

A47

North Tuddenham to Easton Public consultation

Have your say
February 2020



Public consultation

- North Tuddenham Village Hall, Fox Lane, North Tuddenham
- Hockering Village Hall, 3 Heath Road, Dorsham, Norwich
- East Tuddenham Village Hall, Matthishol Road (also known as), East Tuddenham, Dereham NR20
- Honingham Village Hall, 31 Dereham Road, Honingham, NR10
- Easton Village Hall, Marlingford Road, Easton, Norwich
- Assembly House, Theatre Street, Norwich NR2 1RQ

highwaysengland

A47 North Tuddenham to Easton improvement

The proposed scheme proposes a new dual carriageway to the south and north of the existing road, with a new bridge over the river.

Region: East | Type: Major Scheme | End date: 2023-06

Start date: 2018-01-01 | Budget: £100 million - £250 million | Programme: A47 corridor improvement programme

Status: PLANNED

[Check traffic conditions](#)

[Check for roadworks](#)

Progress report

Plans for the A47 North Tuddenham to Easton dualing scheme are progressing following the Preliminary Design Announcement after consultation with the public in August 2019.

An amended version of Option 2, with the route amended to address concerns of the community, was chosen for the next stage of consultation between North Tuddenham and Easton.

You can contact us directly with your thoughts and suggestions by calling our Contact Centre on 0800 123 4567 or by emailing A47NorthTuddenham@highwaysengland.co.uk

What's next?

We're continuing work to consult on the design for the scheme. You'll be able to give your feedback on proposals during a full statutory consultation, which is scheduled for 2020.

Timeline

Date: Open

highwaysengland

A47 North Tuddenham to Easton
Consultation response form

Share your views

We want to understand your views about the proposed design for the A47 North Tuddenham to Easton dualing scheme.

We recommend that you read the consultation brochure and the other supporting consultation documents before completing this form.

The response form is split into three parts: a section about you, a section about the scheme and finally a section about the consultation process.

How to respond

Please share your views in one of the following ways:

- completing this response form and returning it to us using our freepost address: Freepost A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON
- placing a completed copy of this form into a response box at one of our public consultation events
- completing an electronic version of this response form that can be accessed via our scheme webpage: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E

This consultation runs from Wednesday 8 April to 11.59pm on Wednesday 8 April. Your comments arrive with us in real time and are considered during the next stage.

About you

If you'd prefer your comments to be anonymous, please provide us with just your email address so we can understand where you live in relation to the scheme.

First name: _____

Last name: _____

Address: _____

By post: to Freepost A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON

In person: by visiting one of the public consultation events

All responses must be returned by 23:59 on Wednesday 8 April 2020.

Investing in your roads

At Highways England we believe in a connected country and our road network makes these connections happen. We strive to improve our major roads and motorways - engineering the future to keep people moving today and moving better tomorrow. We want to make sure all our major roads are more dependable, durable and, most importantly, safe.

That's why we're delivering billions of pounds of investment on our network – the largest investment in a generation. The A47 North Tuddenham to Easton dualling scheme is a critical part of this investment and will improve access to Norwich, which is great news for the local and regional economy.

The scheme is one of six major road improvements along the A47 to create better and safer journeys along the 115-mile route between Peterborough and Great Yarmouth.

The other A47 schemes in development are:

- A47 Wansford to Sutton dualling
- A47 Blofield to North Burlingham dualling
- A47/A141 Guyhirn junction
- A47/A11 Thickthorn junction
- A47 Great Yarmouth junction

Visit the A47 corridor webpage for more information on these schemes: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/a47-corridor-improvement-programme/



In this brochure we explain our proposals for the scheme. Alongside the brochure is the consultation response form for you to provide us with feedback, which will help us shape the scheme before we submit our planning application.

Contents

4	Why are the improvements needed?
6	Background
7	Progress since the preferred route announcement
8	Have your say
10	Visit an event to find out more
11	Where to get copies of the consultation documents
12	Our proposed design
22	Walkers, cyclists and horse riders
24	Benefits and effects of the proposed design
29	Development Consent Order
30	Next steps
31	For more information



Why are the improvements needed?

The A47 is part of the Strategic Road Network. The section from North Tuddenham to Easton is located to the west of Norwich and forms part of the main arterial highway route connecting Norwich and Great Yarmouth to Leicester and the Midlands via King's Lynn.

Whilst around half of the A47 is already built to dual carriageway standard, the North Tuddenham to Easton section is not. Studies have identified that the single carriageway section of the road no longer meets the needs of its users. This section acts as a bottleneck, resulting in congestion that leads to longer journey times. In addition, this section of the A47 has a poor safety record.

Studies have identified the need to improve this section of the A47, and we want to ensure it is suitable for current and future demands, which will see a growth in both traffic and local residential developments along the A47 corridor to the west of Norwich.

By delivering these proposed improvements, we aim to:

- help enable regional development and growth in Norwich and its surrounding area
- reduce congestion, make journey times more reliable, and provide capacity for future traffic growth
- improve resilience of the road to cope with incidents such as collisions, breakdowns and maintenance
- improve safety for all road users and for those living in the local area
- protect the environment by minimising any adverse impacts and, where possible, deliver benefits
- ensure the new road layout takes into account local communities and safe access to the A47
- provide a safer route between communities for cyclists, walkers, horse riders and other non-motorist groups

Background

What's happened so far?

