

A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening

Supplementary consultation
response form

November 2021

Share your views

We want to better understand your views about the proposals for the A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening.

On 16 August 2021 our statutory consultation ended. We received 794 responses and over 2,000 people visited our virtual event space. Despite uncertainty around COVID-19 restrictions, we were also able to safely hold six in-person events. Since then, we have been doing further work on the design we presented at that consultation which has taken into account the feedback we received. When the design of a scheme changes or is updated, it is important that we share that with the public and stakeholders. This is your opportunity to provide your thoughts on the latest proposals.

The A12 is an important economic link in Essex and across the east of England. It provides the main south west/north east route through Essex and Suffolk, connecting Ipswich to London and to the M25. The section between Chelmsford and Colchester (junction 19 Boreham interchange to junction 25 Marks Tey interchange) carries high volumes of traffic, with up to 90,000 vehicles every day. Heavy goods vehicles are between 9% and 12% of the traffic on this section due to its important freight connection, especially to Felixstowe and Harwich ports. This section of the A12 is also an important commuter route between Chelmsford and Colchester. The resulting congestion leads to delays and means that, during the morning commute, a driver's average speed is particularly slow in both directions for an A-road.

Please share your views with us by completing this response form online at www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A12

If you're returning this form to us by post, please follow the instructions on page 14 and pop it in the post – no stamp is required.

The consultation period ends at **11.59pm on Sunday 19 December 2021**, so please ensure your comments arrive with us in time, to help us consider your feedback when we are refining the proposals.

Data privacy notice

We are committed to protecting your personal information. Whenever you provide such information we are legally obliged to use it in line with all applicable laws concerning the protection of personal data, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

How National Highways will use the information we collect:

We will use your personal data collected via this consultation for a number of purposes, including:

- to analyse your feedback to the consultation
- to produce a Consultation Report, based on our analysis of responses (individuals will not be identified in the report)
- to write to you with updates about the results of the consultation and other developments
- to keep up-to-date records of our communications with individuals and organisations

Any personal information you include in this form will be handled and used by (or made available to) the following recipients to record, analyse and report on the feedback we receive:

- National Highways
- Traverse (which has been contracted by us to analyse feedback to the consultation)
- The Planning Inspectorate (which will consider our application for permission to build the A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening)
- The Secretary of State (who will make the decision on our application)
- our legal advisers
- consultants working on the A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening project

It is also possible that trusted third-party providers, for example construction companies, may later use the contact details provided in your responses to communicate with you. We will keep your information for up to six months after the DCO decision has been made.

What rights do I have over my personal data?

Under the terms of the GDPR you have certain rights over how your personal data is retained and used by National Highways. For more information, see our full data privacy statement: www.nationalhighways.co.uk/about-us/privacy-notice/

1. About you

Please provide your name, address and email address.

If you'd prefer your comments to be anonymous, please just let us have your postcode (first five digits), so we can understand where you live in relation to the scheme.

1a. Name:

1b. Address:

Postcode:

1c. Email address:

1d. Do you own land or hold any interests or rights, such as private rights of way or sporting rights, covered by our proposal?

Yes No

If you have ticked yes, have you received a Section 42 letter to notify you of the consultation?

Yes No

1e. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please provide the below information:

Organisation:

Your role:

1f. By completing this response form, you have indicated that you have an interest in this proposed scheme. It would help us if you could identify the nature of your interest below (tick all that apply):

Local resident (live within five miles of the A12)

Local business (business address within five miles of the A12)

Regular user of the A12 (in a private vehicle – e.g. commuter/leisure)

Regular user of the A12 (commercial vehicle – e.g. haulage)

Other (please state):

1g. How do you normally travel on the A12 (or on the adjacent footpaths and cycleways if applicable)?

