

# A1 in Northumberland

## Morpeth to Felton Scheme

**Public consultation exhibition 2018**

# Welcome



# A1 in Northumberland

## Morpeth to Felton Scheme

### Improving safety and supporting economic growth

The A1 in Northumberland is a vital transport artery used by residents, commuters, hauliers, agricultural vehicles and tourists visiting the area.

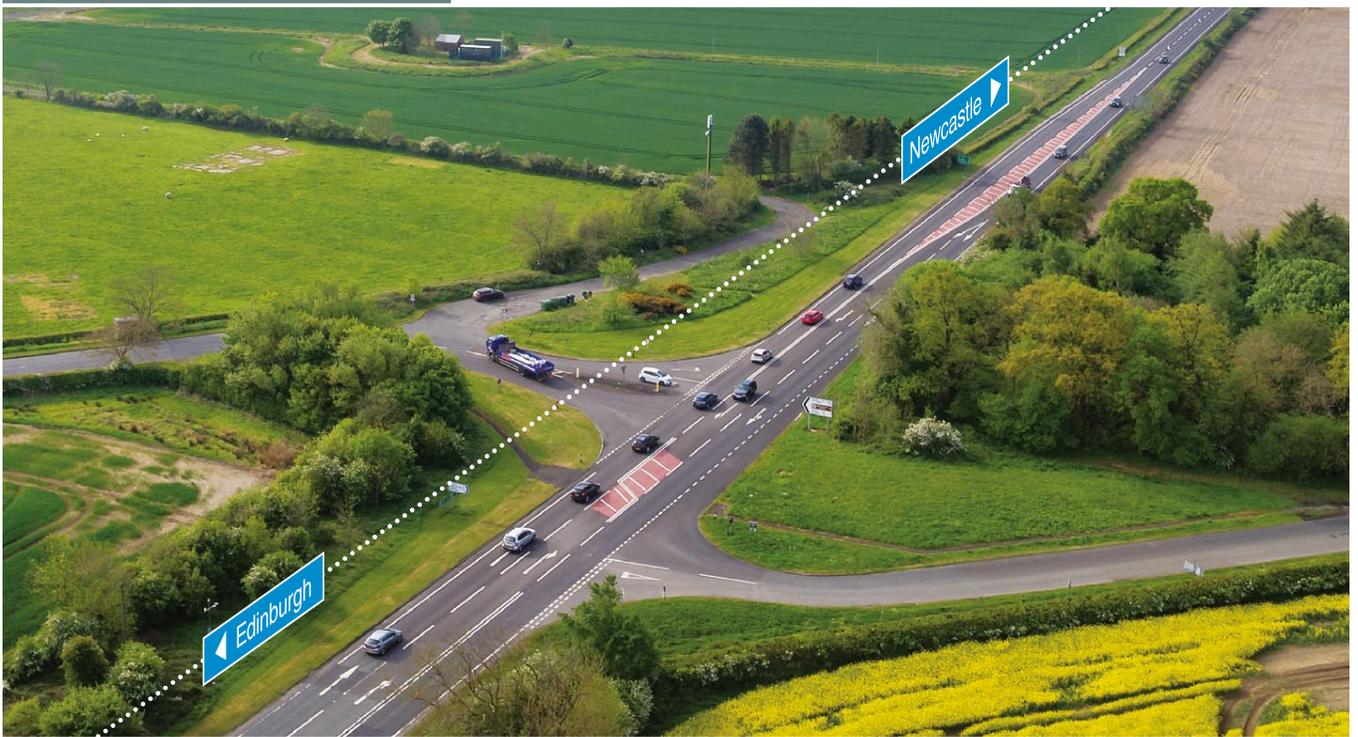
It currently consists of motorway and dual carriageway, with some sections of single carriageway between Morpeth and Ellingham.

In Northumberland, and specifically between Morpeth and Felton, the A1 is used by a wide variety of people for many different reasons. This includes people travelling long-distance between Newcastle and Edinburgh for work, local traffic accessing rural areas and tourists who come to visit the coastline and the area's many historic attractions.

