

# A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme

## Statement of Community Consultation

The Highways Agency on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport is consulting on its planned improvements to the A14 between Cambridge and Huntingdon. The proposed scheme extends from the existing A14 at Ellington to the Cambridge Northern Bypass at Milton, a distance of 21 miles. It includes a new bypass to the south of Huntingdon, carriageway widening on the existing A14 between Swavesey and Girton, and improvements to the Cambridge Northern Bypass. It also includes junction improvements, the widening of a 4.5 mile section of the A1 trunk road between Brampton and Alconbury, and nearly 7 miles of new local access roads. As part of the scheme the existing A14 between the Ellington and Swavesey junctions would be returned to a local road status, and the road viaduct over the East Coast Mainline railway at Huntingdon would be removed. The purpose of this Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC), prepared in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, is to set out how we will consult on our proposals for the scheme. It provides details of where further information can be obtained or viewed and how comments on the proposals can be made.

### The scheme

The Highways Agency (the Agency) is proposing to improve the A14 trunk road between Cambridge and Huntingdon, a distance of 21 miles. The A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme would reduce congestion and improve journey time reliability on a critical and strategic link between the West Midlands and the East Anglia. It would support regional and national growth, provide good value for money and reduce or avoid environmental impacts where practicable. The proposed scheme also aims to improve overall standards of road safety.

#### Features of the proposed scheme include:

- Removal of the Huntingdon viaduct over the East Coast Mainline railway and Brampton Road
- Viaduct over the River Great Ouse to the east of the Offords
- Bridge over the East Coast Mainline to the east of the Offords
- Re-alignment of eight side roads and bridges over and under the new A14 between the Offords and Swavesey
- Junction improvements at Ellington, Swavesey, Bar Hill, Girton, Histon and Milton
- New local access roads from Swavesey to Cambridge
- Widening of the A1 between Brampton and Alconbury, widening of the A14 between Swavesey and Girton, and widening of the Cambridge Northern Bypass between Histon and Milton

### The application

The proposed scheme is classed as a nationally significant infrastructure project under the Planning Act 2008 and we are therefore required to make an application to the Secretary of State through the Planning Inspectorate (as responsible agency) for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build the scheme. The application is planned to be made in autumn 2014. As part of our application the Highways Agency will be consulting on our proposals and will be working closely with communities to understand their views and concerns regarding the scheme.

If our application is accepted the Planning Inspectorate will assess it through an examination process and will present its recommendations to the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State then makes the final decision as to whether a DCO should be granted. As part of the examination process the Planning Inspectorate must consider whether our consultation has been adequate. You can find more information about the infrastructure planning process, the Planning Inspectorate and the Planning Act 2008 on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/> or by calling the Planning Inspectorate on **0303 444 5000**.

National Policy Statements (NPS) are documents published by the Government which set out the objectives and policies for the development of nationally significant infrastructure in particular sectors. They provide a framework for the Secretary of State to make its decisions on DCO applications. NPSs are subject to public consultation and parliamentary scrutiny before they are designated. No designated NPS is currently in place for road schemes. However, between 4 December 2013 and 26 February 2014 a draft National Networks NPS document was published for consultation, this is available on the Government's website: [www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-road-and-rail-networks-draft-national-policy-statement](http://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-road-and-rail-networks-draft-national-policy-statement). It is anticipated that the National Networks NPS would be designated before the application is examined and decided.

This pre-application consultation will be an important time for you to provide feedback on the proposed scheme. The Highways Agency has prepared this SOCC, in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act, to outline how you can participate in the consultation. As required by the Act we have consulted the relevant local authorities (Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire District Councils) about our consultation approach and we have taken their comments into account when devising our consultation strategy and drafting this SOCC.

Construction and operation of the proposed scheme is likely to have significant effects on the environment and consequently the scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development, as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulations 2009. A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) has been developed which includes information on environmental impacts related to the scheme. Copies of the PEIR will be available at all consultation events and community drop-off locations, as well as on our website (details of which are provided below). As part of the DCO application an Environmental Statement would be submitted to outline how environmental impacts have been considered and the mitigation measures we propose.

### Autumn 2013 consultation on options

A public consultation was held between Monday 9 September and Sunday 13 October 2013 to gain the public's views on the options considered, the proposed scheme and the potential tolling arrangements. Further to this consultation a decision was made by Government in December 2013 to not include any tolling options in the proposals. A Consultation Report, providing detail on that consultation, comments received and how the Agency has responded to these, can be found on our website detailed at the end of this document.