- Car/Van - Commercial
- Car/Van - Private
- Heavy goods vehicle (HGV)
- Bus
- Motorcycle - Commercial
- Motorcycle - Private
- Walk
- Cycle
- Horse ride
- Other (please state):

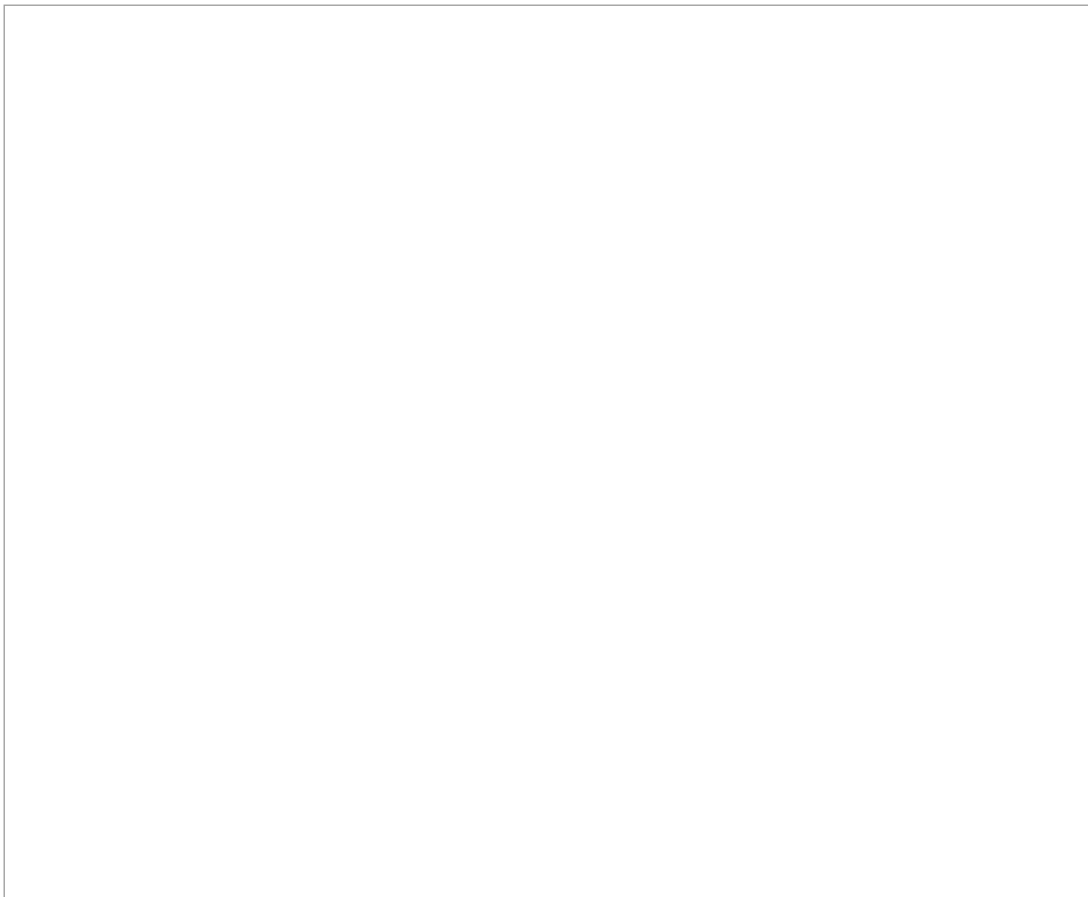
1h. How often do you use this route?

- 5 or more days a week
- 2-4 days a week
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Less often
- Never

2. Junction 21 – southern link road removal (Hatfield Peverel)

In accordance with the feedback we received, our updated design has removed the southern link road proposed at junction 21. Instead, traffic will use a new and enhanced northern link road to access our proposed junction 21. To allow this, Wellington Bridge will no longer only be a bridge for just walkers, cyclists and horse riders (“WCH”). It will now allow for all types of vehicles to travel both ways over it. To ensure walking, cycling and horse riding facilities are maintained, a route will be provided alongside the new connection to allow for the same walking, cycling and horse riding journeys we proposed as part of our statutory consultation. We will continue to work with Essex County Council and walking, cycling and horse riding stakeholders to develop the opportunities, and we welcome your comments below.

Please let us know any comments you may have on this aspect. Please refer to page 12 of the consultation brochure for further details.

