

A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon

improvement scheme update July 2016

This newsletter is your regular update on the scheme.

The A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme has been given the go ahead for construction. The decision was announced by the Secretary of State on Wednesday 11 May, following a statutory Development Consent Order (DCO) examination by the Planning Inspectorate.

The judicial review period, which allows people to challenge the decision, ended on 22 June.

What happens next?

Work to build our construction compounds is expected to begin in July 2016 and main construction work will start in late 2016.

The A14 will open to traffic in 2020, although some finishing work, such as the removal of the A14 viaduct in Huntingdon, will continue beyond that with occasional road closures in and around Huntingdon.



Getting ready for construction archaeology work

We are working to open the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme by the end of 2020, although some finishing work, such as the removal of the A14 Huntingdon viaduct, will carry on once the road is open.

This is a very challenging and ambitious timescale, and in order to meet this programme, some work is already under way.

We are currently carrying out surveys to help us understand what archaeology there may be across the area of the proposed scheme.

We have almost completed our geophysical surveys, which are non-intrusive and allow us to establish the potential presence of any archaeological remains. The information from these surveys allows us to make informed decisions about where to dig trial trenches to allow closer examination. This work will then be used to help us determine what mitigation measures need to be in place prior to main construction activities.

Earlier trenching, carried out in 2014, identified areas of Iron Age and Roman activity in the form of domestic rural settlements and pre-historic ring ditches.

We will be carrying out trial trenching and mitigation work throughout the construction of the scheme and will keep you updated with any findings as we progress.



Public information exhibitions

You can find out more about the scheme by coming along to one of our public information exhibitions, which will be held in the following locations:

Offord Village Hall

Tuesday 27 September, 2pm – 8pm

Hilton Village Hall

Thursday 29 September, 2pm – 8pm

Bar Hill Village Hall

Saturday 1 October, 10am-4pm

Madingley Village Hall

Tuesday 4 October, 2pm – 8pm

Alconbury Memorial Hall

Wednesday 5 October, 2pm – 8pm

Brampton Memorial Centre

Saturday 8 October, 10am – 4pm

Milton All Saints Church Hall

Tuesday 11 October, 2pm – 8pm

Oakington Pavillion

Saturday 15 October, 10am – 4pm

Swavesey Memorial Hall

Wednesday 19 October, 2pm- 8pm

St Ives United Reform Free Church

Thursday 20 October, 2pm-8pm

Godmanchester Town Hall

Monday 24 October, 2pm- 8pm

We look forward to seeing you there. Our website will also be kept updated www.highways.gov.uk/A14C2H, you can sign up to email alerts to stay informed.



The Community Fund is coming soon

As part of our commitment to support local communities, the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon project team is launching the A14 Community Fund in July.

The focus of this fund is to bring communities together, reflecting the fact that the scheme will have a lasting impact on those in the corridor between Huntingdon and Cambridge, and seeking to bring real, positive change for those who live there.

The removal of the viaduct in Huntingdon, the de-trunking of the A14 between Huntingdon and Fenstanton, along with the creation of a local access road alongside the A14 opens up a wide range of opportunities including connectivity and accessibility, health and wellbeing, heritage, arts, skills and culture.

We want to work with local communities to make the most of these opportunities and we are looking for project proposals from across the scheme corridor and from a range of not for profit organisations such as schools, community groups, and parishes etc, who are delivering charitable projects with public benefit.

Applications should take into account the transformation that the new road will bring to an area, and seek to reflect and take advantage of the improvements.

As an example, projects could:

- focus on the new leisure opportunities opened up by the scheme
- complement the environmental measures being put in place
- revisit how public spaces are used

Grants of up to a maximum value of £10,000 are available in a series of quarterly grant rounds which will take place during 2016 and 2017.

The A14 Community Fund is administered by the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation, a local charity that manages a diverse range of charitable funds. Full details of The A14 Community Fund can be found at www.cambscf.org.uk/A14.html

So put your thinking caps on and we look forward to seeing your ideas.

Good luck!

Introducing the project team Anna Smyth



Tell us a bit about yourself

I live in a small village just outside Bedford, but I have lived all over the UK and abroad as my previous career was as an RAF Officer. I've had 11 house moves including Hereford to Gloucester to Watford to Oslo, Norway to Bracknell to Kinloss, Scotland to name but a few.