By dualling the A1 between Morpeth and Felton we aim to:

- Improve safety for all users and improve journeys across the route
- Support economic growth in the area
- Provide a more consistent carriageway standard that aligns with the existing dualled sections of A1
- Improve and provide more consistent junction layouts and traffic signage along the route to make it easier for drivers
- Reduce the number of junctions and private accesses along this section of A1
- Reduce traffic delay and improve safety
- Better accommodate the high number of heavy goods and agricultural vehicles that use this section of the A1

Existing A1 Near Eshott Airfield



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## Morpeth to Felton Scheme

### The story so far

In 2014, the Government published its first Roads Investment Strategy, which included a £290 million package to improve the A1 in Northumberland as part of a £15 billion investment in England's motorways and major A roads.

- Between November and December 2016, we held a public consultation to seek feedback on options for the improvement of the road between Morpeth and Ellingham, with the road effectively split into two sections: Morpeth to Felton, and Alnwick to Ellingham.
- In September 2017 we announced the preferred routes that would be taken forward.
- From 18 June until 29 July 2018 we are consulting on the preliminary design proposals for the Morpeth to Felton improvements. We would welcome your feedback on our proposals.
- There will be a separate consultation on the preliminary design proposals for the Alnwick to Ellingham scheme early in 2019.



# A1 in Northumberland

## Morpeth to Felton Scheme

### Key elements of the scheme

We are proposing to upgrade the A1 to a dual carriageway between Morpeth and Felton.

Starting at Warreners House (Northgate, Morpeth) and travelling in a northerly direction, the existing A1 carriageway will be widened up to Priests Bridge.

From here, the new A1 alignment will shift west of its current position and continue in a northerly direction over Tindale Hill and Causey Park.

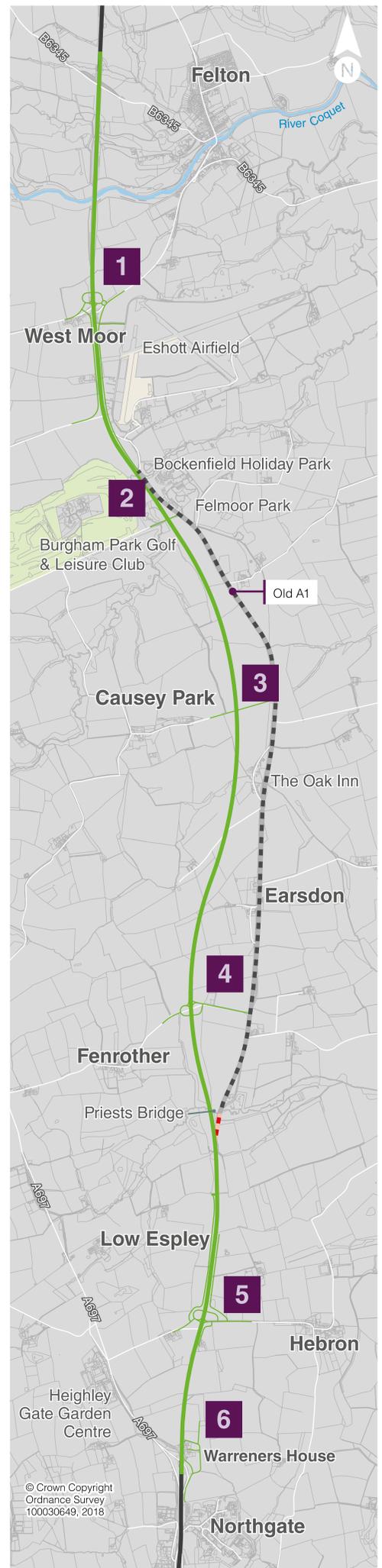
At a point north of Burgham Park, the new A1 carriageway will re-join the existing A1. The A1 will then be widened to a dual carriageway to tie-in with the existing dual carriageway at Felton. The old section of the A1 carriageway will become a local road.

