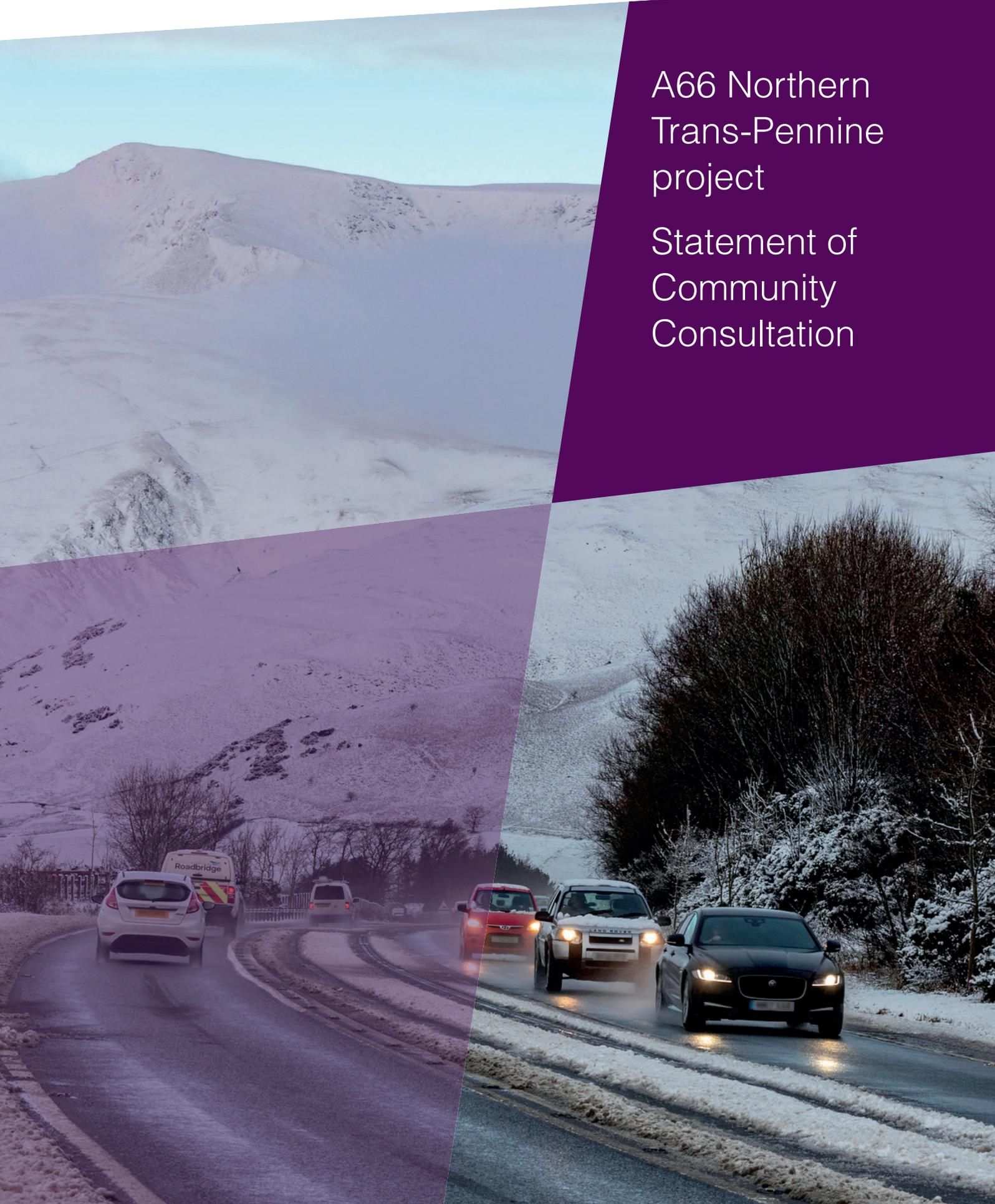


A66 Northern
Trans-Pennine
project

Statement of
Community
Consultation



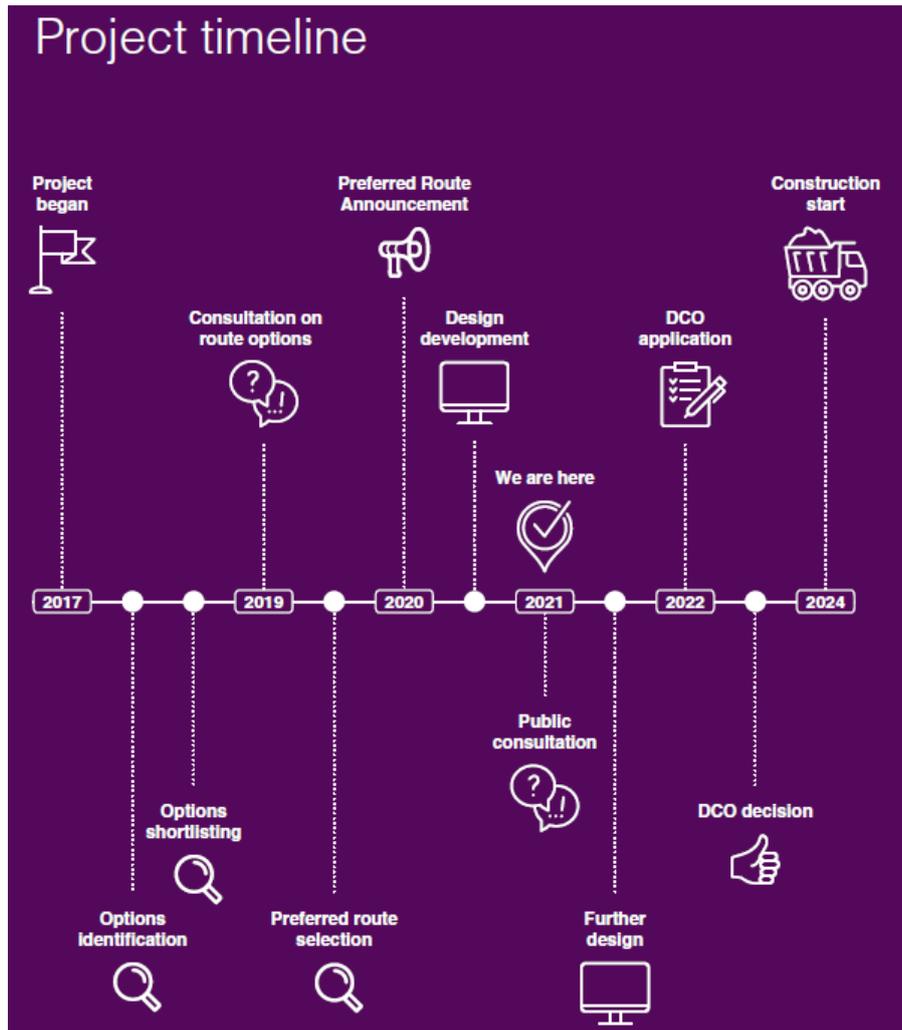
1 About us

- 1.1 We (Highways England) operate, maintain and improve England's motorways and major A-roads, known as the strategic road network. The A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project ("the project") is a critical part of our ongoing investment and will improve journeys between M6 junction 40 at Penrith and the A1(M) junction 53 at Scotch Corner by dualling the remaining single carriageway sections of the A66.
- 1.2 We are publishing this Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to outline our approach to consulting with the local community for these proposals. It provides details about how you (the local community) can take part and how your feedback may be used to influence our proposed design.
- 1.3 To make sure we approach our consultation in the very best way for the local community, we've consulted on this document with Eden District Council, Richmondshire District Council, Cumbria County Council, North Yorkshire County Council and Durham County Council (the host local authorities), which are the local authorities in the areas in which the project is proposed to be built.
- 1.4 This document also provides you with the background to the project and how our application will progress.

2 Our application

- 2.1 The project is being developed under the Planning Act 2008 and we are publishing this statement under Section 47 (duty to consult local community) of that Act.
- 2.2 Under the Planning Act 2008, we are required to make an application to the Secretary of State for the project. The application is known as a Development Consent Order (DCO) application. An examining panel, called the Examining Authority, are appointed by the Planning Inspectorate and will examine our application and the Secretary of State will decide on whether the project should go ahead based on a recommendation made by the Examining Authority. We anticipate that our DCO application for the project will be submitted in spring 2022. A graphic showing the project timeline is below.