What is your role on the project?

I am the lands and property stakeholder assistant project manager for the A14 project. My main role is to liaise with landowners, to keep them informed and help them throughout each of the different phases of the scheme.

What is your biggest challenge?

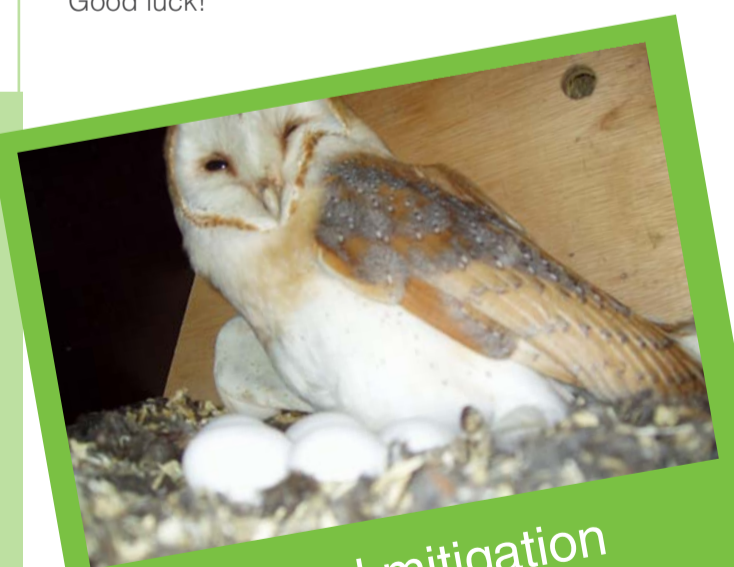
The size of the project and the diversity of issues can make it really challenging to ensure stakeholders are getting timely and accurate information.

What did your last job involve?

I worked on the A11 Fiveways to Thetford scheme. I was part of the project team and worked closely with many stakeholders to ensure the scheme was built as smoothly as possible.

What do you like most about your role on the project?

What I like most are the people I work with and the variety of issues that I have to deal with. I love getting out and about, talking to both landowners and members of the public and being challenged in a variety of different ways on this ambitious scheme.



Ecological mitigation proves a success

As part of our ecological mitigation work, we have installed some barn owl boxes in the countryside surrounding the A14 corridor. When we checked them in Spring, we were delighted to find at least one of these is being used by a pair of barn owls.

Making health, safety and wellbeing a priority

Creating a road that is as safe as possible for road users and for those working on site during construction is our priority.

We have been working differently to other schemes to make it happen.



We will reduce the frequency and severity of incidents through the increased capacity of the road and the installation of electronic messaging signs that warn drivers about incidents and queues.

Our design and construction teams have been working together from a much earlier stage than usual, to ensure we create a road that is safe by design. This collaboration brings together our collective experience of constructing, operating and maintaining roads, helping to design a road which will improve safety.

The most frequent cause of collisions on the A14 is drivers running into the back of the

vehicle in front. We will reduce the frequency and severity of these incidents through the increased capacity of the road and the installation of electronic messaging signs that warn drivers about incidents and queues.

The health, safety and wellbeing of our site workers during construction is equally important. We have combined the expertise of all the companies working on the scheme to create a joint Health, Safety and Wellbeing plan which will develop a culture of safety by:

- Ensuring staff are capable and competent in the work they do
- Working with suppliers who share our commitment to do things differently
- Focusing on staff wellbeing as well as their safety
- Encouraging confidence in our staff to challenge unsafe practices

Atkins and CH2M comprise our design team and our construction team is made up of Balfour Beatty, Carillion, Costain and Skanska.



Keep in touch:

Visit our website
www.highways.gov.uk/A14C2H

Send us an email
A14CambridgeHuntingdon@highwaysengland.co.uk

Give us a call
0300 123 5000

© Crown copyright 2016
You may re-use this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence: visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/ write to the **Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU**, or email psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This document is also available on our website at www.highways.gov.uk, where the size can be adjusted to meet your needs.

If you have any enquiries about this publication email info@highwaysengland.co.uk or call **0300 123 5000***. Please quote the Highways England publications code **PR56/16**

Highways England Creative job number S150370
*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.

Registered office Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford GU1 4LZ Highways England Company Limited registered in England and Wales number 09346363

Printed on paper from well-managed forests and other controlled sources.