As well as upgrading the route to dual carriageway standard, we also propose a number of other improvements, including 3 new junctions with bridges over the A1.

A bridge over the A1 will be provided near Causey Park, to maintain local access.

**Key**

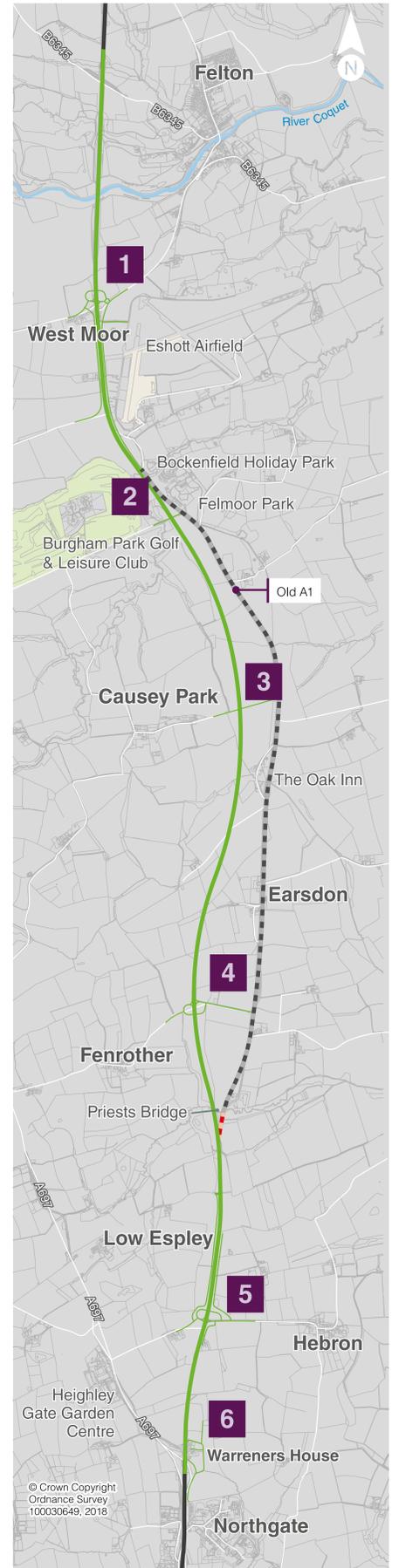
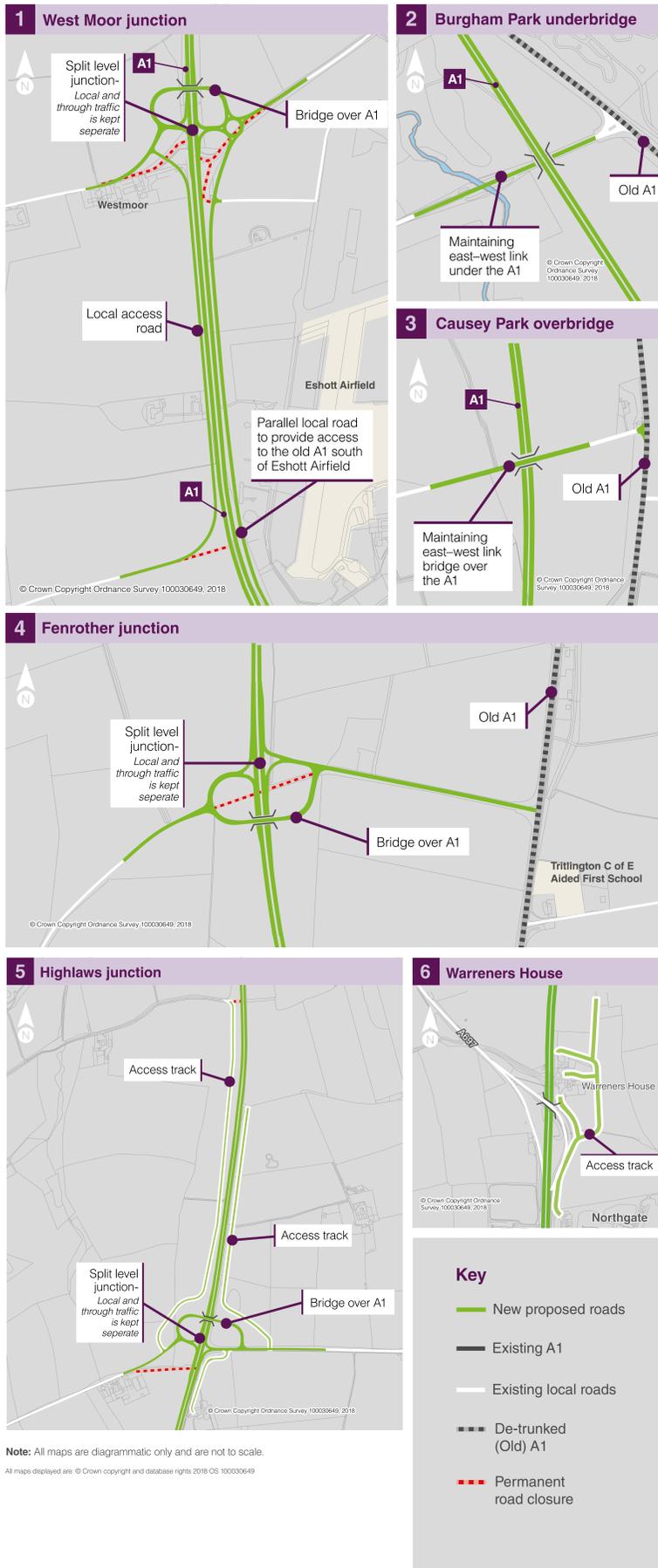
-  New proposed roads
-  Existing A1
-  Existing local roads
-  De-trunked (Old) A1
-  Permanent road closure



