

# A38 Derby junctions

Newsletter issue 3 – Winter 2015/16



*Aerial view of Marketon junction*

**W**elcome to our third issue of the A38 Derby junctions newsletter. Our newsletters are designed to keep you informed with progress updates on the scheme on a quarterly basis.

## **Current Progress**

Throughout 2015 we have been developing a traffic model to assess the scheme, with the help of Derby City and Derbyshire County Councils.

We began in March by collecting traffic flow data, you may have seen some rubber tubes stretched across the roads at the time. We have also collected information about traffic movements at the individual junctions, including longer distance movements across the A38 corridor. We have collected a significant amount of data and collating it has taken us some time, but we now have a traffic model that simulates 2015 traffic movements and current travel conditions.

*continued overleaf*



*A lapwing, just one of the birds appearing in the survey*

Meanwhile, we are progressing with local environmental surveys to understand the potential impact of the scheme and how we can mitigate these impacts. An overwintering birds' survey is currently ongoing and our air quality monitoring is due to be completed this winter.

We have now published a copy of the Public Consultation Report on the website and this can be found at the web address on the back page.

## **Next Steps**

### **Traffic Modelling and Scheme Assessment**

Now that we have a traffic model, we will be looking at the development plans for Derby and its surrounding area so we can consider the increased traffic flows as a result of projected economic growth and future population increases.

We will use the model and the development plans to forecast the future year demand for the A38 route at its junctions and on nearby roads. The model will include the proposed improved A38 Derby junctions.

The traffic flow forecasts will be used to check how the existing junctions and proposed junction improvements will operate in the future. For example, where we are providing pedestrian routes and cycle crossings through the new junctions, the road layouts will be configured to minimise the delays to all road users.

The traffic forecasts will be the basis for assessing the impacts of the proposed scheme on noise and air quality levels. This in turn, will lead to a review of the mitigation measures that may be required. They will also be used to evaluate the travel delay benefits which will be used to assess the benefit to cost ratio to help demonstrate the need for the scheme.

Finally, we will be using the traffic model to better understand the impacts of constructing the junction improvements. We can use our traffic model to look at where the worst impacts might occur and then identify construction strategies that will minimise delays. Some construction strategies will cost more than others, but we recognise that these extra costs need to be balanced against the social and economic costs of delays to the public.

## Ground Investigation

Over the next few months we are continuing to develop the proposals for each junction, taking into consideration the potential impact they may have on the surrounding areas. To help us understand the ground conditions, we will be undertaking ground investigation and groundwater monitoring surveys. The purpose of these surveys is to take soil and rock samples which will be tested in a laboratory to determine the local ground strength and composition. This information will inform the design of the proposed structures and earthworks. We will need to clear some vegetation in localised areas to carry out these surveys.

Prior to the ground investigation surveys, we will also carry out archaeological surveys at selected locations to understand whether the scheme could impact on any archaeological heritage present in the area.

We are engaging with land owners and have recently sent letters to those with land we may need access to carry out surveys. If access is required we will make contact again, with more details of dates, types of works and what will be involved, to agree on access arrangements.

## Environmental Assessment

In November 2015 we sent details of our proposed approach to assess the potential environmental effects of the scheme to selected consultees, including the local councils. Comments on this have now largely been received and we have started to assess how the scheme will impact the environment during its construction and operation. The assessment will consider the following:

- Air Quality
- Cultural Heritage
- Landscape
- Nature Conservation
- Geology and Soils
- Materials
- Noise and Vibration
- People and Communities
- Road Drainage and the Water Environment (including Flooding)



*Aerial view of Little Eaton junction*

The assessment will use the results obtained from the surveys to specify the measures considered necessary to mitigate and manage identified environmental effects.



*Aerial view of Kingsway junction*

If you need help accessing this or any other Highways England information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

## Contact us

For general enquiries about the scheme or to receive electronic versions of this and future leaflets, contact the Highways England project team via our email address:

[A38derbyjunctions@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:A38derbyjunctions@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Alternatively please call the team on:

**0161 930 5997**

You can also visit our website for more information about the scheme and to register for email alerts whenever changes are made:

[www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/a38-derby-junctions](http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/a38-derby-junctions)



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