

A1 in Northumberland: Morpeth to Ellingham Statement of Community Consultation

We operate, maintain and improve England's motorways and major A-roads. The A1 in Northumberland: Morpeth to Ellingham Scheme is a critical part of our ongoing investment, and will improve journeys between Morpeth and Felton and Alnwick to Ellingham which will bring benefits to the area.

Consulting the community - previous consultation

We have already carried out two rounds of consultation in the vicinity of the Scheme, where we sought your views on:

- The proposals for the A1 in Northumberland: Morpeth to Felton
- The proposals for the A1 in Northumberland: Alnwick to Ellingham

Consultees were asked for their views on the above proposals separately as the intention was that a DCO application would be pursued for each section. However, Highways England is now proposing to seek consent for both sections under one DCO application and this consultation is seeking your views on that proposal.

The consultation will run from **16 April 2020** until **21 May 2020**.

We are publishing this Statement of Community Consultation to outline our approach to consulting with the local community for the above Scheme. It provides details about how you (the local community) can take part and how feedback will be used to influence our proposed design.

To make sure we approach our consultation in the very best way for the local community, we've consulted on this document with Northumberland County Council.

This Statement also gives you the background to the Scheme and how our application to build it will progress.

Under the Planning Act 2008, we are required to make an application to the Secretary of State through the Planning Inspectorate for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build the Scheme. The Planning Inspectorate will examine our application and the Secretary of State will decide on whether the Scheme should go ahead based on a recommendation made by the Planning Inspectorate. We anticipate that our DCO application for the scheme will be submitted in late spring 2020. We are publishing this Statement under section 47 (duty to consult local community) of that Act.

The best time for you to have your say to inform our final design for this Scheme is now by taking part in this consultation.

You can find more information about the Planning Inspectorate and the Planning Act 2008 on their National Infrastructure Planning website:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk> or by calling the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000.

The Scheme

The Scheme's main proposals in summary are:

- The upgrade of eight miles of the A1 to dual carriageway between Morpeth and Felton including construction of a new dual carriageway bypassing the existing A1 between Priests Bridge and Burgham Park;
- The upgrade of five miles of the existing A1 to dual carriageway between Alnwick and Ellingham;
- Four new split-level junctions to be constructed at Highlaws, Fenrother, West Moor and Charlton Mires;
- Construction of a new bridge where the A1 cross over the River Coquet parallel to the existing bridge; and
- Construction of a new accommodation bridge at Heckley Fence.

We are carrying out an Environmental Impact Assessment for the Scheme. The Scheme is Environmental Impact Assessment development, and therefore we are publishing a Preliminary Environmental Information Report as part of the consultation material. This gives information about the potential environmental effects of the Scheme and the measures proposed to reduce those effects, such to assist well-informed responses to the consultation.

Who can take part?

Anyone who is interested in this Scheme is welcome to take part. We welcome all views and will take them into account before we submit our application.

How will we consult?

We will use the following methods to promote our public consultation:

Method	Detail
Scheme webpage	A full summary of the Scheme, this Statement and the Preliminary Environmental Information Report will be available to view online.
Statutory notices	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the proposed DCO application and this Statement will be issued:</p> <p>Proposed DCO application - once in a national newspaper and the London Gazette and twice in Northumberland Gazette.</p> <p>Publicising this Statement - once in the Northumberland Gazette</p>

How to respond to the consultation:

Any person may comment on the proposals or otherwise respond to this publicity. Responses must be received between **16 April 2020** and **21 May 2020**. Please supply your response to our simplified freepost address, **FREEPOST WSP A1iN**

Or via email at:

A1inNorthumberland@highwaysengland.co.uk

Information available at and details of local display/deposit locations:

In light of the public health risk during the corona virus (covid-19) outbreak and in line with Government advice on non-essential journeys Highways England will provide copies of the documents, plans and maps being placed on deposit during the consultation period free of charge. Please contact us using the e-mail address or telephone number provided above.

Deposit/display location	Opening times
Northumberland County Council, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF	<u>By prior appointment only (see contact details below):</u> Monday – Friday 11am to 2pm Saturday and Sunday Closed
Appointments Contact	
Alex Sharp, Highways England Consultation Lead ☎: 020 3057 2118 Email: alex.sharp@wsp.com	Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm Please leave voicemail, if appointment is required

Next steps

We will record and carefully consider all responses received during the consultation. We will take them into account in finalising our application before we submit it to the Planning Inspectorate.

We will explain our consideration of the consultation responses in a Consultation Report. This will include a description of how our application was informed by the responses received, and outline any changes made as a result of consultation. The Consultation Report forms part of our application to the Planning Inspectorate.

The Planning Inspectorate will decide whether the application meets the required standards to proceed to examination. This must include their determination of whether our consultation has complied with the contents of this Statement.

For more information visit our Scheme webpage where you can also sign up for email alerts whenever the webpage is updated.

Your data, your rights

On 25 May 2018, the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) became law. The law requires Highways England to explain to you – consultees, stakeholders and customers – how your personal data will be used and stored.

Highways England adheres to the government's consultation principles, the Planning Act 2008 and the Highways Act 1980 as required, and may collect personal data to help shape development of highways schemes.

Personal data collected by the project team will be processed and retained by

Highways England and its appointed contractors until the scheme is complete. In some instances consultation responses may also be sent to the Planning Inspectorate.

Under the GDPR regulations you have the following rights:

- Right of access to the data (Subject Access Request)
- Right for the rectification of errors
- Right to erasure of personal data – this is not an absolute right under the legislation
- Right to restrict processing or to object to processing

■ Right to data portability

If, at any point, Highways England plans to process the personal data we hold for a purpose other than that for which it was originally collected, we will tell you what that other purpose is. We will do this prior to any further processing taking place and we will include any relevant additional information, including your right to object to that further processing.

You have the right to lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority, the Information Commissioners Office.



If you'd like more information about how we manage data, or a copy of our privacy notice, please contact:
DataProtectionAdvice@highwaysengland.co.uk