Between March and April 2017, we held a non-statutory public consultation to get your views on four different proposals to dual the A47 between North Tuddenham and Easton.

- **Option 1:** building a new dual carriageway to the north of the existing A47
- **Option 2:** dualling the existing A47
- **Option 3:** building a new dual carriageway to the south and the north of the existing A47
- **Option 4:** building a new dual carriageway to the south of the existing A47

We considered a number of factors when deciding between the options including:

- safety
- economic benefit
- public consultation feedback
- costs
- environmental effects
- construction

We announced the preferred route in August 2017 and Option 2 was chosen. Option 2 was one of the two most favoured options: it solves the traffic and safety problems and has the least impact on the environment.

As a result of feedback received at the consultation, Option 2 was refined taking the route away from the existing A47 to the south of Hockering and to the north of Honingham. Sections of the existing road can remain open for local traffic, walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

We are now asking for your feedback on the latest designs for our preferred route.

Progress since the preferred route announcement

We have continued to develop the design of the preferred route with traffic flow and safety as our top considerations.

Work has included design development of:

- two proposed junctions at Wood Lane and Norwich Road
- local road network connections
- three proposed overbridges
- a walking, cycling and horse riding strategy
- landscaping
- drainage

Engagement is ongoing with utility providers to make arrangements for diversions that may be needed as a result of our proposals.

We've also undertaken several surveys, with more planned to be completed before summer 2020:

Local road traffic survey	Completed	winter 2019
Air quality monitoring (baseline)	Completed	winter 2019 to spring 2020
Geophysical surveys	Completed	winter 2019
Ecological surveys	Ongoing	spring 2019 to autumn 2020
Ground investigation surveys	Ongoing	spring 2020
Ground water monitoring	Ongoing	spring 2020 to winter 2020
Archaeological trenching	Scheduled	spring 2020
Walking, cycling, horse riding	Scheduled	spring 2020
Noise surveys (baseline)	Scheduled	spring 2020

For more information on the previous consultation results, the preferred route announcement and the *Junction and Side Road Strategy Report* please visit our webpage at www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E



Have your say

We're now holding a public consultation on our proposals for improving the A47 between North Tuddenham and Easton. We'd like to hear what you think, so please share any concerns, ideas or local knowledge that you may have.

The consultation runs from 26 February to 8 April 2020 and there are lots of ways you can tell us what you think.

Why not come along to one of our public consultation events?

Alternatively, you can view all the consultation materials on our webpage at www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E

How to respond

Please share your views in one of the following ways:

- completing a response form and returning it to us using our freepost address:
Freepost A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON
- completing a response form at one of our public consultation events
- completing an electronic version of the response form that can be accessed via our scheme webpage:
www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E

This consultation ends at 23:59 on Wednesday 8 April. Please ensure your comments arrive with us in time so that they can be considered during the next stage of the design.



Come and visit an event to find out more

One of the best ways to find out more about our proposals and have your say is to come along to one of our public consultation events. Here you'll be able to find out more about the project and speak to members of the project team about any questions you may have.

Public consultation events

North Tuddenham Village Hall Fox Lane, North Tuddenham, Dereham NR20 3DH	Thursday 27 February 2020 1pm to 8pm
Hockering Village Hall 3 Heath Road, Dereham, Norwich NR20 3HT	Friday 28 February 2020 1pm to 8pm
East Tuddenham Village Hall Mattishall Road (also known as The Street), East Tuddenham, Dereham NR20 3LR	Monday 2 March 2020 1pm to 8pm
Honingham Village Hall 31 Dereham Road, Honingham, Norwich NR9 5AP	Tuesday 3 March 2020 1pm to 8pm
Easton Village Hall Marlingford Road, Easton, Norwich NR9 5AD	Wednesday 4 March 2020 1pm to 8pm
Assembly House Theatre Street, Norwich NR2 1RQ	Saturday 7 March 2020 10am to 4pm