### Pre-application consultation

We are holding a 10 week public consultation between 7 April and 15 June 2014 for local communities, residents, businesses, visitors, road users, wider interest groups and the general public to view and comment on the developing scheme. Due to the nationally significant nature of the proposed scheme the Agency will also be engaging surrounding areas and those that may not be within the immediate vicinity of the land but who may be indirectly affected by the road improvements. Our consultation will include a variety of ways of finding out more about the proposed scheme to ensure that interested parties have access to information and are able to provide comment. The range of consultation opportunities are outlined in this SOCC.

The consultation will help to provide an understanding of the proposed scheme, including information on the proposed route, junctions and access arrangements, and design changes since the previous consultation. All consultation venue locations and dates have been identified based on accessibility for individuals, including a selection of weekend and evening events, accessible entrances and clear signage.

All responses made during the consultation will be recorded and carefully considered by the Highways Agency, and will influence, where appropriate, further refinements to the proposals.

Following the consultation period we will produce a consultation report summarising the responses received and outlining how they have been considered in the development of the proposed scheme. We will send this report to the Planning Inspectorate as part of our DCO application. The Planning Inspectorate will consider the application and supporting material and then decide whether it meets the required standards to proceed to examination and whether our pre-application consultation has been adequate.

### Consultation flyer distribution

We will be distributing copies of our consultation flyer, containing information on consultation background and events, to Alconbury, Alconbury Weston, Arbury, Bar Hill, Barham, Boxworth, Brampton, Buckden, Cottenham, Dry Drayton, Ellington, Ellington Thorpe, Elsworth, Fen Ditton, Fen Drayton, Fenstanton, Girton, Godmanchester, Graveley, Hemingford Grey, Hilton, Histon and Impington, Horningsea, Houghton, Huntingdon, Kings Hedges, Knapwell, Lolworth, Longstanton, Madingley, Milton, Oakington, Offord Cluny, Offord Darcy, Orchard Park, Over, Papworth Everard, Papworth St Agnes, St Ives, The Stukeleys, Swavesey, Waterbeach, Willingham, Woolley, Wyton.

## Large exhibition events

A series of large exhibition events will be held to provide an opportunity to view the proposals, to discuss any queries or concerns with members of the project team and to comment on the proposals by completing a questionnaire. Details of the events can be found in the consultation events schedule below, including opening times; please feel free to drop in to the events when most suitable for you.

<b>Bar Hill Tesco Extra</b> 15-18 Viking Way, CB23 8EL <b>Tuesday 8 April 2014</b>	<b>14:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Bar Hill Church Centre</b> Hanover Close, CB23 8EH <b>Friday 11 April 2014</b>	<b>14:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Buckden Village Hall</b> Burberry Road, PE19 5UY <b>Friday 11 April 2014</b>	<b>14:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Cambridge Grand Arcade</b> St Andrew's Street, CB2 3BJ <b>Saturday 12 April 2014</b>	<b>09:00 to 18:00</b>
<b>Offord Village Hall</b> High Street, PE19 5RR <b>Tuesday 15 April 2014</b>	<b>15:00 to 19:00</b>
<b>Huntingdon Commemoration Hall</b> 39 High Street, PE29 3AQ <b>Thursday 17 April 2014</b>	<b>14:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Brampton Memorial Centre</b> Thrapston Road, PE28 4TB <b>Tuesday 22 April 2014</b>	<b>14:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Godmanchester Queen Elizabeth Hall</b> 1 Post Street, PE29 2NB <b>Thursday 24 April 2014</b>	<b>14:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Hilton Village Hall</b> Grove End, PE28 9PF <b>Friday 25 April 2014</b>	<b>14:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Girton College</b> Huntingdon Road, CB3 0JG <b>Saturday 26 April 2014</b>	<b>10:00 to 16:00</b>
<b>Cambridge Science Park (The Trinity Centre)</b> 24 Cambridge Science Park, CB4 0FN <b>Monday 28 April 2014</b>	<b>14:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Cambridge Meadows Community Centre</b> 1 St Catharine's Road, CB4 3XJ <b>Tuesday 29 April 2014</b>	<b>16:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>St Ives Burgess Hall</b> Westwood Road, PE27 6WU <b>Wednesday 30 April 2014</b>	<b>14:00 to 20:00</b>

## Small exhibition events

To support the larger events we will also be holding a series of smaller exhibition events to engage local communities. Members of the team will be available at these events to discuss any queries or concerns. Details of these smaller exhibition events can be found below, including opening times; please feel free to drop in to the events when most suitable for you.