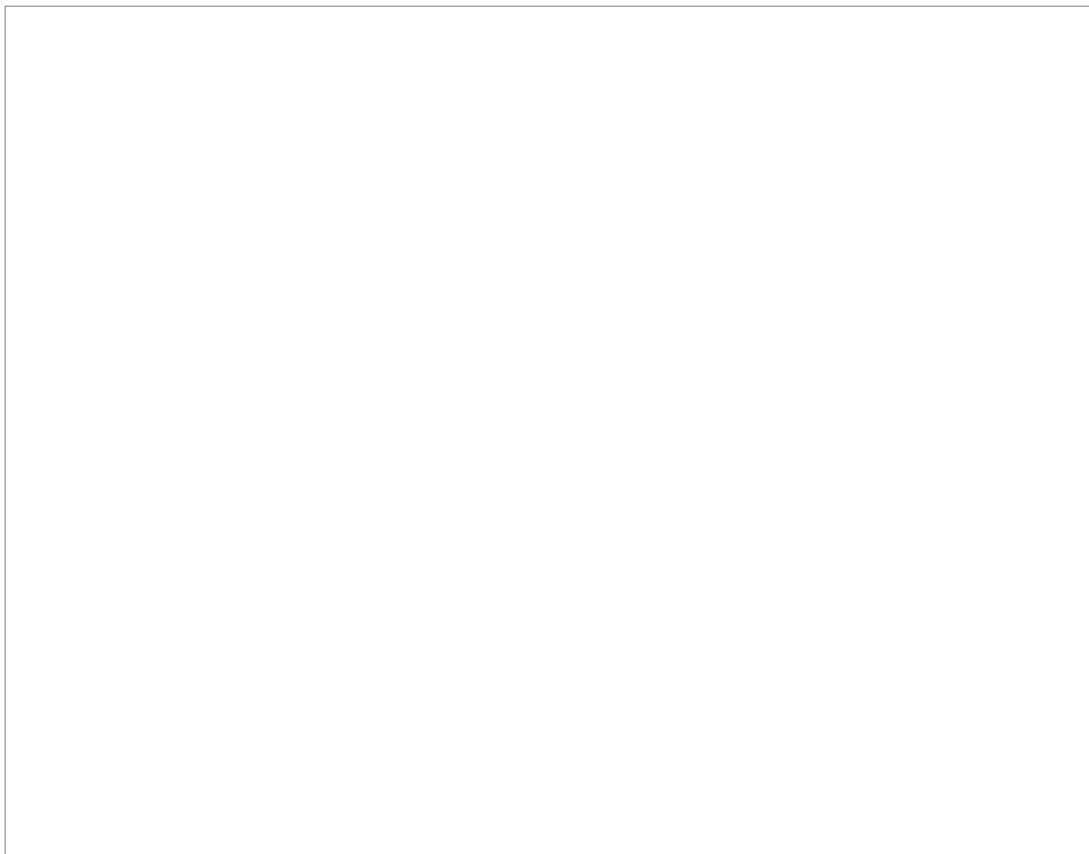


3. Improved road surfacing and removal of noise barrier (Hatfield Peverel)

We received lots of feedback on our proposals for a noise barrier during statutory consultation, with many responses asking that we consider better mitigation for houses on the northern side of the proposed scheme.

We have considered this in more detail, and are now proposing to provide improved road surfacing with better noise performance on the A12 as it passes through Hatfield Peverel. This allows us to remove the noise barrier we were proposing on the southern side of the A12 while at the same time reducing noise levels for more properties than our statutory consultation design would have done, as well as reducing construction impacts.

