

## A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project winter update 2023



**Stewart Jones**

Project Director

A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project

Our latest update on the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project gives me the opportunity to introduce myself as the new Project Director, taking over from Lee Hillyard.

As I'm sure you'll be aware, the decision has been made to extend the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project Development Consent Order (DCO) deadline until 7 March 2024.

The reason for the extension is to allow for further consideration of matters including those not resolved at the time the Examining Authority's Report was received by the Secretary of State.

You can find out more about the decision on the Gov.UK web page:

**<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/a66-northern-trans-pennine-development-consent-order-decision-extension>**

Despite the delay, we remain confident in our proposals. We stand ready to deliver these improvements, subject to receiving a positive decision on the DCO and authorisation to proceed to construction.

The A66 plays a huge role in the life of nearby communities. It connects people to jobs, education, health, goods, holiday destinations and other essential services.

Reducing congestion and improving journey times is important but the biggest priority is making this strategic route safer for those who use and live near the road.

Thousands of holidaymakers use the A66 to get to holiday destinations and hundreds of businesses rely on tourism. By making the route more reliable, it will not only improve access to the Lake District, County Durham and the Yorkshire Dales, but will support national, regional and local businesses.

We still need to develop our project design and plans before the March 2024 deadline. We will continue with our discussions with regional and local stakeholders as well as businesses and communities.

You will still see us on the route as colleagues from National Highways, Balfour Beatty, Kier and Keltbray will be working closely with teams from the utilities industry and completing a variety of surveys, site visits and archaeological work.

We need to continue to carry out this work over the coming weeks and months so we are best prepared for the Secretary of State for Transport's decision next year.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update and I look forward to working with you in the future.



# Keep in touch

You can contact us by email on [A66NTP@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:A66NTP@nationalhighways.co.uk) or call us on **0300 123 5000**.

For more information on the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project please visit our website: [www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A66-NTP](http://www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A66-NTP)

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