<b>Papworth Everard Library</b> Ermine St N, CB23 3UY <b>Thursday 10 April 2014</b>	<b>15:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Houghton and Wyton Memorial Hall</b> 1a St Ives Rd, PE28 2BJ <b>Wednesday 7 May 2014</b>	<b>16:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Hemingford Pavilion</b> Manor Road, PE28 9BX <b>Thursday 8 May 2014</b>	<b>15:00 to 19:00</b>
<b>Great Paxton CE Primary School</b> Mt Pleasant, PE19 6YJ <b>Friday 9 May 2014</b>	<b>15:00 to 19:00</b>
<b>St Neots Museum</b> The Old Court, PE19 1AE <b>Saturday 10 May 2014</b>	<b>11:30 to 15:30</b>
<b>Fenstanton Church Centre</b> School Lane, PE28 9JR <b>Monday 12 May 2014</b>	<b>16:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>The Hub Cambourne</b> Cambourne Community Centre, CB23 6GW <b>Tuesday 13 May 2014</b>	<b>10:00 to 14:00</b>
<b>Swavesey Memorial Hall</b> High Street, CB24 4QU <b>Wednesday 14 May 2014</b>	<b>15:00 to 19:00</b>
<b>Fen Drayton Village Hall</b> Cootes Ln, CB24 4SL <b>Friday 16 May 2014</b>	<b>16:00 to 20:00</b>

<b>Over Community Centre</b> The Doles, CB24 5NW <b>Saturday 17 May 2014</b>	<b>10:00 to 14:00</b>
<b>Longstanton Village Hall</b> 24 High Street, CB24 3BS <b>Friday 23 May 2014</b>	<b>15:00 to 19:00</b>
<b>Dry Drayton Village Hall</b> High Street, CB23 8DD <b>Saturday 24 May 2014</b>	<b>10:00 to 14:00</b>
<b>Milton All Saints Church Hall</b> Church Lane, CB24 6AB <b>Tuesday 27 May 2014</b>	<b>15:00 to 19:00</b>
<b>Oakington Pavilion</b> Queens Way, CB24 3AW <b>Wednesday 28 May 2014</b>	<b>16:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Impington Village College</b> New Road, CB24 9LX <b>Thursday 29 May 2014</b>	<b>16:00 to 20:00</b>
<b>Boxworth Village Hall</b> High Street, CB23 4LY <b>Friday 30 May 2014</b>	<b>15:00 to 19:00</b>
<b>Madingley Village Hall</b> High Street, CB23 8AB <b>Saturday 31 May 2014</b>	<b>10:00 to 14:00</b>
<b>Lolworth Robinson Hall</b> High Street, CB23 8HF <b>Monday 2 June 2014</b>	<b>16:00 to 20:00</b>

## Consultation materials deposit points

You can also view the consultation materials between **7 April and 15 June 2014** at the community centres shown below. Materials available for viewing at these locations will include the consultation brochure and questionnaire, this SOCC, Section 48 Notice (publicising the proposed application), PEIR, Preliminary Traffic Report, and plans of the proposed scheme layout. You will be able to take a copy of the consultation brochure and questionnaire away with you. All other materials are to be available to view on location.

<b>Huntingdon Library</b> Princes Street, PE29 3PA <b>Mon, Tue, Fri 09.30 to 17:00 / Wed 09.30 to 19:00 / Thurs 09.30 to 13:30 / Sat 10:00 to 16:00 / Sun 12:00 to 16:00</b>
<b>Buckden Library</b> Burberry Rd, PE19 5UY <b>Tue 10:00 to 13:00 14:00 to 17:00 / Thurs 14:00 to 17:00 / Fri 17:00 to 20:00 / Sat 10:00 to 13:00</b>
<b>St Ives Library</b> 4 Library Row, PE27 5BW <b>Mon, Tue, Wed 09.30 to 17:00 Thurs 09.30 to 13:00 / Fri 09.30 to 19:00 / Sat 09.30 to 16:00 / Sun 12:00 to 16:00</b>
<b>St Neots Library</b> Priory Lane, PE19 2BH <b>Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri 09.30 to 17:00 / Wed 09.30 to 19:00 / Sat 09.30 to 16:00</b>
<b>Swavesey Library</b> Gibraltar Lane, CB24 4RS <b>Tue 15.30 to 17.30 / Wed, Thurs 18:00 to 20:00 / First Saturday of each month 10:00 to 12:00</b>
<b>Bar Hill Library</b> Gladeside, CB23 8DY <b>Mon to Fri 09:00 to 17:30 / Sat 09:00 to 12:30</b>
<b>Cambridge Central Library</b> 7 Lion Yard, CB2 3QD <b>Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri 09:00 to 18:00 / Wed 09:00 to 19:00 / Sat 10:00 to 18:00 / Sun 12:00 to 16:00</b>
<b>Histon Library</b> School Hill, CB24 9JE <b>Mon, Sat 09:00 to 13:00 / Tue 14:00 to 17:00 / Thurs 09:00 to 17:00 / Fri 11:00 to 19:00</b>
<b>One Leisure St Neots</b> Barford Rd, PE19 2SA <b>Mon to Fri 06.30 to 22.30 / Sat 08:00 to 20:00 / Sun 08:00 to 21:00</b>
<b>One Leisure Huntingdon</b> St Peter's Rd, PE29 7DA <b>Mon to Thurs 06.30 to 20:00 / Fri 06.30 to 21:00 / Sat 08:00 to 20:00 / Sun 08:00 to 21:00</b>
<b>Chesterton Sports Centre</b> Gilbert Rd, CB4 3N <b>Mon, Wed, Fri 07:00 to 22:00 / Tue, Thurs 09:00 to 22:00 / Sat, Sun 08:00 to 18:00</b>
<b>Brampton Frosts Garden Centre</b> Buckden Rd, PE28 4NF <b>Mon to Sat 09:00 to 17:30 / Sun 10.30 to 16.30pm</b>
<b>One Leisure St Ives</b> Westwood Road, PE27 6WU <b>Mon to Thurs 07:00 – 23:00 / Fri 07:00 to 22:00 / Sat 07:00 to 20:00 / Sun 07:00 to 22:00</b>