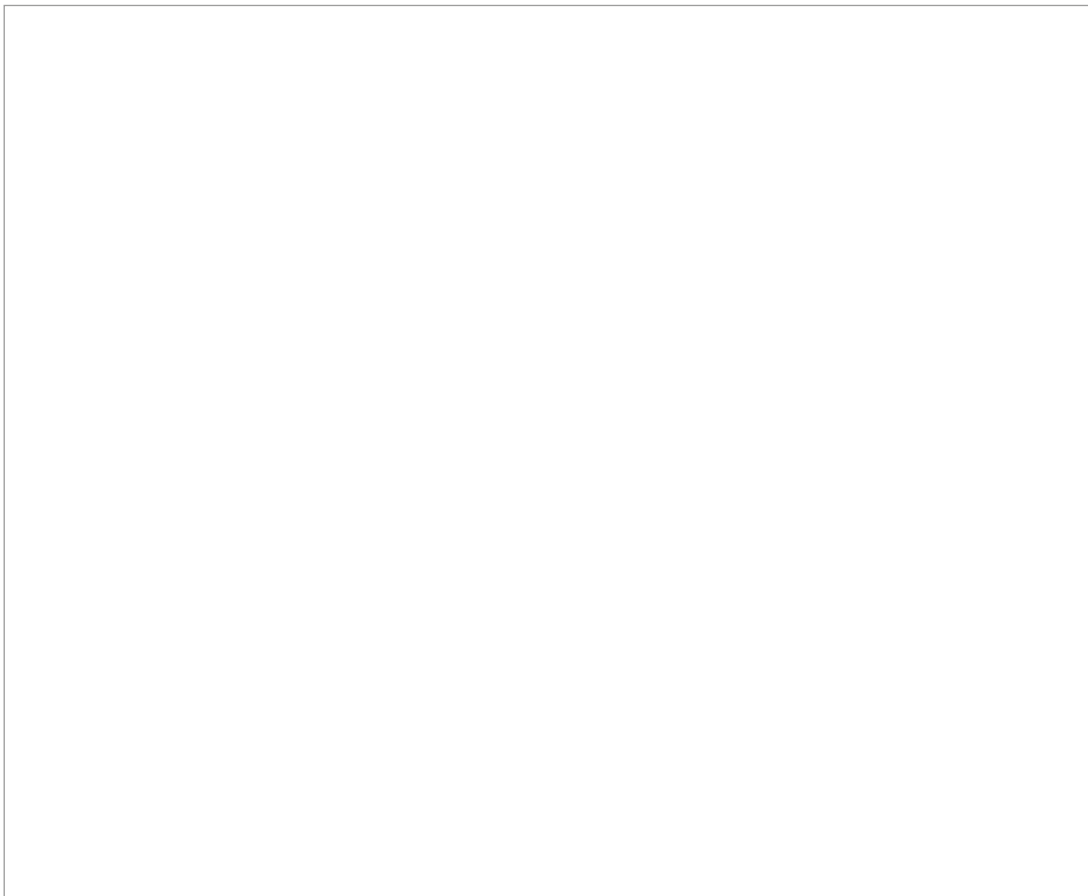
Please let us know any comments you may have on this aspect. Please refer to page 18 of the consultation brochure for further information.



4. Gas main (Witham)

As part of the proposed scheme, we will need to reroute part of the existing high-pressure gas pipeline. We have carried out further work on possible corridors which could accommodate this gas pipeline. This work has identified five corridor options where the gas main could be diverted. We are asking for your opinions on each of the possible diversion corridors. It is important to note that the decision on which route which will be taken forward will be a decision for Cadent Gas Limited who operate and maintain the gas distribution network, but your comments could influence the decision that they make.

Please let us know any comments you may have on this aspect. Please refer to page 22 of the consultation brochure for further details.