Figure 1 Steps showing the journey from this consultation to a DCO decision

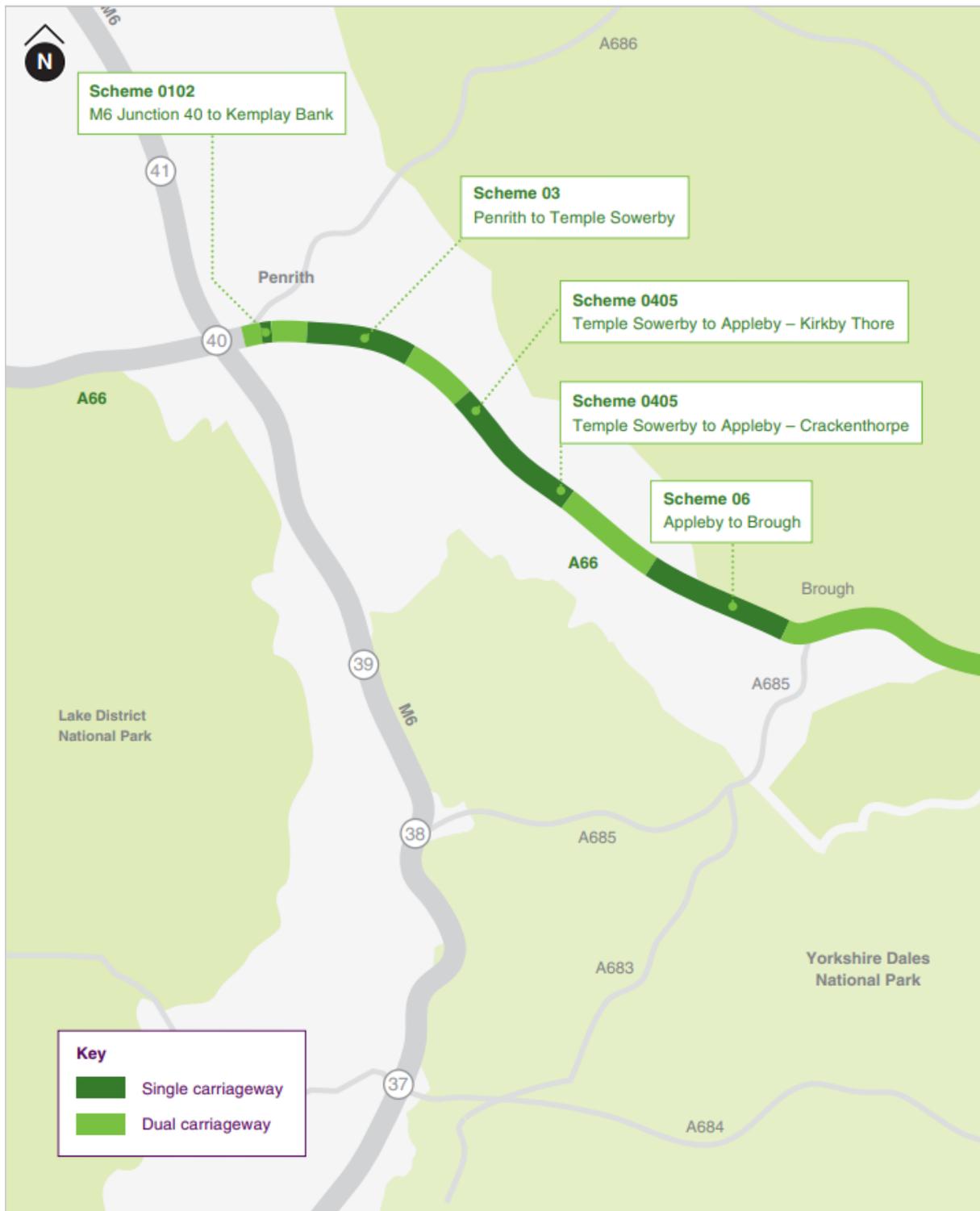


- 2.3 A key consideration for the Examining Authority and the Secretary of State when assessing our DCO application is the National Networks National Policy Statement (NNNPS). The NNNPS sets out the need for development of road projects on the national networks and is the policy against which decisions on major road projects will be made.
- 2.4 You'll be able to have your say and inform our final design by taking part in our Section 47 consultation. This will be carried out in accordance with the SoCC. When we submit our DCO application, the Planning Inspectorate must then consider whether our consultation to date was compliant with the requirements of the Planning Act.
- 2.5 You can find more information about the Planning Inspectorate and the Planning Act 2008 on the National Infrastructure Planning website: <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk> or by calling the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000.

3 The project

- 3.1 The A66 project covers the length of the A66 between M6 junction 40 at Penrith to the A1(M) junction 53 at Scotch Corner, which is approximately 50 miles long (see high-level Location Plans in Figures 2 and 3 – detail about the project proposals can be found in the consultation brochure, see Table 1). This project has been identified as a pathfinder for the Government Project Speed initiative to facilitate an accelerated delivery schedule for the project.
- 3.2 The A66 plays an integral role for journeys across the north of England and connects the wider road network with surrounding communities, businesses and countryside. The route affords businesses and hauliers a direct link between the east and west coasts of England and the central belt of Scotland, connecting Leeds, Sheffield, and Norwich, with Edinburgh and Glasgow. This means it is an essential route to help keep the nation's goods and services moving. More than 28,000 journeys are made using the A66 every day, a quarter of which are heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) – much higher than the national average.
- 3.3 The A66 is also an important route for tourism, providing access to the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District National Park.
- 3.4 Sections of the A66 have been upgraded from single carriageway to dual in a number of stages since the 1970s. However, more than 18 miles of single carriageway remain, making the route accident-prone and unreliable. Drivers face congestion, delays at key junctions and substandard access to jobs and leisure locations.
- 3.5 Investment through this project is essential to the continued development of the economy in the north of the country. Dualling between the M6 junction 40 and the A1(M) junction 53 at Scotch Corner and making other improvements along its length will support local and national economic growth and development.

Figure 2: Map showing the western side of the project



- 3.7 The A66 goes through a number of locations that are significant from an environmental and/or ecological perspective. For the Temple Sowerby to Appleby scheme at Kirkby Thore, the preferred route crosses Trout Beck, a designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and for the Appleby to Brough scheme at Warcop, the preferred route encroaches on an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
- 3.8 As work has progressed on our design of the proposals, our work has identified potential opportunities to enhance the preferred routes for three schemes within the wider project:
- Temple Sowerby to Appleby at Kirkby Thore: to further reduce the environmental and ecological impact.