Where to get copies of the consultation documents

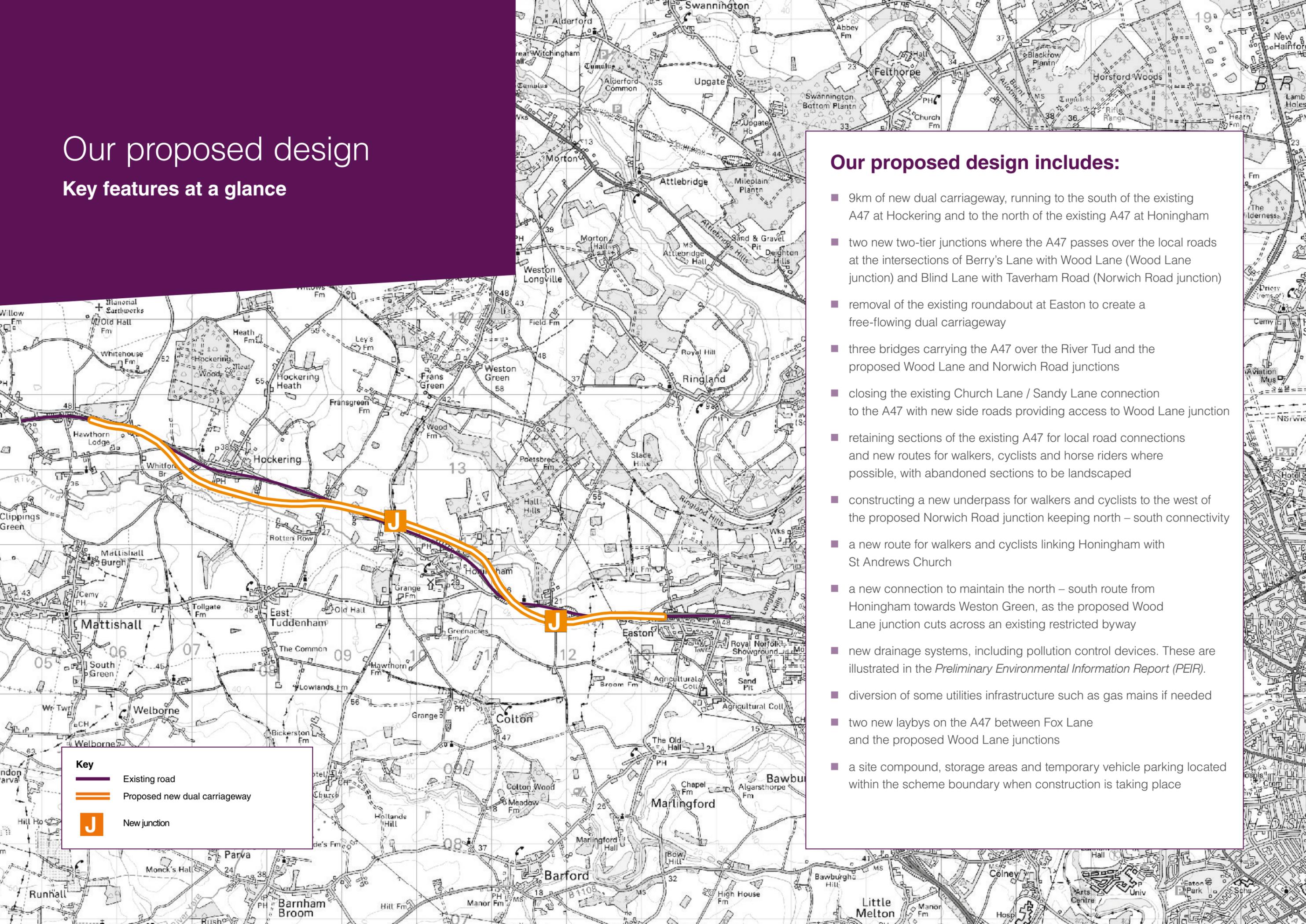
Paper copies of the consultation brochures and response forms will also be available at the following locations from Wednesday 26 February to 8 April 2020. Please phone ahead to confirm opening times before you visit.

Public information point locations

Dereham Library 52 High Street, Dereham NR19 1DZ Telephone: 01362 693184	Monday: 8am to 7pm Tuesday: 8am to 7pm Wednesday: 8am to 7pm Thursday: 8am to 7pm Friday: 8am to 7pm Saturday: 8am to 4pm Sunday: 10am to 4pm
Costessey Library Breckland Road, Norwich NR5 0RW Telephone: 01603 742669	Monday: 8am to 7pm Tuesday: 8am to 7pm Wednesday: 8am to 7pm Thursday: 8am to 7pm Friday: 8am to 7pm Saturday: 8am to 4pm Sunday: 10am to 4pm
Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich NR2 1AW Telephone: 01603 774709	Monday to Friday: 8am to 10am (Open Library access first floor only) Monday to Friday: 10am to 7pm Saturday: 9am to 5pm Sunday: 10.30am to 4.30pm (Open Library access first floor only)
Norfolk County Council County Hall, Martineau Lane Norwich NR1 2DH Telephone: 0344 800 8020	Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm

Our proposed design

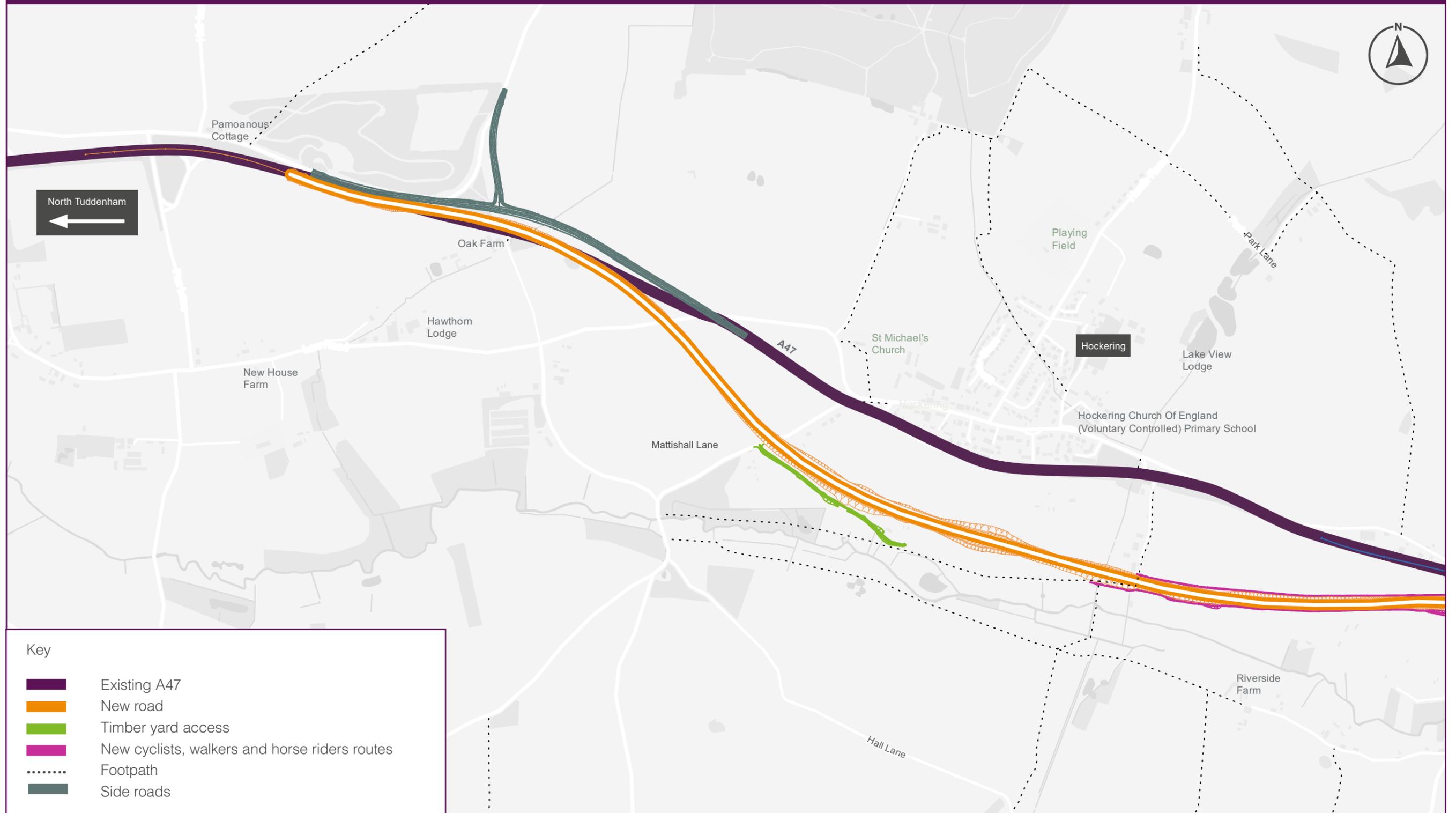
Key features at a glance



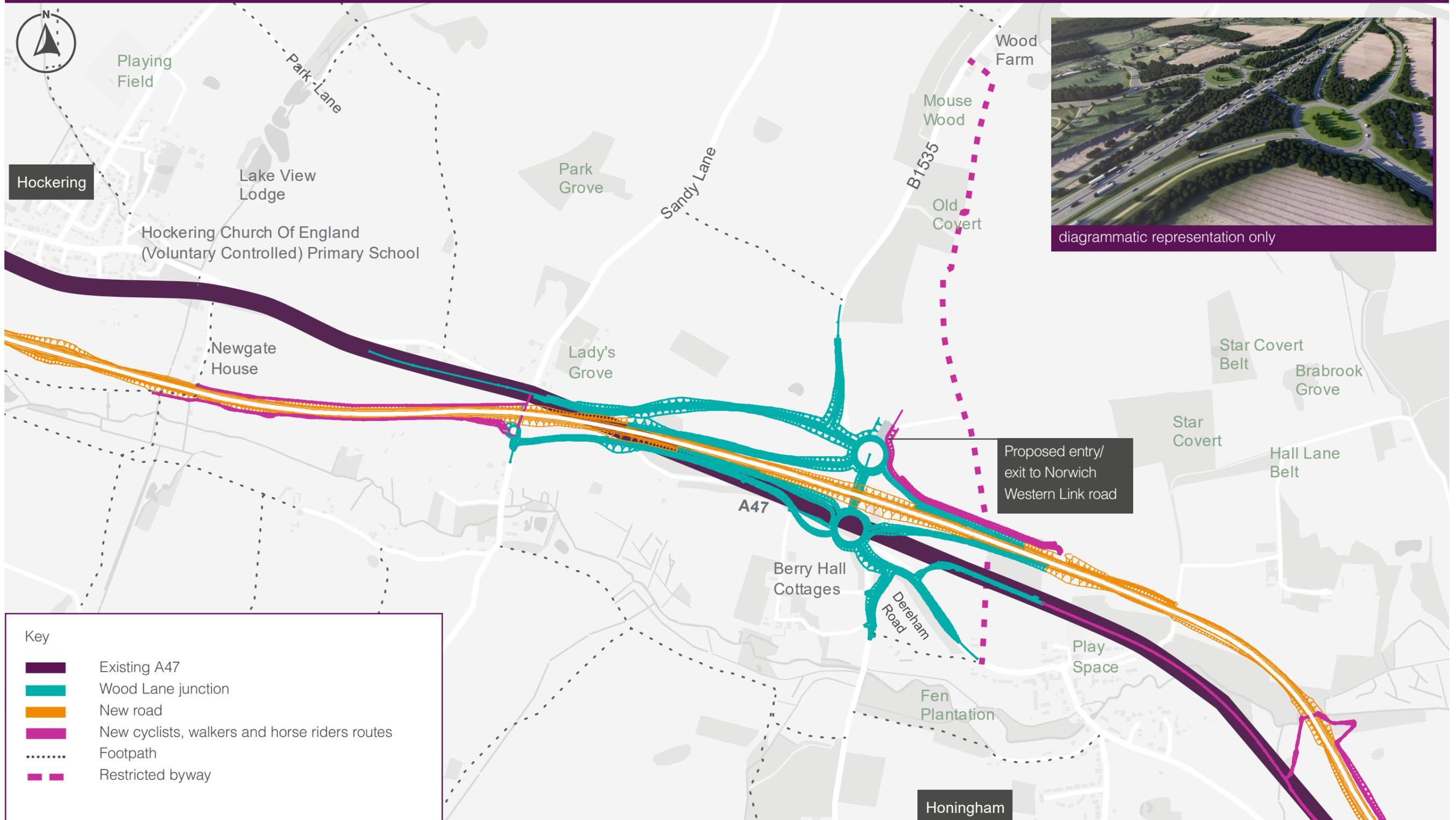
Our proposed design includes:

- 9km of new dual carriageway, running to the south of the existing A47 at Hockering and to the north of the existing A47 at Honingham
- two new two-tier junctions where the A47 passes over the local roads at the intersections of Berry's Lane with Wood Lane (Wood Lane junction) and Blind Lane with Taverham Road (Norwich Road junction)
- removal of the existing roundabout at Easton to create a free-flowing dual carriageway
- three bridges carrying the A47 over the River Tud and the proposed Wood Lane and Norwich Road junctions
- closing the existing Church Lane / Sandy Lane connection to the A47 with new side roads providing access to Wood Lane junction
- retaining sections of the existing A47 for local road connections and new routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders where possible, with abandoned sections to be landscaped
- constructing a new underpass for walkers and cyclists to the west of the proposed Norwich Road junction keeping north – south connectivity
- a new route for walkers and cyclists linking Honingham with St Andrews Church
- a new connection to maintain the north – south route from Honingham towards Weston Green, as the proposed Wood Lane junction cuts across an existing restricted byway
- new drainage systems, including pollution control devices. These are illustrated in the *Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)*.
- diversion of some utilities infrastructure such as gas mains if needed
- two new laybys on the A47 between Fox Lane and the proposed Wood Lane junctions
- a site compound, storage areas and temporary vehicle parking located within the scheme boundary when construction is taking place