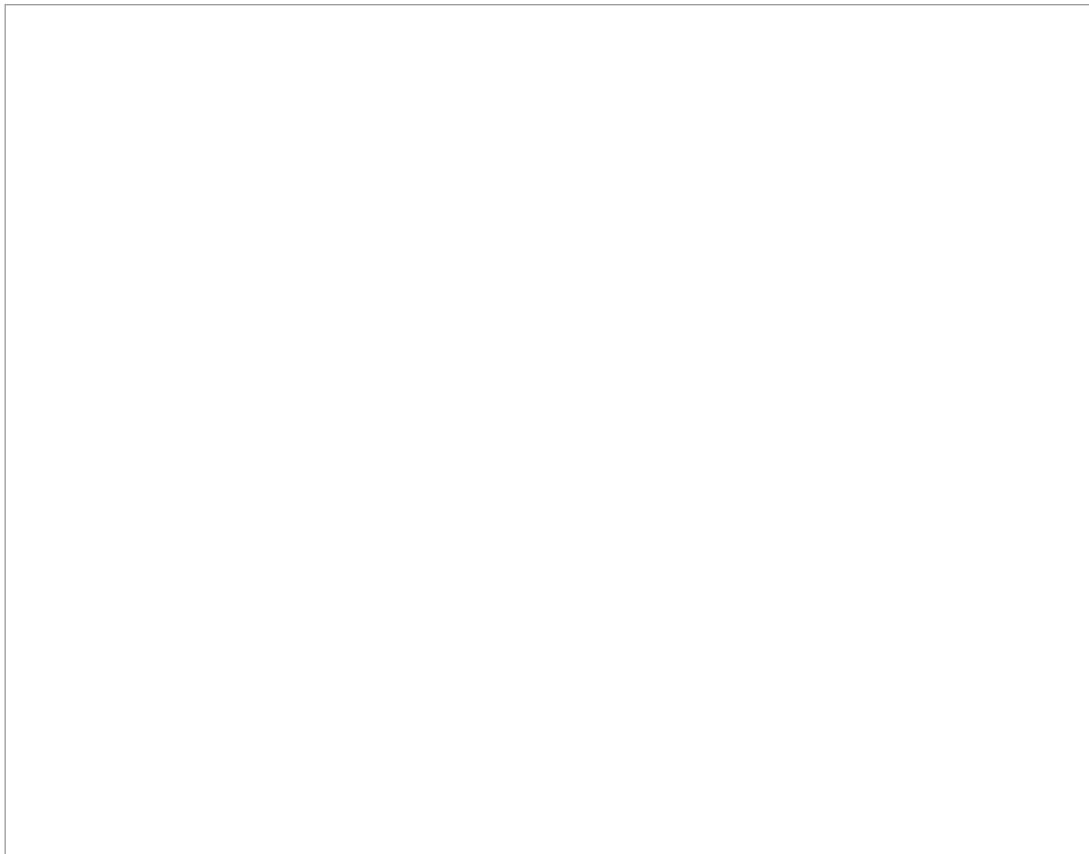


5. Market Lane noise barrier (Witham)

The land shown at the statutory consultation which we intended to either permanently or temporarily acquire (Provisional Order Limits) went up to an existing noise barrier which is located between the proposed new road and Market Lane. However, further work has now been done to assess the construction methods of the retaining wall between Benton Bridge and Brain Bridge in Witham. This showed that extra land is needed to build the retaining wall whilst keeping the two existing lanes of road open in each direction during construction.

Due to the extra land needed, the Provisional Order Limits now extend to the edge of Market Lane. The existing noise barrier would be temporarily removed while the retaining wall is built, but would be reinstated once construction is complete. We will continue to try to find a solution so that we can keep the noise barrier in place during construction.

Please let us know any comments you may have on this aspect. Please refer to page 26 of the consultation brochure for further details.