 - Appleby to Brough at Warcop: to further reduce the environmental and ecological impact.
 - Cross Lanes to Rokeby: to further reduce traffic impacts on the local road network.
- 3.9 In these three areas, the project team has been engaging with affected landowners, Community Liaison Groups and local authorities to share details of alternative route alignments that we have been exploring. In addition, leaflets were distributed in these three areas to update the wider community on project progress and to explain the additional assessment work that we will be undertaking and the reasons for it. We will be consulting on preferred route alignments in these three areas as part of the statutory consultation and presenting our findings on the alternatives we assessed.
- 3.10 The objectives for the project are stated below:
- By introducing a consistent standard of dual carriageway with the same speed limit throughout, we aim to reduce the number of accidents.
 - Use of the 'old' A66 as part of the local road network will deliver safer, more enjoyable journeys for cyclists and pedestrians.
 - The preferred route also re-connects communities and links villages along the route. It improves connections for local people living and working nearby providing better access to services such as healthcare, jobs and education.
 - Dualling of all the single carriageway sections will reduce congestion and improve the reliability of people's journeys between the M6 at Penrith and the A1(M) Scotch Corner and nationwide.
 - The dualling will improve strategic regional and national connectivity, particularly for hauliers. Heavy goods vehicles account for a quarter of all traffic on the road and any delays to journeys can have an extremely negative effect on business, including lost working time and missed shipment slots.
 - The improvement works will also reduce delays and queues during busy periods and improve the performance of key junctions such as the A66/A6 and the M6 junction 40.
 - Having a dual carriageway enables us to close lanes where required due to accidents or break downs and keep traffic moving.
 - By making the route more reliable we can improve connectivity between the key employment areas of Cumbria, Tees Valley and Tyne and Wear and improve access to key tourist destinations such as the North Pennines, Lake District and North Yorkshire.

- Better road standards and consistent speeds will minimise noise levels for people living and working near the route and the preferred route aims to reduce the visual impact of the new A66.
- Our preferred route has been chosen to minimise negative impacts on the natural environment and landscapes of the North Pennines and Lake District.
- It is also the best option for reducing the impact on nearby homes and minimising the number of properties which will need to be acquired or demolished.

3.11 Due to its nature and size, this project is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development (under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017) and therefore an environmental impact assessment is being carried out to assess the likely significant environmental effects within the proposed project area. We will evaluate the likely impacts the project could have on the existing environment. Measures to reduce negative impacts, such as landscape screening and noise barriers, will be identified where possible and we will investigate opportunities to improve existing environmental conditions. This information will be published in a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) as part of the consultation material, and this SoCC details how the PEIR and other consultation materials will be publicised. A full Environmental Statement will be submitted and published as part of the DCO application.