# A1 in Northumberland

## Morpeth to Felton Scheme

### What we propose



# A1 in Northumberland

## Morpeth to Felton Scheme

### Our proposed design

#### 1 West Moor junction

A bridge will be built over the A1 to enable east-west traffic to cross the north-south traffic of the A1 without disrupting traffic.

Slip roads on either side of the bridge will enable traffic to join and exit the proposed A1 dual carriageway. To improve connectivity between the A1 and the local roads to Felton in the north and Fenrother in the south, a roundabout will be built to the east of West Moor junction.

The roundabout will enable direct access between West Moor, Felton and Fenrother, without needing to use the proposed A1 dual carriageway.

#### 2 Burgham Park underbridge

A junction at Burgham Park is not viable, however to maintain the existing local access to Burgham Park, we will build a new road under the proposed A1 dual carriageway.

#### 3 Causey Park overbridge

We will build a bridge over the proposed A1 dual carriageway at Causey Park to ensure that the existing local access is maintained.

Proposed West Moor junction



# A1 in Northumberland

## Morpeth to Felton Scheme

### Our proposed design

#### 4 Fenrother junction

A bridge will be built over the A1 to enable east-west traffic to cross the north-south traffic of the A1, without disrupting traffic. Slip roads on either side of the bridge will enable traffic to join and exit the proposed A1 dual carriageway.

#### 5 Highlaws junction

We will build a bridge over the A1 which will enable east-west traffic to cross the north-south traffic of the A1, without disrupting traffic. Slip roads on either side of the bridge will enable traffic to join and exit the A1 dual carriageway.

#### 5 & 6 Access tracks

Replacement access tracks will be provided at Highlaws junction and Warreners House.

#### 6 Warreners House

At Warreners House the direct access onto the A1 will be removed. A replacement access track is proposed to be built to the southeast of Warreners House, which will join up with the residential cul-de-sac, West View. To facilitate the additional vehicle movements, West View will be widened.

In addition, we will build a second road bridge over the River Coquet, parallel to the existing one. This new bridge will carry southbound traffic, while the existing bridge will carry northbound traffic. There will be a gap between the two bridges.

