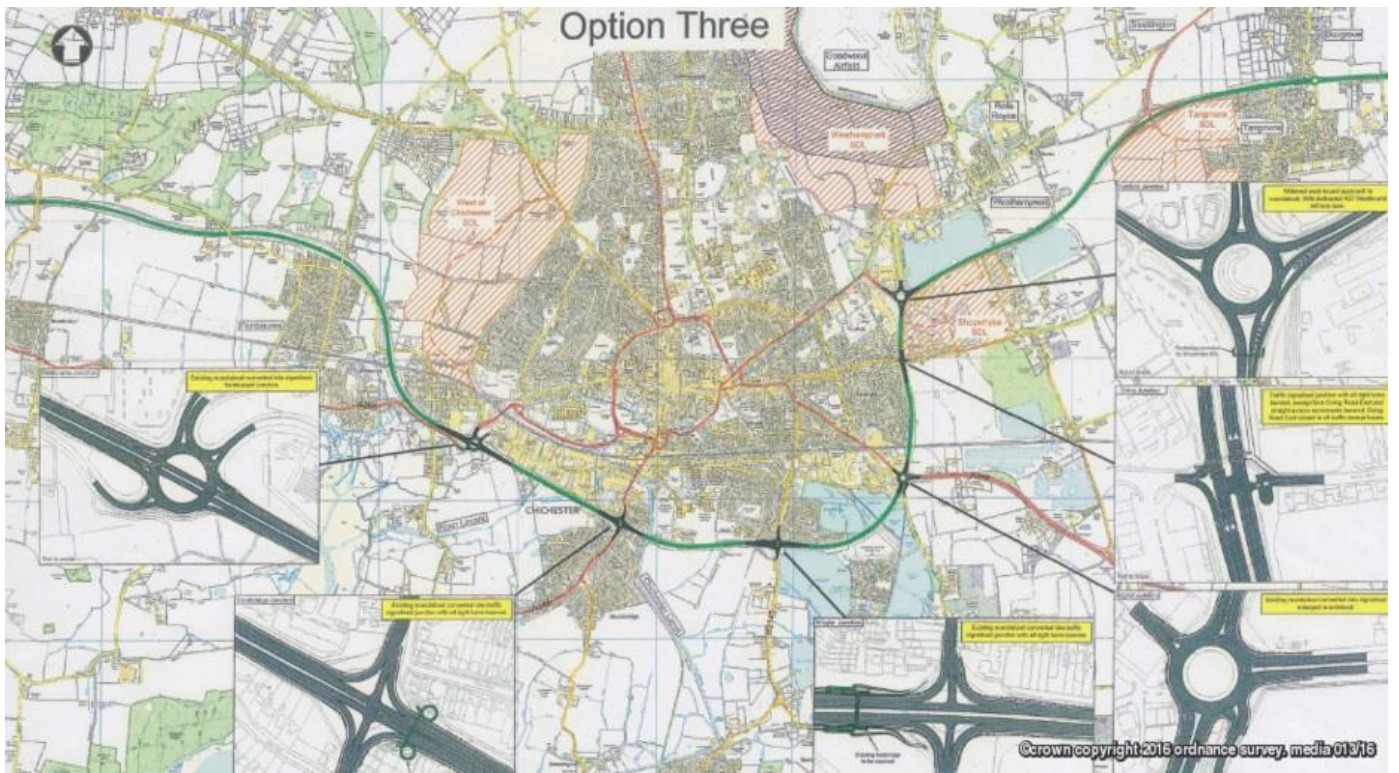
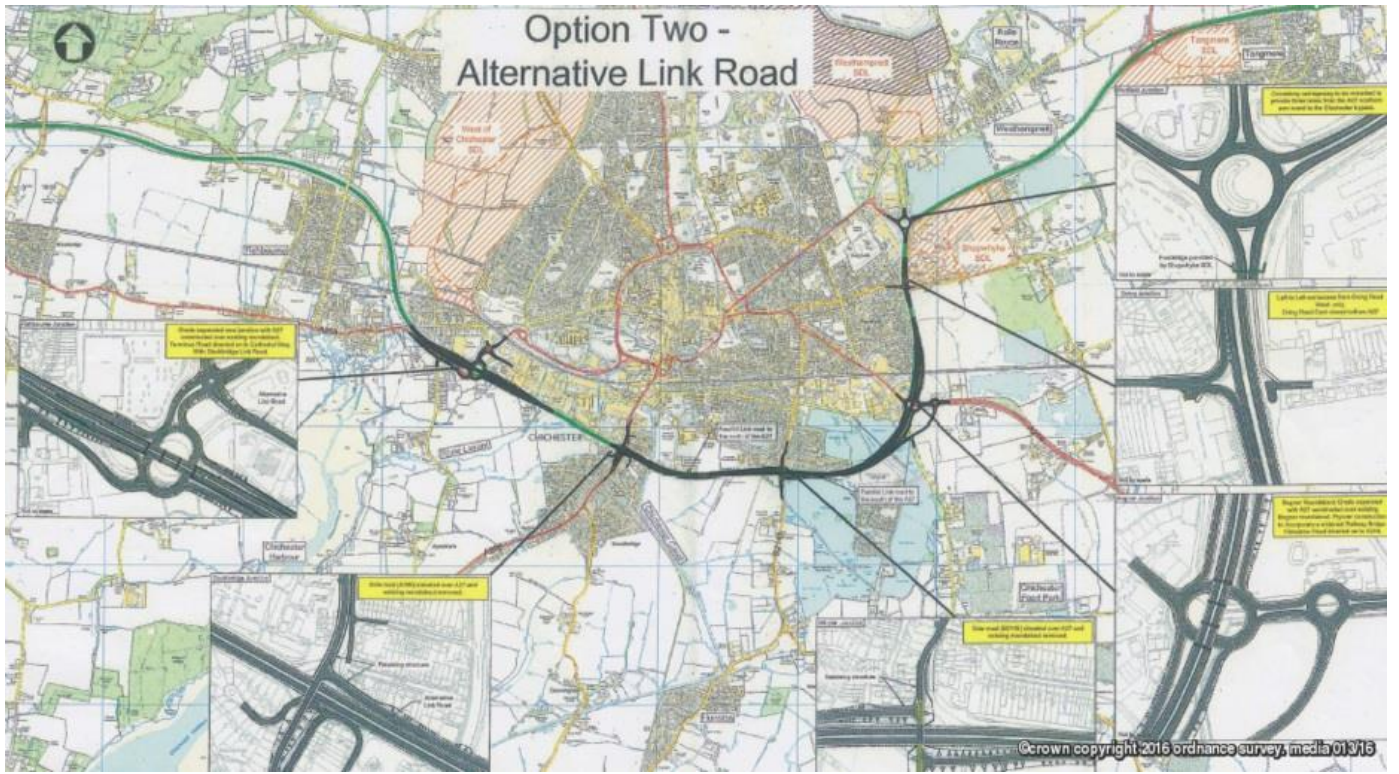
After pressure from Spirit FM and the Chichester Observer, Highways England issued the following statement:

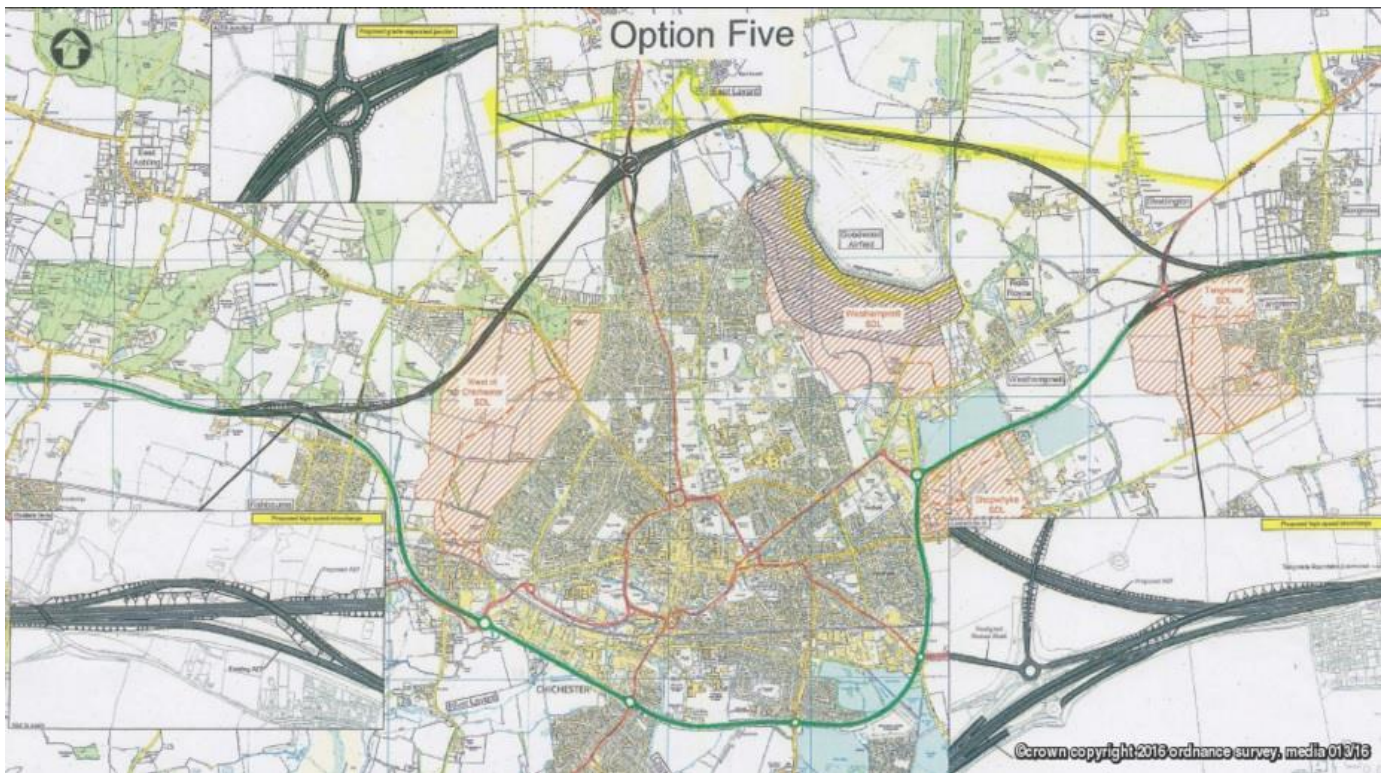
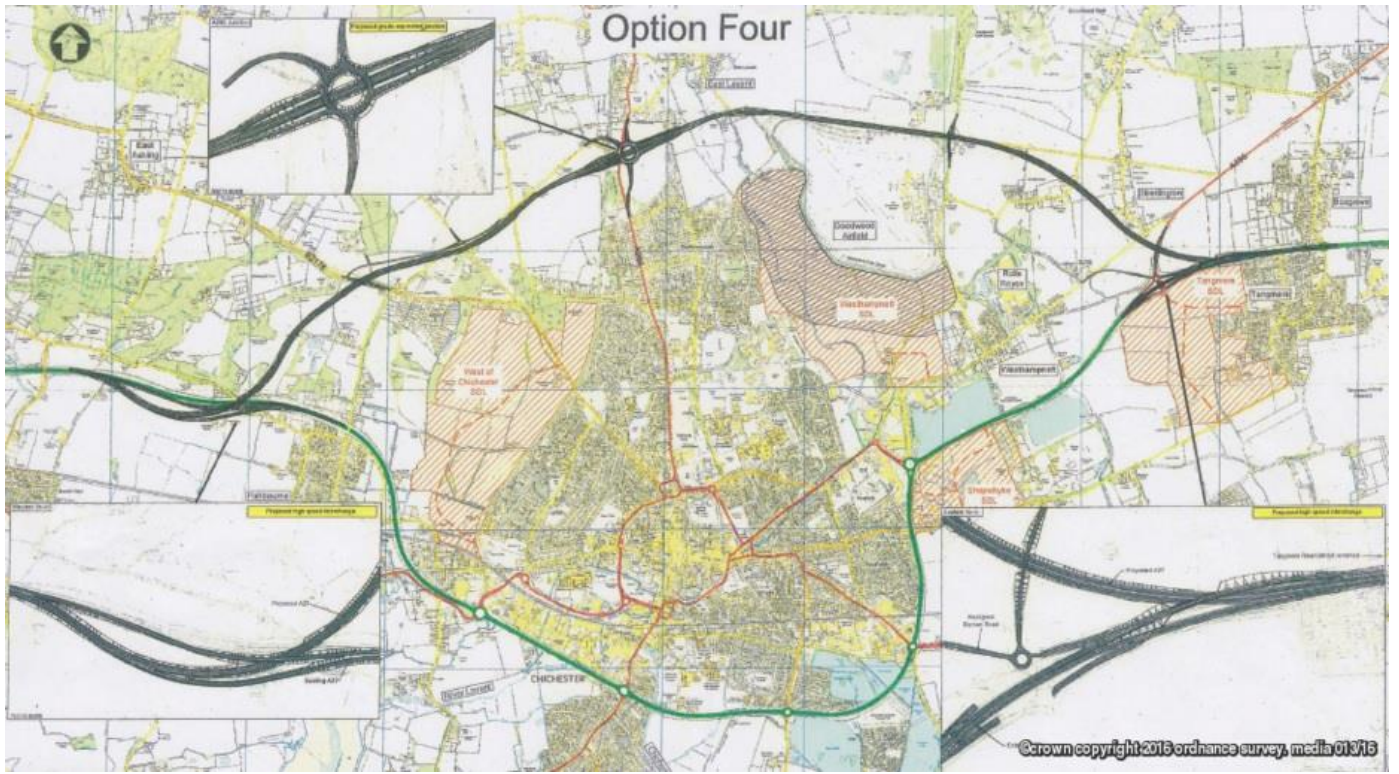
The maps published today by Spirit FM and the Chichester Observer show early drafts of technical proposals we have shared with stakeholders. They do not fully reflect our current plans and are still subject to further change. As we have said many times, we will put all of our shortlisted options to the public for their views this spring as soon as they are finalised. Our starting point for improving the A27 near Chichester are the long-standing proposals for a series of junction upgrades along the existing route of the A27 and the work we are currently doing will help us to assess if that remains the best option. We genuinely want to hear what people think about the finalised options, and we remain on course to run a public consultation this spring.

Petition Against New Bypass

So far they've been kept under wraps, which has caused anger amongst local residents and led to a campaign group being formed called Chichester Deserves Better. A petition set up by the group has so far attracted almost 3,000 signatures.







Option Six