3.12 Additional information about the project, including detailed maps/plans and associated benefits, will be included in our public consultation brochure and the map booklet. Copies of the brochure will be available as detailed in this SoCC during the consultation period.

4 Previous consultation and engagement with the community

4.1 The following consultation and engagement activities have taken place to date:

- Consultation on the options for the upgrading of sections of the A66 was held between 16 May and 11 July 2019. More information is contained within the [Options Consultation Report](#).
- We announced the [Preferred Route](#) in spring 2020, having considered various factors including the response to the consultation on options.
- We held engagement activities in late 2020 providing a [project update](#) to show how the design has evolved.
- Drop-in sessions for Kirkby Thore, Warcop and the Cross Lanes to Rokeby scheme in summer 2021 to share updates on the alternative route alignments.
- We have continued to pro-actively engage with stakeholders, communities and landowners throughout the period up to statutory consultation.

4.2 During the options consultation we asked consultees for their views on the proposals generally and on route options. In total, we presented 15 different options for the 8 sections of single carriageway remaining and consultees were asked to share any concerns, ideas and local knowledge that they may have. We held 21 events in local areas along the route during the consultation and engaged with key stakeholders, such as local authorities, parish councils, ward representatives, landowners, local residents and road users.

- 4.3 In assessing the route options and deciding on a preferred route, we considered a number of criteria. Part of this decision-making were the preferences expressed through the consultation process by members of the public, organisations and statutory bodies. Consultation feedback was used to understand views on each of the options; this feedback is presented in the [Options Consultation Report](#). Following the options consultation, we announced the preferred route for the upgrades in Spring 2020 and shared the Preferred Route Announcement (PRA) brochure. Although this wasn't a formal consultation where we invited feedback, we kept the conversation open and continued to listen and engage with parties who contacted us with an interest in the project.
- 4.4 More details, including the results of these consultation and engagement activities and how we decided to progress the preferred route are included in the Options Consultation Report, and the PRA brochure leaflet or available to download from <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A66-NTP>.
- 4.5 Having listened to your comments, we issued a project update in November and December 2020 to provide further information about the emerging design and, especially, the new junctions along the route. Due to COVID-19 and Government social distance guidelines, we were not able to hold traditional public events in community spaces. We published the winter 2020 brochure, plans and information videos, online and our virtual consultation room was available for communities to ask questions to our project team. Copies of the brochure were posted to households within 500m of the proposed new sections and a flyer publicising the update was sent to households within 2.5km of the whole route. We also had a phone number for those who wanted to speak to the project team and posted hard copies of the brochure on request to those without internet access who requested a copy.

5 Next consultation - why and when

- 5.1 We are now consulting with the public on the project, ahead of submitting the DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate, as required by section 47 of the Planning Act 2008. The consultation will be carried out in accordance with the proposals set out in this SoCC. The section 42 (Planning Act 2008) consultation for statutory consultees is aligned to this section 47 consultation.
- 5.2 The objectives of our consultation are to:
- Share our latest proposals to enable members of the public to feedback, in order that we can consider the feedback as we work towards finalising the design for submission of the DCO application.
 - Provide the opportunity to feedback on our preferred route or junction location in certain areas where we have been evaluating alternative alignments and junction locations and whether there is an agreement with our preference. Information will be provided during the statutory consultation on our preference as well as the other alternative alignments and junction locations we have considered.
 - Encourage the community and other stakeholders to help shape our proposals for the DCO application in order that we can seek to maximise local benefits and minimise any downsides.
 - Help local people understand the potential nature and local impact of our proposals, and to enable people to provide informed feedback which we can have

regard to in seeking to address these impacts and when designing appropriate mitigation measures.

- Enable our proposed mitigation measures to be considered by local people so we can consider feedback when seeking to design measures that respond to local needs and requirements.
- Identify ways in which our proposals could support local or wider strategic ambitions as well as meeting our project objectives.

5.3 Your comments will help us achieve these objectives. We will listen to everyone's views and we will consider your feedback when finalising the design of the project. We will explain how we took your views into account when we prepare our Consultation Report as part of our DCO application. The Consultation Report will identify how we have responded to the issues raised at statutory consultation, key topics raised during pre-consultation engagement and where we considered it appropriate to make changes.

5.4 **The consultation will run for six weeks from 24 September until 6 November 2021.** During the consultation period, in addition to the project generally, we will be consulting on the following particular elements of the project:

- Route alignment and preliminary design, including route alignment alternatives considered within specific areas
- Junction layouts, including junction location alternatives considered within specific areas
- Construction compounds and other land potentially required for construction
- Proposed DCO boundary (the area of land needed to carry out the project)
- Proposals for walking, cycling and horse riding including the diversion of routes
- Environmental assessments and potential environmental impacts
- Environmental mitigation measures and associated land requirements
- Arrangements to mitigate the impact on any communities, farms or businesses

5.5 We have given careful consideration to ensure there is a full opportunity to engage with the project and the environmental information, in a way that allows people to understand, influence and contribute to its development.

5.6 As part of this consultation period, we are providing a number of avenues to share information with and listen to and gather feedback from the local community including but not limited to digital consultation and face-to-face events, virtual Q&A events and local community visits. More information about the ways you can take part in the consultation are in Table 1.

5.7 The consultation period is a formal opportunity to respond and follows a wider engagement and consultation process that has taken place over the last few years. The project team have been engaging with a wide range of stakeholder groups in order to share evolving designs, understand feedback and amend the emerging design. The project information and design elements for this statutory consultation are the culmination of many months of engagement with landowners, community groups and stakeholders.

5.8 The ongoing engagement with stakeholders prior to the consultation period allows for feedback from stakeholders on our proposals. Where possible and appropriate

we will make changes to our proposals to respond to this feedback in advance of our formal consultation. Where it has not been possible to address this feedback in our proposals for consultation, we will provide a high-level overview of the feedback within our consultation material and give an indication of the kind of project changes that may on further consideration, alongside the outcome of the consultation, flow from it.