Proposed Fenrother junction



# A1 in Northumberland

## Morpeth to Felton Scheme

### Environment

Understanding the impact of our scheme on the environment and the community is very important to us. Our aim is to reduce any adverse effects while capturing the wider opportunities for improvement created by this scheme.

Following this consultation, we will prepare an Environmental Statement setting out in full our assessment of the potential effects of the scheme on the environment, and our proposed mitigation and enhancement measures.

In the meantime, we have prepared a non-technical summary of our Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report to help people understand the potential environmental effects of our proposal. This document can be viewed at today's exhibition. The full PEI Report is available to view on our website at:

[www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A1inNorthumberland](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A1inNorthumberland)

Pages 11 and 12 of the consultation brochure also outline our current thinking in relation to potential environmental mitigation measures, considering topics such as:

- Landscape and overall look
- Air quality
- Noise and vibration
- Cultural heritage
- Ecology and nature conservation (biodiversity)
- Road drainage and the water environment
- Geology and soils
- People and communities
- Waste and materials



# A1 in Northumberland Morpeth to Felton Scheme

## What happens next?

The consultation will close on Sunday, 29 July 2018. We'll then review all the suggestions and comments received, to finalise the design.

All the responses will be analysed and compiled into a report which will form part of our planning application and will also be available following submission of the application. We expect to submit the planning application by spring 2019 and, providing it is approved, construction work will start in March 2020.

Once we submit our application, the Planning Inspectorate (acting on behalf of the Secretary of State) will examine the application in public hearings and then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport, who will decide on whether or not the scheme will go ahead.

More information about the process can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website,

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

The process for this is explained in the table below.



To help us shape our final design, it is important you are involved now and submit your response by **Sunday 29 July 2018**.

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### Have your say

You can get involved in a number of ways:

Fill in a consultation response form. You can do this online at:

[www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A1inNorthumberland](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A1inNorthumberland)

or you can return one of the printed forms to:

Freepost RSAS-ZGKK-CSUL,  
 A1 in Northumberland project team,  
 3rd Floor South, Highways England,  
 Lateral, 8 City Walk,  
 Leeds, LS11 9AT

All consultation responses must be received by midnight on **Sunday 29 July 2018**. Responses received after this date may not be taken into consideration as part of the consultation

#### More information:

To help you provide your response, you'll find the following documents on our website:

- A detailed Preliminary Environmental Information Report, and a non-technical summary of it
- Detailed plans of the preliminary proposals

These documents can also be viewed here today, or at any of the venues listed below:

Location	Opening times
<b>Morpeth Library</b> Royal Sovereign House, Manchester Street, Morpeth, NE61 1AF Tel: 01670 620 391	<b>Monday</b> 9am – 6pm <b>Tuesday</b> 9am – 5pm <b>Wednesday</b> 9am – 5pm <b>Thursday</b> 9am – 5pm <b>Friday</b> 9am – 6pm <b>Saturday</b> 9.30am – 12.30pm <b>Sunday closed</b>
<b>Alnwick Library</b> Green Batt, Alnwick, NE66 1TU Tel: 01670 622 156	<b>Monday</b> 9am – 6pm <b>Tuesday</b> 9am – 5.30pm <b>Wednesday closed</b> <b>Thursday</b> 9am – 5.30pm <b>Friday</b> 9am – 6pm <b>Saturday</b> 9.30am – 12.30pm <b>Sunday closed</b>
<b>Highways England</b> Great North House, 20 Allington Way, Darlington, DL1 4QB Tel: 0300 470 1660	By prior appointment only: <b>Monday to Friday</b> 9am – 5pm <b>Saturday and Sunday closed</b>
<b>WSP</b> Amber Court, William Armstrong Drive, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE4 7YQ Tel: 0191 226 2000	By prior appointment only: <b>Monday to Friday</b> 9am – 5pm <b>Saturday and Sunday closed</b>

If you have any questions, talk to us today or contact us in the following ways:

 **Email us at:**  
[A1inNorthumberland@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:A1inNorthumberland@highwaysengland.co.uk)

 **Call us on:**  
 0300 470 4585