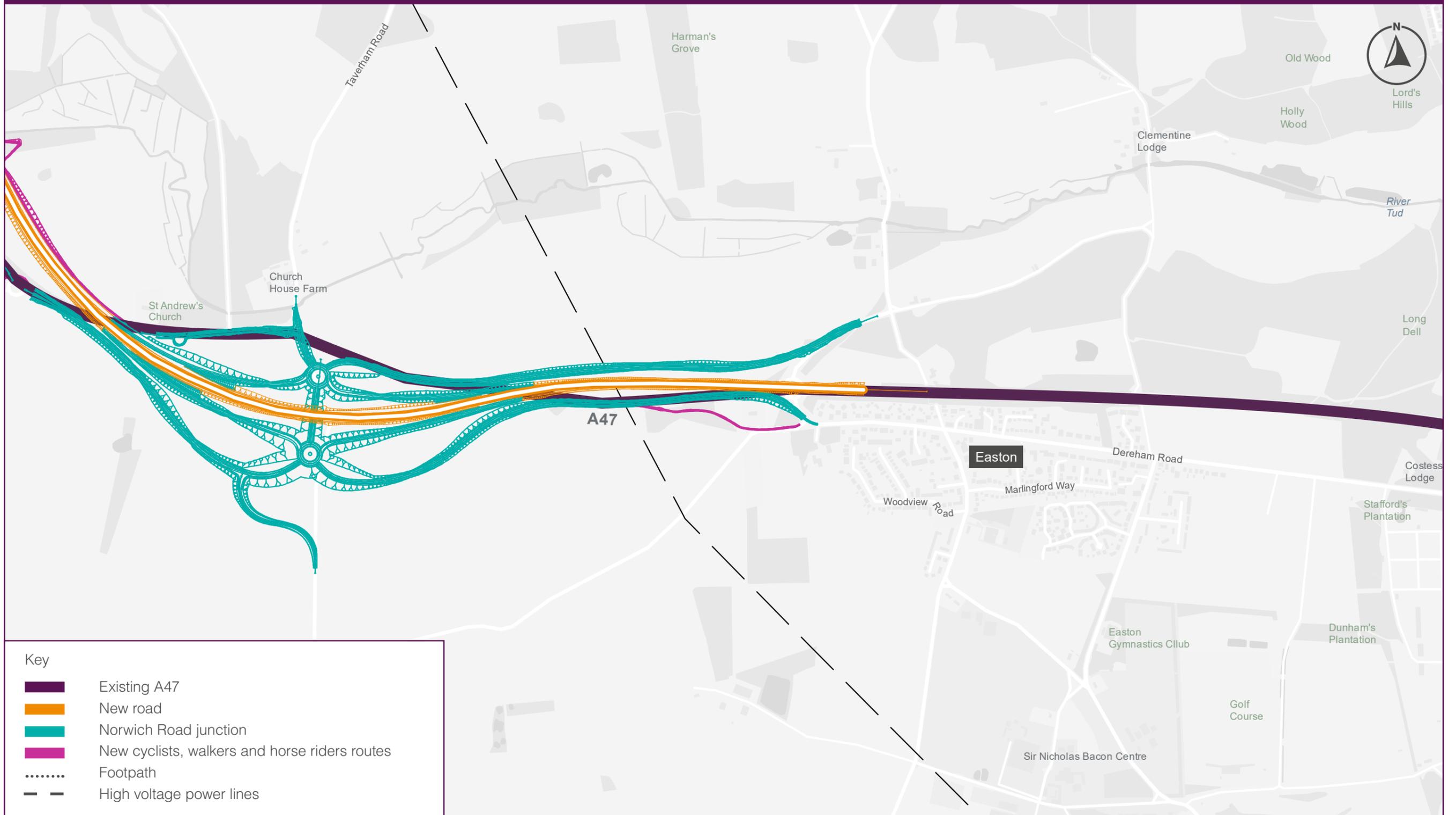
North Tuddenham to Hockering



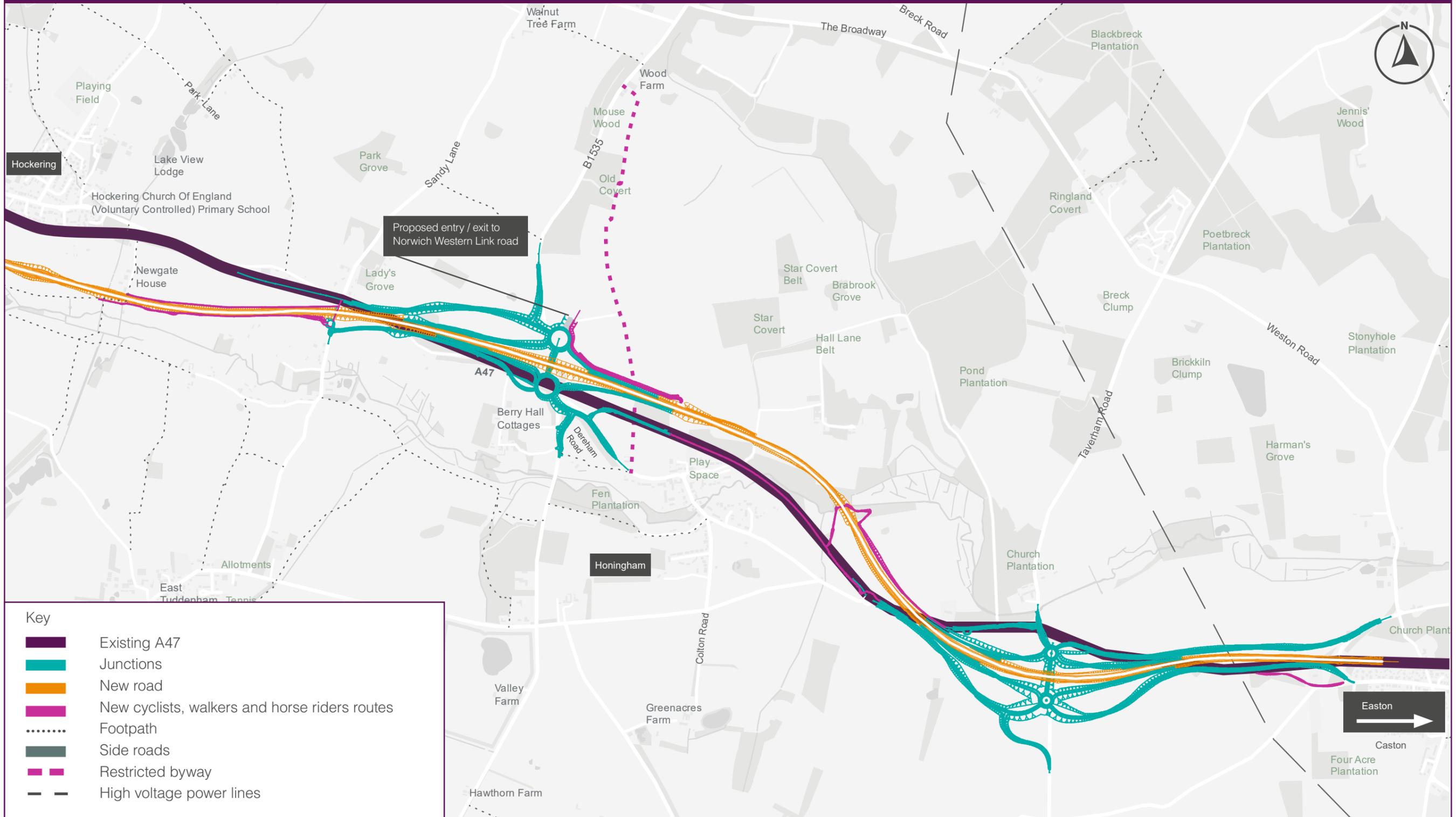
Proposed Wood Lane junction



Proposed Norwich Road junction

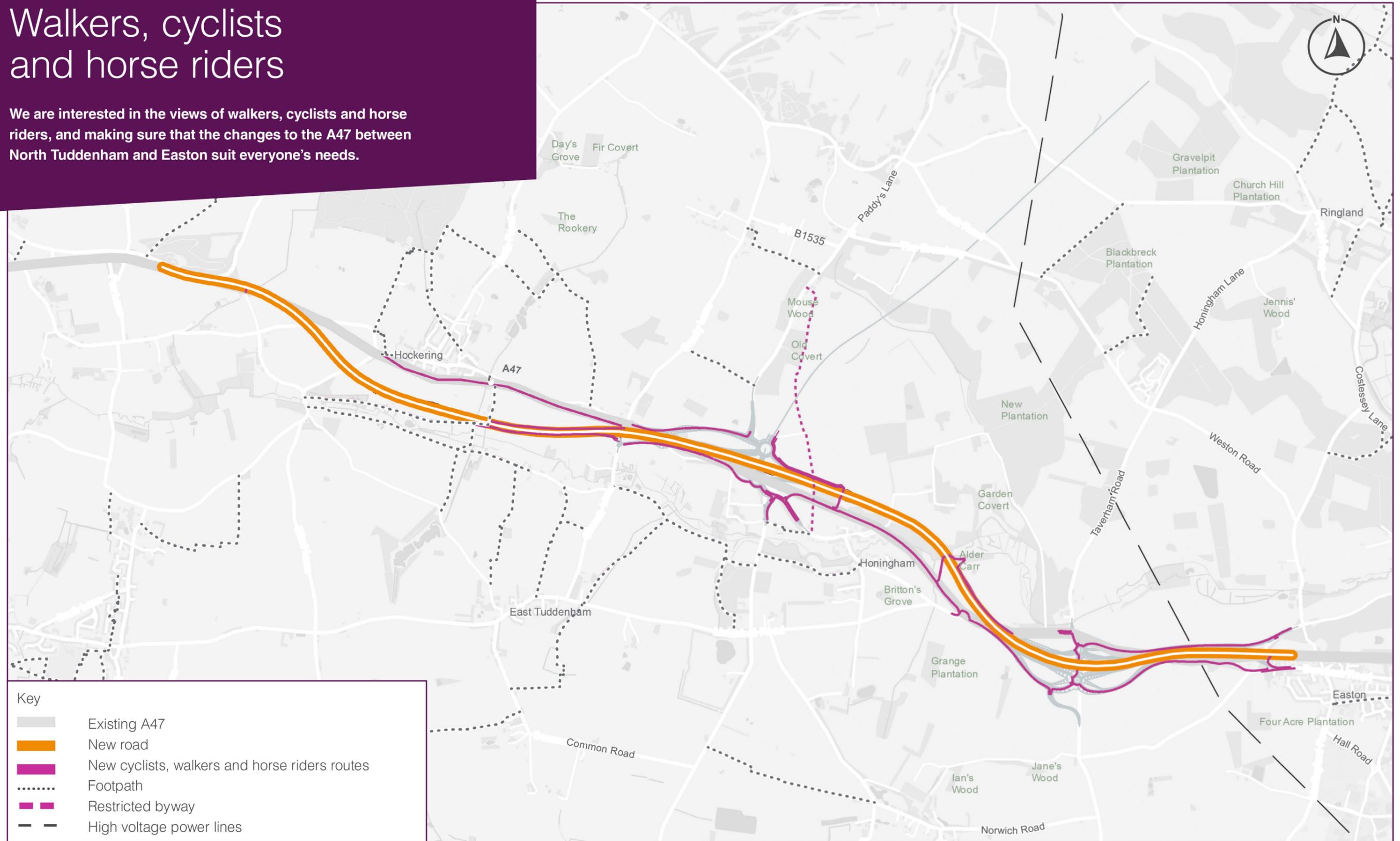


Proposed junctions between North Tuddenham and Easton



Walkers, cyclists and horse riders

We are interested in the views of walkers, cyclists and horse riders, and making sure that the changes to the A47 between North Tuddenham and Easton suit everyone's needs.





Benefits and effects of the proposed design

To assess the benefits and effects of the proposed road design, we look at a variety of features including those summarised in the following pages.

This information is based on our findings from the detailed surveys and assessments that we have carried out. Environmental impacts are assessed based on national guidance.

For more detailed information, please visit our webpage www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E where you will find our *Preliminary Environmental Information Report* and a non-technical summary.

Journey times and traffic congestion

The proposed scheme will significantly improve journey time reliability on this section of the A47. It will also reduce congestion and delays on minor roads for local traffic to access the A47, especially from Wood Lane (B1535) and Taverham Road.

By 2025, the scheme is predicted to cut journey time by five minutes for eastbound traffic in the morning peak and five minutes for westbound traffic in the afternoon peak between the A47 Longwater junction and A47 Fox Lane junction. This rises to seven minutes for eastbound and westbound traffic in 2040.

The proposed new two-tier Wood Lane and Norwich Road junctions will also alleviate delays. In 2025 vehicles travelling between the Fox Lane junction and the Longwater junction can expect journey time savings of approximately five minutes in the morning peak (eastbound) and afternoon peak (westbound). Journey time savings will increase to seven minutes by 2040.

Traffic from Taverham Road will save approximately two minutes delay in 2025, and three minutes in 2040.