- 5.9 If, as a result of feedback from this statutory consultation or from our pre consultation engagement, the proposals change to the extent that it is necessary to undertake further targeted consultation, this will be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC, to the extent they are relevant to the targeted consultation.
- 5.10 If the proposed consultation dates or methods of consultation need to be changed or if the consultation period needs to be moved or extended due to events outside of our control, those changes will be discussed with the host local authorities. Changes to the consultation dates and/or methods of consultation will be publicised in line with methods proposed in Section 7 of this SoCC.
- 5.11 We will be notifying stakeholders and the local community about the consultation and providing them with the opportunity to request electronic copies or hard copies to be delivered to their home address. More information on awareness-raising activities including a flyer, letter and email notifications and statutory notice letter notifications can be found in Table 1.
- 5.12 We also worked with local authorities to identify groups who are traditionally seldom heard to ensure that we consult with as many people as possible who could be affected by our proposals. These people are unlikely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation techniques. They may find it harder to get involved in consultation and need additional support to access materials. Examples include gypsy and traveller communities, the ageing population and the younger population. For more information, please refer to Table 1.
- 5.13 Working with the host local authorities, we have developed a flyer notification area to raise awareness about the consultation. Refer to Table 1: **Consultation and awareness-raising activities** for further information on how we will publicise the statutory consultation.

6 Who can take part?

- 6.1 Anyone who is interested in this project is welcome to take part. We welcome all views and will take them into account before we submit our DCO application.

7 How will we consult?

- 7.1 In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, it is important for us to continue with project delivery but equally important to ensure consultations are safe and accessible in line with Government guidelines. Our consultation approach will be continually reviewed and revised to ensure we have a robust consultation strategy

that also adheres to COVID-19 rules and regulations that apply at the time of consulting and ensure our staff and the public are kept safe.

7.2 Any activities that cannot be undertaken due to circumstances beyond our control will, where possible, be substituted with similar activity(s) and advertised in local newspapers (via press release) circulating in the vicinity of project, through the project webpage (<http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A66-NTP>), on the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project Twitter account: @A66NTP and on the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project Facebook page.

7.3 We will use the methods set out in Table 1 to promote our public consultation:

Table 1: Consultation and awareness-raising activities

Method	Detail
Public consultation events	<p>As a result of Government guidance and regulations in relation to COVID-19, people may not be willing or able to attend face-to-face public events and returning to public events within community spaces may not be possible in the traditional format that we are used to delivering.</p> <p>Where possible, we will hold a series of public consultation events, following COVID-19 safety protocols, where members of the team will be available to answer questions about the proposals. Visitors to the events will be able to submit their consultation responses at these events if they choose to.</p> <p>The face-to-face events are proposed to take place at the following locations, but may have to be moved/cancelled as a result of unforeseen circumstances or because of COVID-19 Government guidance and regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The former Llama Karma Cafe • Penrith Haydock Community Centre • Dalton & Gayles Village Hall • Kirkby Thore Memorial Hall • Bowes Village Hall • Warcop Parish Hall • Appleby Hub • The Witham, Barnard Castle • Kirkby Stephen Sports & Social Club • Gilling West Village Hall <p>Alternatives for cancelled events: It is our intention, at this time, to hold consultation events in community venues; however prevailing Government guidance and regulations at that time may prevent this. It is important to note that all materials will also be available online (see digital engagement section below) for those who do not wish to travel or may be self-isolating. We will inform people if we have to cancel our consultation events for any reason using the website and as per paragraph 7.2. Anyone who wishes to will be able to request a call back from a specialist in the area or subject which they are interested in by phone or filling out a form on the virtual consultation room. Hard</p>

Method	Detail
	copies of materials are also available, see Section 9 for details on such requests.
Digital engagement	<p>We will continue to use digital engagement to ensure dialogue with consultees and offer additional ways for people to engage regardless of whether face-to-face consultation events take place.</p> <p>We will use a virtual consultation room (accessible via http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A66-NTP), open throughout the consultation period, as an alternative to face-to-face events, which mimics a face-to-face event online allowing users to source information interactively at a time that suits them. This online platform is planned to be shared with local authorities for access to wider audiences.</p> <p>Visitors to the platform can also request a call back from a specialist in the area or subject which they are interested in by phone or filling out a form.</p>
Digital communication tools	<p>We will also provide other digital communication tools including a fly-through animation of the project; various design and environmental constraints animations; and talking head videos on the Highways England website.</p> <p>We will have the SoundLab tool available at event venues. The SoundLab tool allows users to understand potential noise impacts from a set location and then experience the noise with proposed mitigation in place.</p> <p>A visualisation/ flythrough of the project will be available at the consultation events for visitors to watch on a screen.</p>
Engagement Van	<p>We plan to visit local communities with the Engagement Van, subject to COVID-19 restrictions, to help raise awareness about the events.</p> <p>We plan to advertise these visits on the project webpage and/or mentioned to Community Liaison Groups.</p>
Virtual Q&A events	We will hold several virtual Q&A events on Microsoft Teams (an online meeting format), where members of the project team will present our consultation material and answer any questions from the public.
Project webpage	A full summary of the project; this SoCC; the consultation brochure; status of events information; feedback form; the PEIR and non-technical summary; technical reports; and the map booklet showing the extent of the project (including the proposed red line boundary) will be available at: http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A66-NTP
Exhibition boards	Panels explaining what we're consulting on. Physical and digital versions of these will be available and will appear at face-to-face consultation events, on the project webpage and in the virtual consultation room.
Public consultation brochure and map booklet	This brochure will provide a summary of the proposals including the potential benefits and impacts of the project, and how we propose to mitigate the potential impacts. Detailed maps will be available for each section within the project.