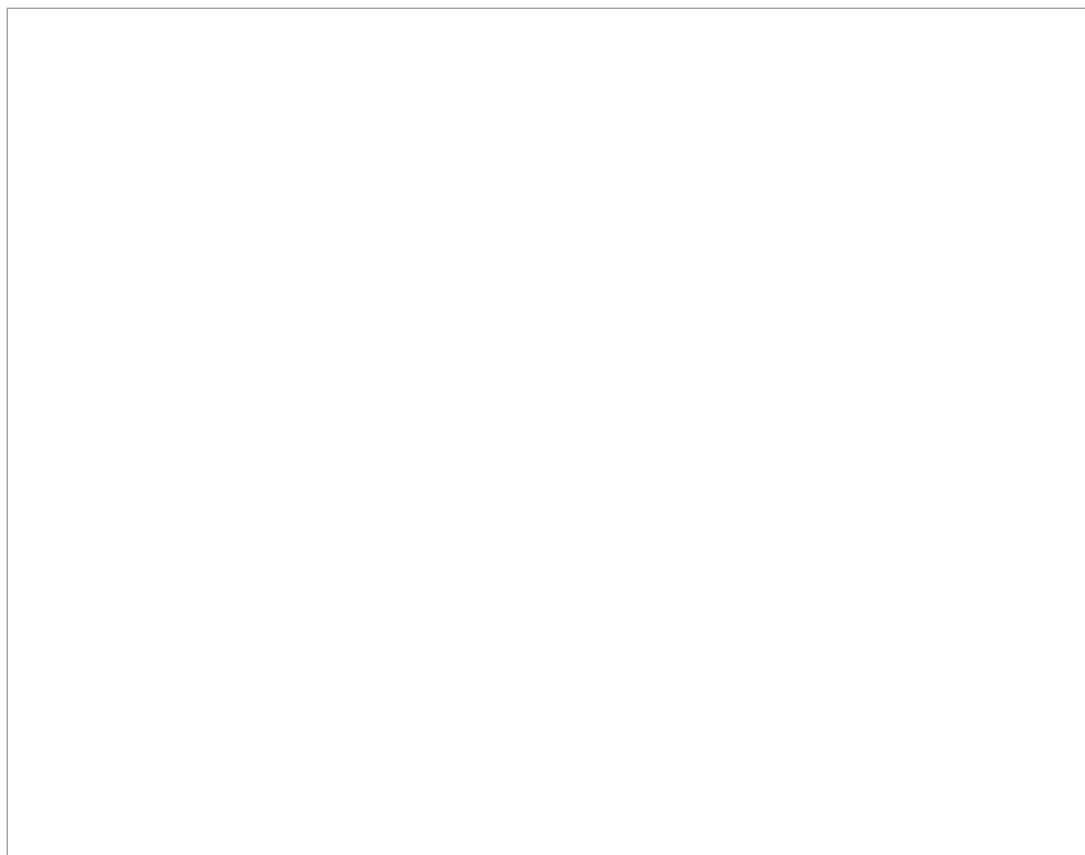
6. Inworth Road

Since our statutory consultation, further design work has been done and we have now completed a traffic and drainage assessment. This has allowed us to present a design that will ensure that the additional traffic does not lead to increased delays on the road, and also looks at the safety concerns raised by stakeholders.

We are proposing to widen certain points along Inworth Road. This includes widening straight sections of the road to provide a minimum of 6.1m carriageway width and widening bends to allow two large vehicles to pass in opposite directions. We will also provide new drainage at these points.

A detailed technical assessment has been done to look at what changes are required to ensure that Inworth Road can cope with the increase in traffic, and these are explained in the diagram on page 29 of the supplementary consultation brochure. A safety assessment has taken place which found that the road can cope with the traffic if our latest changes are made.

Please let us know any comments you may have on this aspect. Please refer to page 28 of the consultation brochure for further details.