<b>Cambourne Library</b> Sackville House, CB23 6HL <b>Mon, Fri 09:00 to 17:00 / Tue, Sat 09:00 to 13:00 / Thurs 16:00 to 19:00</b>
<b>Cambridge City Council</b> 4 Regent Street, CB2 1BY <b>Mon 08:00 to 17:15 / Tue to Fri 09:00 to 17:15</b>
<b>South Cambridgeshire District Hall</b> Cambourne Business Park, CB23 6EA <b>Mon to Fri 09:00 to 17:30</b>
<b>Huntingdonshire District Council</b> Pathfinder House, PE29 3TN <b>Mon to Thurs 09:00 to 17:00 / Fri 09:00 16:30</b>
<b>Suffolk County Council</b> Endeavour House, IP1 2BX <b>Mon to Fri 08:30 to 18:00 / Sat 09:00 to 13:00</b>
<b>Orwell Crossing Lorry Park</b> A14 Eastbound, Nacton, IP10 0D <b>Open 24 hours</b>
<b>Travelodge Cambridge Orchard Park</b> Kings Hedges Road, CB4 2WR <b>Open 24 hours</b>
<b>Papworth Everard Pendrill Court</b> Papworth Everard, CB23 3UY <b>Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 09:00 to 17:30 / Wed 09:00 to 13:00 / Sat 09:00 to 12:00</b>
<b>A14 Cambridge Services</b> Boxworth, CB23 4WU <b>Open 24 hours</b>
<b>Northamptonshire County Council</b> County Hall, Northampton, NN1 1ED <b>Mon to Fri 08:00 to 17:30 / Sat 10:00 to 14:00</b>

*Please note that viewing locations may be closed on bank holidays.*

Consultation materials can be viewed on our website or may be requested from the Highways Agency using the contact details below. Consultation materials will be supplied free of charge. Please contact the Highways Agency for further information.

## Get in touch

**Comments on our proposals can be made by:**

Completing our questionnaire. This will be available alongside the consultation brochure and will also be available to complete on line on the scheme webpage at:

[www.highways.gov.uk/A14CambridgetoHuntingdon](http://www.highways.gov.uk/A14CambridgetoHuntingdon)

Alternatively a paper copy can be printed from the webpage or can be requested free of charge by contacting the project team.

Emailing us at:

[A14CambridgeHuntingdon@highways.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:A14CambridgeHuntingdon@highways.gsi.gov.uk)

Writing to us at:

**Freeport RRAY-TAUA-SUGT**  
**A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme**  
**Woodlands**  
**Manton Industrial Estate**  
**Manton Lane**  
**Bedford MK41 7LW.**

Calling us on: **0300 123 5000\***

If you have any questions about this consultation please contact the project team using any of the above details.

Please also get in touch if you would like a particular representative to attend any of the local events.

**The deadline for all responses is 23:59 on Sunday 15 June 2014.**

\* Calls to 03 numbers cost no more than a national rate call to an 01 or 02 number and must count towards any inclusive minutes in the same way as 01 and 02 calls. These rules apply to calls from any type of line including mobile, BT, other fixed line or payphone. Calls may be recorded or monitored.

In accordance with Section 47(6)(a) of the Planning Act 2008, this SOCC is being published in newspapers circulating in the vicinity of the land to provide notice of where and when the SOCC may be inspected.