Method	Detail
	Copies of the brochure and map booklets will be available to view at deposit locations detailed in Section 9 of this SoCC during the consultation period.
PEIR and Technical Reports	<p>The PEIR and non-technical summary will set out environmental impacts and possible mitigation measures – all of which we'd like your views on. Technical reports will provide further explanation of the findings of the PEIR and provide background to the design and engineering of the project.</p> <p>These will be available to view as set out in Section 9.</p>
Flyer notification	<p>Flyers will be sent to those within a consultation target area to inform the local community about the consultation. This is based on those in the local area who we think will be most affected by our proposals and advice from local authorities. The consultation target area is shown in Appendix A.</p> <p>The flyer will publicise this consultation and highlight the website where materials will be available. If possible, the flyers will include dates and locations for the face-to-face consultation events and Engagement Van visits.</p>
Letter / email notification	<p>S42 consultees, non-statutory stakeholders (those organisations or bodies identified by Highways England based on previous consultation exercises and work undertaken on the project to date as being likely to have an interest in the project), Focus Groups, Community Liaison Groups and signed up members of the public (from previous rounds of consultation) will be sent a letter or email notification prior to the statutory notice letter to raise awareness about the upcoming consultation and inviting people to visit the website for further details.</p> <p>This notification will also invite people without internet access to contact us to pre-order hard copies or electronic versions on memory sticks of the materials. This is also an opportunity for those requiring materials in an alternative format, such as other languages, large print, braille etc. to request them.</p>
Statutory notice letter notification	<p>Statutory letters will be issued to s42 consultees in accordance with the requirements of that section. This letter identifies stakeholders as prescribed consultees, informs them about this upcoming statutory consultation and requests feedback.</p> <p>This includes sending letters to all land interests within the extent of the project (DCO boundary) and those that fall within category 3 (persons who might be entitled to make a relevant claim if the DCO were made and fully implemented) as set out by section 44 of the Planning Act 2008.</p>
Email alert	<p>Where timing allows an email alert will be issued before the start of this statutory consultation to non-statutory stakeholders, Community Liaison Groups, Focus Groups and signed up members of the public. This alert will remind stakeholders about the start of this statutory consultation.</p>

Method	Detail
Poster and flyer locations	<p>Posters and flyers will be shared with local community facilities. Through further discussions with the host local authorities, we have added public buildings, relevant Parish Councils (as prescribed within S42(a)) and potential venues for awareness raising to the list for sharing posters and flyers. The places we plan to share posters and flyers includes (subject to their agreement and availability):</p> <p>Appleby Co-op, CA16 6XN Appleby Golf Club, CA16 6LP Appleby Leisure Centre, CA16 6QR Appleby Library, CA16 6QP Appleby Old Hall Veterinary Centre, CA16 6HX Appleby Sports Centre, CA16 6XU Appleby Tourist Information Centre, CA16 6XE Appleby Medical Practice, CA16 6QR Barnard Castle, Lowfield Gardens, DL12 8UW Barnard Castle Co-op, DL12 8HL Barnard Castle Doctors Surgery, DL12 8HT Barnard Castle Morrisons, DL12 8EJ Barnard Castle TCR Hub Community Centre, DL12 8TD Birbeck Medical Practice, CA11 8HW Boldron The Pinfold Club, DL12 9RF Brough Castle Ice Cream Parlour and Tearoom, CA17 4EJ Brough Community Primary School, CA17 4EY Brough One-Stop Shop, CA17 4BL Café Sixty-Six, CA16 6LN Center Parcs, CA10 2DW Cross Lanes Organic Farm, DL12 9RT Gilling West, The White Swan Pub, DL10 5JG Kirkby Stephen Co-op, CA17 4RL Kirkby Stephen Library, CA17 4QX Kirkby Stephen, Eden Cottage Nursery, CA17 4AP Kirkby Stephen, Upper Eden Visitor Centre, CA17 4QT Kirkby Thore Post Office, CA10 1UD Mainsgill Farm, DL11 7PN Melkinthorpe, Larch Cottage Nurseries, CA10 2DR Middleton Tyas Village Shop, DL10 6QY Middleton Tyas Lodge, DL10 5QY Penrith Booths, CA11 7JU Penrith B&M Store, CA11 8JB Penrith Cricket Sports and Social Club, CA11 8PE Penrith Hospital, CA11 8HX Penrith Library, CA11 7YA Penrith Morrisons, CA11 7JU Penrith Rugby Club, CA11 8RQ Penrith Sainsburys, CA11 7FG Penrith Tourist Information Centre, CA11 7PT Ravensworth, Bay Horse Inn, DL11 7ET Richmond (Yorks) Golf Club, DL10 5EX Richmond Co-op, S13 8LU Richmond Georgian Theatre Royal, DL10 4DW Richmond Library, DL10 4AE Richmond Lidl, DL10 4AJ Richmond Post Office, DL10 4QB</p>

Method	Detail
	<p>Richmond Town Hall, DL10 4QL Ravensworth Nurseries, DL11 7HA Rokeby Park, DL12 9RZ Scotch Corner Services, DL10 6PQ Stainmore Café, CA17 4EU Temple Sowerby Medical Practice, CA10 1RW The Lakes Medical Practice, CA11 8HW The Haybergill Centre, CA16 6NP Warcop C of E Primary School, CA16 6NX West Layton Nurseries, DL11 7PP</p> <p>In addition, venues where events are being held (subject to availability) will be sent a specific poster related to that venue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The former Llama Karma Cafe • Penrith Haydock Community Centre • Dalton & Gayles Village Hall • Kirkby Thore Memorial Hall • Bowes Village Hall • Warcop Parish Hall • Gilling West Village Hall • Appleby Hub • The Witham, Barnard Castle • Kirkby Stephen Sports & Social Club
Landowner engagement	Engagement is ongoing with impacted landowners. Landowners affected by the proposals will be sent notification of the statutory consultation as required by Section 42.
Community liaison group briefings	We will brief community representatives such as local authority Councillors and relevant Parish and Town Councils about the upcoming statutory consultation through the Community Liaison Groups where timing allows. All attendees will be encouraged to share information about the upcoming consultation within their wider communities. Attendees will be encouraged to submit their feedback via the formal channels set out in Section 8.
Stakeholder focus groups	We currently hold a number of focus group meetings online throughout the year. These groups are categorised and are listed in Appendix B. Where timing allows, we will meet these groups to promote the consultation. All attendees will be encouraged to submit their feedback via the formal channels set out in Section 8.
Seldom heard group engagement	<p>Through working with the host local authorities, we have identified a range of seldom heard groups and individuals, including representatives of local seldom heard groups. Examples include gypsy and traveller communities, the ageing population, the younger population, the disabled and tourists.</p> <p>To encourage these groups to get involved in the consultation, materials will be prepared to be accessible and clear. Our consultation will also include measures, so we communicate effectively with these groups and provide an opportunity for them to have their say. Some of our proposed methods include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilising a range of awareness-raising methods such as newspapers, social media, posters and flyers.