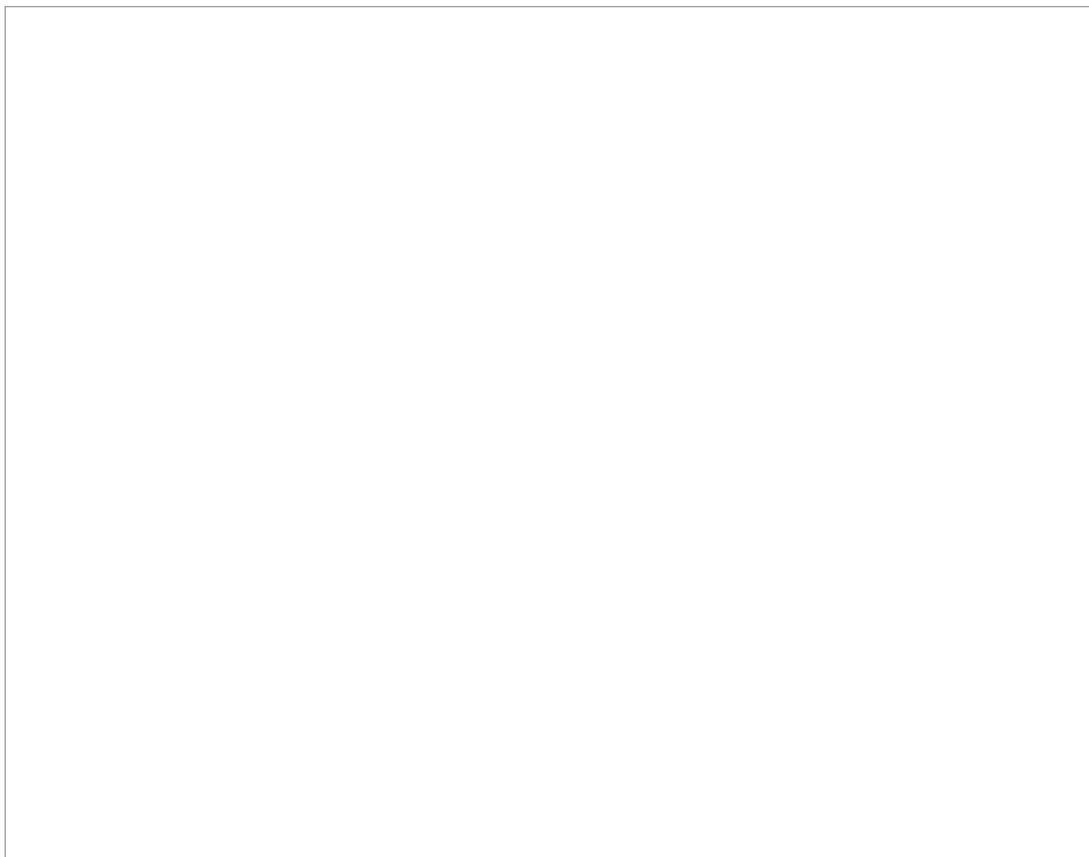


7. Easthorpe Road closure

Your feedback showed concerns about the improved access arrangements that we were proposing, and suggested that the access should be closed. These concerns referred to the increase in traffic predicted for Easthorpe Road. As a result, we have reviewed the access arrangements at this location, and are recommending that the access is closed.

We are proposing to keep a bridge at this location to ensure access for agricultural machinery and emergency vehicles, but it will also be used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders to cross the new A12. Our updated design will ban general traffic from using this bridge, and we will do this by using signs and providing a gate.

Please let us know any comments you may have on this aspect. Please refer to page 34 of the consultation brochure for further details.



8. Category 2 and 3 changes

We have also made a number of other changes since our statutory consultation.

Category 2 changes are further changes as a result of our updated design. These are changes that may also involve an environmental change, but which we consider are less significant in environmental terms and which are potentially more localised. These are detailed in a table on page 42 of the brochure.

Category 3 changes are minor changes as a result of our updated design. Most of these will not involve a change to the environmental information we presented at statutory consultation, and are generally more localised in nature. These updates can be found in a table in our **map books: general arrangement and land use plans** which are available online at www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A12

Please let us know any comments you may have on these aspects.



Equality and diversity

We would be grateful if you could answer the following equality and diversity questions. We will use the information we receive to help understand whether our consultation has been useful to people of different backgrounds and requirements. We may publish a summary of the results, but no information about an individual would be revealed.

The answers you provide to this question are defined as 'special category data'. If you agree to provide this information you can withdraw your permission for us to use it at any time. To do that, please email DataProtectionAdvice@highwaysengland.co.uk

- I consent to National Highways processing my special category data for the purposes of understanding the accessibility of the A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening consultation. I have read National Highways' privacy notice and understood how it will be processing this data.

1. What is your gender?

- Male Female Transgender Prefer not to say

2. Do you consider yourself as a person with a disability?

- Yes No Prefer not to say

3. Please describe your ethnic background:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Asian British | <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed ethnic background |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White | <input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy or Irish Traveller |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black/black British | <input type="checkbox"/> Other ethnic group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |

4. Age:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 45-54 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55-64 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35-44 | |

How to submit your response form

Please only use the following official response channels. We cannot guarantee that responses sent to any other address will be included in our analysis.



Online response form

Fill in the online survey at:

www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A12



Freepost

Post your response form or comments to:

FREEPOST A12 WIDENING

The Freepost address is the only text needed on the envelope, and no stamp is required.



Email

Email your comments to:

A12chelmsfordA120wide@highwaysengland.co.uk

How your response will be used

We will carefully consider all the responses we receive, before producing a report that explains how they have been taken into account in the development of our project.



Have your say

Please send your response before
11.59pm on Sunday 19 December 2021

If you need help accessing this or any other National Highways information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

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For an accessible version of this publication please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

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National Highways creative job number BED21_0105

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Registered office Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford GU1 4LZ

National Highways Limited registered in England and Wales number 09346363