

# A417 Missing Link

## About the project

### The scheme

The A417/A419 provides an important route between Gloucester, Cheltenham and Swindon that helps connect the West Midlands and the north to the south of England via the M5 and M4 motorways. While most of the A417 route is dual carriageway, there is one section that isn't. Known as the Missing Link, this three-mile stretch of single carriageway between the Brockworth bypass and Cowley roundabout severely restricts the flow of traffic.

We plan to build 3.4 miles (5.5km) of new dual carriageway, which will considerably improve road safety, reduce traffic congestion and improve connectivity for road users and local communities, while unlocking economic growth in Gloucestershire and beyond.

### The scheme objectives

**Transport and safety:** to reduce delays, create a free-flowing road network and improve safety along this stretch of the A417

**Environment and heritage:** to reduce the impact on the landscape and the natural and historic environment of the Cotswolds and, where possible, enhance the surrounding environment

**Community and access:** to reduce queuing traffic and pollution, improve access for local people to the strategic road network, and support residents' and visitors' enjoyment of the countryside

**Economic growth:** to help boost growth and prosperity by making journeys more reliable and improving connectivity

### Landscape-led scheme

Landscape is a primary consideration in every design decision that we make. Our proposals have been designed to meet the character of the surrounding area, rather than changing the landscape to fit our proposals.

### Our vision

*"We want to create a landscape-led highways improvement scheme that will deliver a safe and resilient free-flowing road while conserving and enhancing the special character of the Cotswolds AONB; reconnecting landscape and ecology; bringing about landscape, wildlife and heritage benefits, including enhanced residents' and visitors' enjoyment of the area; improving quality of life for local communities; and contributing to the health of the economy and local businesses."*