Method	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using posters and flyers publicity at community facilities and hubs that seldom heard groups may frequent. For example, we will share posters and flyers with several tourist centres such as Appleby Tourist Information Centre, Penrith Tourist Information Centre and Center Parcs. • We will also be contacting key community group representatives for them to share information about the consultation with their wider network. • We also will ensure our phone number and email address are available on materials for those who may find have questions or find it difficult to submit comments. • Accessible versions of consultation materials can be requested on 0333 090 1192. • We have selected the venues listed above and will seek to set timing of events with a view to their accessibility and Covid-safe protocols.
Statutory notices	<p>Statutory notices to publicise the proposed DCO application and the SoCC will be issued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S48 notice: Proposed DCO application - once in a national newspaper and the London Gazette and twice in local circulating newspapers (including the Cumberland News, Northern Echo, Gazette Live and Cumberland and Westmorland Herald, Teesdale Mercury and Darlington and Stockton Times) • S47 notice: Publicising the SoCC – in local circulating newspapers (including the Cumberland News, Northern Echo, Gazette Live and Cumberland and Westmorland Herald, Teesdale Mercury and Darlington and Stockton Times) <p>Where, for reasons outside our control, it is not possible to run the notices in the above listed newspapers, an alternate newspaper / publication will be chosen with a similar distribution and in consultation with the relevant local authority.</p>
Media adverts & press releases	<p>We will advertise the public consultation in local newspapers and magazines, including the Eden Local, the Northern Echo, Gazette Live, Cumberland and Westmorland Herald, Teesdale Mercury and Richmondshire Today.</p> <p>Adverts will be placed in local newspapers to promote the launch of the consultation and reminders will be placed ahead of the events. Press releases detailing the public consultation period and how the community and road users can get involved will be issued.</p>
Social media	<p>The public consultation will be advertised using the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways England’s Northwest Facebook page • The A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project Facebook page • Twitter: @HighwaysNWest, @HighwaysNEast and @A66NTP.
Out of home advertising	<p>We will be using paid for advertising in local service stations and targeted social media to raise awareness of the consultation.</p>

8 How to respond to the consultation

8.1 A consultation feedback form will be produced to help you provide comments on the project design. All consultation responses must be made in writing by:

- Completing the feedback form on the project webpage or virtual consultation room at www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A66-NTP.
- Attending a consultation event where you can meet the project team and complete a paper copy, or take a feedback form and freepost envelope away to complete and send to us.
- Picking up a hard copy feedback form and freepost envelope at one of our deposit locations detailed in Table 3, subject to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Requesting a hard copy of the feedback form via telephone on 0333 090 1192 and sending it to us using the Freepost address below.
- Alternatively, you can: email A66NTP@highwaysengland.co.uk, or write to us Freepost A66 NORTHERN TRANS-PENNINE PROJECT.

8.2 **All responses must be received by 23.59pm on 6 November 2021.** Responses received after that date may not be considered.

9 Information available at and details of local deposit locations

9.1 The below list, in addition to this SoCC, will be made available for your information to help inform your consultation response:

- Public consultation brochure and map booklet
- Consultation feedback form and Freepost envelope
- Preliminary Environmental Impact Report, non-technical summary and Technical Reports

9.2 We will make these consultation documents available to view as set out in Table 2 (referred to elsewhere in this SoCC as deposit locations).

9.3 Note dates, locations and times may change due to unforeseen circumstances and are subject to COVID-19 restrictions. In response to COVID-19 related Government guidance and regulations, venues may be unable to open or may have to implement certain measures (for example, scheduling appointments to view documents to maintain social distancing) and we may be unable to make information available for inspection at public information points.

9.4 Should this be the case, upon request, paper copies of the consultation brochure, map booklet, this SoCC and feedback form and electronic copies (such as via USB) of the consultation materials can be provided free of charge, however there may be a charge for paper copies of other consultation materials. Requests can be made to the A66 NTP Project Team before the end of the consultation period using one of the contact methods below:

- Email: A66NTP@highwaysengland.co.uk
- Telephone: 0333 090 1192

9.5 Up to date information about the status of events and venues will be made available on the project webpage and in advertisements.