Annual average daily traffic on the A47 between Fox Lane junction and Longwater interchange is estimated to be 43,600 vehicles.

Access for local residents

The two proposed junctions will result in the existing direct accesses to the A47 road being removed, improving safety and connections to and from the A47 for local residents.

Air quality

We will consider health-related issues of local and regional air quality. We are currently analysing data from long term air quality monitoring in the local area. This will enable us to assess and put in place mitigation measures such as dust-management techniques so that potential impacts are controlled and monitored. We will also plan construction to reduce the impact of emissions on the local area and to limit the impact on residents.

Noise

We are undertaking surveys to enable us to assess any potential noise and vibration impact and to help reduce noise levels from road traffic once the new road is open. We will assess the use of noise reduction measures as part of the design, which may include earth banking or acoustic fencing.

During construction, noise reduction measures will include using modern construction techniques, low-noise construction plant and local noise screening.



Cultural heritage

We have done geophysical surveys ahead of conducting archaeological trenching to identify any risks of disturbing significant remains during construction.

Landscape

During construction we will try to keep existing planting where possible. We will introduce new areas of native trees and shrubs to replace areas of planting that will need to be removed. This, along with appropriate landscaping (for example, embankments and cuttings), will be used to screen views of the scheme at various points along the route.

Biodiversity

We have been carrying out ecological surveys and have identified the presence of barn owls, great crested newts, white clawed crayfish, reptiles, bats, otters and water voles. Current habitats that will be affected include broadleaved semi-natural woodland, species-rich hedgerows and grassland.

We will use best practice to reduce the risk of impact on designated sites, protected species and habitats. Examples may include the sensitive timing of work to avoid breeding seasons, directional and low-level construction lighting and the sensitive location of construction machinery.

Once operational, mitigation measures may include the creation of replacement habitats of the same type as those that may be lost.



Road drainage and the water environment

The proposed road crosses the River Tud at Alder Carr where we propose building a bridge across the river, with new drainage culverts, maintaining local watercourses below the A47 carriageway.

To prevent pollution, we will use best practice mitigation measures during construction such as the safe storage of materials away from drains and watercourses.

To help reduce the risk of flooding, a flood risk assessment will inform the designs of the surface water drainage system and a sustainable drainage system will be implemented.

Road safety

Our analysis shows that the accident figures for this section of road are twice the national average for Highways England A-roads.

The scheme will result in safety improvements to help reduce the number of casualties on this section of the road network.

Geology

We will do geotechnical investigations to help us to find out what ground conditions are like along the route of the proposed road and the surrounding area.

During construction, we will use best practice to protect soil structure and quality, minimise waste generated and protect controlled waters from construction activities.





Construction duration and impacts

We estimate construction will take two years. We will minimise the impacts as much as we can on the road network and local communities during this time. We will provide further details, including a construction traffic management plan, as part of our Development Consent Order application.

Walkers, cyclists and horse riders

Our proposals provide new routes whilst also retaining a significant amount of the existing A47 for local access, walking, cycling and horse riding.

Local communities

We will work with local communities to put in place appropriate mitigation measures to minimise disruption during construction.

Materials

Modern construction techniques will be used to ensure that waste materials generated onsite will be recycled or re-used where possible.

Development Consent Order

The A47 North Tuddenham to Easton dualling scheme is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under the Planning Act 2008. This means that we are required to make an application for a Development Consent Order to obtain permission to construct the road.

The application will be made to the Planning Inspectorate who will examine the application. The examination process is likely to involve public hearings. Following the examination, the Planning Inspectorate will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport, who will decide whether the project will go ahead.

For more details on this process a video can be found on our web page:
www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E.

You can find more information about the Planning Inspectorate and the Planning Act 2008 on the gov.uk website:
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
or by calling the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000.



Next steps

Once the consultation has closed on 8 April 2020, we will review all the suggestions and comments received. We will analyse and consider your feedback when making further refinements to the proposed design and to develop our planned mitigation measures.

We will set out a summary of the responses and describe how our proposals have been influenced by them, in a consultation report. This will form part of our application for development consent and will also be available to the public following submission of the application. We expect to submit our Development Consent Order application by winter 2020 and, provided it is granted, work is expected to start in 2022.

In addition to this consultation process, we will continue to engage with anyone interested in, or impacted by, the road proposals.

To help us shape the final design in preparation of our submission to the Planning Inspectorate, it is important you are involved now and submit your response by **Wednesday 8 April 2020**.

The project process for considering the options, their development and construction is shown in the following table. The project is currently at stage 3.



Timeline



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

For more information

Please visit our project webpage
www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E

If you have any queries about the project, please contact the team directly by emailing
A47NorthTuddenhamtoEastonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk

Alternatively, call our Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000

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

© Crown copyright 2020.

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.

Mapping (where present): © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 OS 100030649. You are permitted to use this data solely to enable you to respond to, or interact with, the organisation that provided you with the data. You are not permitted to copy, sub-licence, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form.

This document is also available on our website at www.highwaysengland.co.uk

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

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 **PR35/20**

Highways England creative job number BED20_0023

*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.

Printed on paper from well-managed forests and other controlled sources when issued directly by Highways England.

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

Highways England Company Limited registered in England and Wales number 09346363