

A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Scheme

Notice Publicising a Proposed Application for a Development Consent Order

Supplementary Consultation

National Highways Limited of Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ ("the Applicant") intends to make an application ("the Application") under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 to the Secretary of State for Transport for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

National Highways undertook a statutory consultation in relation to its proposed application between Tuesday 12 October 2021 and Monday 22 November 2021. As part of the development of the scheme and having had regard to responses received to its statutory consultation, National Highways is now undertaking a supplementary consultation in relation to proposed changes to the scheme. This supplementary consultation is taking place from **Tuesday 24 May 2022 to Sunday 26 June 2022**.

National Highways is proposing to upgrade approximately 8.5 mile (13.6 km) section of the A358 between the M5 at Taunton and the Southfields roundabout on the A303 to a high-quality and high-performing dual carriageway. The route would connect junction 25 of the M5 at Taunton with the existing A303 at Southfields roundabout near Ilminster.

The changes to the proposals since the 2021 public consultation sit in the following broad categories:

- **Transport, traffic flows and access**
- **Walking, cycling, horse-riding and disabled user access**
- **Environmental mitigations**
- **Location of main construction compound**

Copies of the supplementary consultation materials, which explain the changes in more detail, will be available online free of charge from **Tuesday 24 May 2022** via our website at www.nationalhighways.co.uk/a358-taunton-to-southfields.

Public exhibitions, where you will be able to speak with members of the project team about the proposed changes, are being held in Ilminster and Taunton at the following locations, dates and times:

Venue	Dates and Times
Monks Yard (Conference Room), Horton Cross Farm, Horton Cross, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 9PT	Thursday 26 May 11:00 am to 8:00pm
Somerset County Cricket Club, The Cooper Associates County Ground, St. James Street, Taunton, Somerset TA1 1JT	Wednesday 8 June 11:00am to 8:00pm
Taunton Racecourse, Orchard Portman, Taunton, Somerset TA3 7BL	Saturday 11 June 11:00am to 6:00pm

Paper copies of the supplementary consultation materials including a *Consultation booklet*, *Feedback questionnaire*, *Summary of changes booklet*, *Responding to feedback from our 2021 public consultation booklet*, *Technical traffic note* and *Environmental note*, set of plans and the *Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) addendum* will be available for inspection free of charge from **Tuesday 24 May 2022** at selected public venues.

Copies of the *Consultation booklet*, *Feedback questionnaire* and the *Responding to feedback from our 2021 public consultation booklet* will be available to take away free of charge from **Tuesday 24 May 2022** at a number of local libraries and other public venues.

For a list of locations please visit our website or contact us via email or telephone.

A single set of paper copies of the supplementary *Consultation booklet*, *Feedback questionnaire* and *Responding to feedback from our 2021 public consultation booklet* can be requested and will be supplied free of charge. A digital copy on a USB drive of these items will be supplied free of charge through the post if requested. Please contact National Highways for further details using the email address, postal address or telephone number provided below:

- Email: A358TauntonSouthfields@nationalhighways.co.uk
- Phone: 0300 123 5000 (lines are open 24 hours a day)
- Post: FREEPOST A358 TAUNTON TO SOUTHFIELDS This should be written in capitals; no stamp is required.

These contact details can also be used to contact National Highways for enquiries in relation to the consultation materials, including the documents, plans and maps. There may be a charge of up to £200 for paper copies of other consultation materials. Please contact National Highways for further details.

The scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment development (EIA development) as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations). This means an Environmental Statement will be submitted as part of the DCO application. A Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEI Report) formed part of the 2021 statutory consultation material. For this supplementary consultation we have prepared an *Environmental note*, which provides a summary of the potential environmental implications from the changes to our proposals since statutory consultation.

Any person may comment on the proposals or otherwise respond to this publicity. Responses must be received between **Tuesday 24 May 2022 and Sunday 26 June 2022**.

A *Feedback questionnaire* will be available as part of the consultation materials online via www.nationalhighways.co.uk/a358-taunton-to-southfields. When providing your response, please include your name and address or, if you would prefer your comments to be anonymous, your postcode only. Please also confirm the nature of your interest in the scheme. Please supply any response using the contact methods below:

- Online: The feedback form can be accessed via our website at www.nationalhighways.co.uk/a358-taunton-to-southfields
- Email: A358TauntonSouthfields@nationalhighways.co.uk
- Post: FREEPOST A358 TAUNTON TO SOUTHFIELDS This should be written in capitals; no stamp is required.



Responses must be received no later than Sunday 26 June 2022 at 23:59. Responses received after this time may not be considered.

National Highways will consider and have regard to all responses when developing the application for the DCO once consultation has closed. Responses will form the basis of a *Consultation Report* which will be submitted as part of our DCO application and will be published following submission of our application. Therefore, in providing any comment, it should be borne in mind that the substance of it may be communicated to others as part of the *Consultation Report*.

If you would like further information about this notice, the supplementary consultation or the scheme, please contact the project team by using one of the contact methods provided above.

Katherine Liddington

Senior Project Manager for A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Scheme

Email: A358TauntonSouthfields@nationalhighways.co.uk

Tel: 0300 123 5000

Thursday 12 May 2022