Table 2: Methods to make consultation documents available

Method	Detail
Project webpage and virtual consultation room	All consultation documents will be published on the project webpage and in the virtual consultation room, both of which can be accessed via: http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A66-NTP
Public information deposit points	<p>We have agreed with local authorities a list of deposit points most relevant and convenient for their constituents on which to provide hard copies of the list in 9.1 to view. This list will be publicised as part of consultation materials, in advertisements and on the project webpage. Readers should note that hard copies of materials will only be available to view if the deposit point is open; deposit points may be closed due to unforeseen circumstances or Covid-19 regulations.</p> <p>Penrith Library, St Andrews Churchyard, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 7YA <i>Hours of operation Monday to Friday 9.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-5pm</i></p> <p>St Michaels Church, 2 Church Gate, Kirkby Thore, Penrith CA10 1UR <i>Hours of operation Monday to Sunday 10am-4pm</i></p> <p>The former Llama Karma Kafe, Brougham CA10 2AB <i>Hours of operation Mondays and Fridays 12pm-6pm and Thursdays 2pm-8pm</i></p> <p>Appleby Library, Low Wiend, Appleby-in-Westmorland, CA16 6QP <i>Hours of operation Monday and Friday 10am- 12.30pm and 1.30-5pm</i></p> <p>Kirkby Stephen Library, Old Grammar School, Vicarage Lane, Kirkby Stephen CA17 4QX <i>Hours of operation Monday and Wednesday 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm, Saturdays 10am-1pm</i></p> <p>Brough Castle Ice Cream Parlour and Tea Room, Brough Castle Farm, Brough, Kirkby Stephen CA17 4EJ <i>Hours of operation Monday to Sunday 10am to 5pm until 10 October</i></p> <p>Brough Memorial Hall, New Road, Brough, Kirkby Stephen CA17 4AS <i>Hours of operation Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 1pm – 6pm from 11 October</i></p> <p>Barnard Castle Library, Witham Building, 2 Hall Street, Barnard Castle, DL12 8JB <i>Hours of operation Monday, Tuesday and Friday 09.30am -4.30pm, Wednesdays 09.30am – 5.30pm, Saturdays 09.30am-12.30pm</i></p> <p>Cross Lanes Organic Farm, Cross Lanes, Barnard Castle, DL12 9RT <i>Hours of operation Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9am- 4.30pm, Tuesdays – closed, Friday and Saturdays: 9am-5pm, Sundays 10am-4pm</i></p> <p>Mainsgill Farm Shop, East Layton, Richmond, DL11 7PN <i>Hours of operation Monday – Sunday 9am – 5pm</i></p> <p>Richmond Library, 10A Queen's Road, Richmond, DL10 4AE <i>Hours of operation Monday through Friday 10am–1pm and 2pm–5pm, Saturdays 10am – 1pm</i></p>

	<p>Clayport Library, 8 Millennium Pl, Durham DH1 1WA <i>Hours of operation Monday, Thursday through Saturday 9.30am-4.30pm, Tuesday and Wednesday 9.30am-5.30pm</i></p> <p>We advise those interested in viewing documents in person at a deposit point should phone the deposit point to ensure it is open, materials are available prior to visiting and whether an appointment is required. All hours of operation were correct at time of writing.</p> <p>Feedback forms and freepost envelopes will be available to take away from these deposit points.</p>
Consultation events	<p>All consultation documents will be available to view at face-to-face consultation events. These events may have to be moved/cancelled as a result of unforeseen circumstances or because of Covid-19 Government guidance and regulations. If an event has to be moved/cancelled, the latest information will be published on the project webpage or can be requested by phoning the project telephone number 0333 090 1192. Dates and times for these events:</p> <p>The former Llama Karma Kafe Brougham, CA10 2AB Sunday 26 September, 2pm-6pm Thursday 30 September, 2pm-6pm</p> <p>Haydock Centre 26 Drovers Lane, Penrith, CA11 9EN Monday 27 September, 3pm-8pm Tuesday 28 September, 10am-4pm Wednesday 29 September, 8am-2pm</p> <p>Dalton and Gayles Village Hall Dalton, DL11 7HS Monday 27 September, 3pm-8pm Tuesday 28 September, 10am-4pm</p> <p>Kirkby Thore Memorial Hall Kirkby Thore, Penrith, CA10 1UE Friday 1 October, Midday-8pm Saturday 2 October, 9am-4pm</p> <p>Bowes Village Hall 2 The Wynd, Barnard Castle, DL12 9HR Friday 1 October, Midday-8pm Saturday 2 October, 9am-4pm</p> <p>Warcop Parish Hall Warcop, CA16 6NX Monday 4 October, 3pm-8pm Tuesday 5 October, 10am-4pm Wednesday 6 October, 8am-2pm</p>

	<p>Gilling West Village Hall 76 High Street, Gilling West, DL10 5JW Monday 4 October, 3pm-8pm Tuesday 5 October, 10am-4pm</p> <p>Appleby Hub Chapel Street, Appleby-in-Westmorland, CA16 6QR Saturday 9 October, 3pm-8pm Sunday 10 October, 10am-4pm Monday 11 October, 8am-2pm</p> <p>The Witham 3 Horse Market, Barnard Castle DL12 8LY Saturday 9 October, 3pm-8pm Sunday 10 October, 10am-4pm Monday 11 October, 8am-2pm</p> <p>Kirkby Stephen Sports & Social Club Market Street, Kirkby Stephen CA17 4QN Wednesday 13 October, 3pm-8pm Thursday 14 October, 10am-4pm</p>
--	--

10 Next steps

- 10.1 All consultation responses received during the public consultation will be recorded and considered. The content of each response will be categorised and broken down by themes and respondent profile – helping us to understand your comments and why you have made them. Where appropriate, we will use your feedback to help influence the project design or to help identify ways to address concerns about the impacts of the project. The consultation responses, along with our detailed area research such as ground investigation surveys and traffic assessments, will help us refine our final design, as part of finalising our DCO application.
- 10.2 We will summarise our findings in a Consultation Report which will include a description of how our application was informed by the responses received, and outline any changes made as a result of consultation. The Consultation Report forms part of the DCO application we will submit to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 10.3 The Planning Inspectorate will decide whether the application and our consultation meets the required standards before it can proceed to examination. Once the DCO application has been accepted by the Planning Inspectorate, we will advertise the application and make the submitted DCO application documents available to the public.
- 10.4 For more information, please visit our project webpage where you can also sign up for email alerts whenever the webpage is updated. If you have any queries about this project, need help accessing this or any other Highways England information,

please contact the project team directly by calling 0333 090 1192 or emailing A66NTP@highwaysengland.co.uk

11 Your data, your rights

11.1 On 25 May 2018, the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) became law. The law requires Highways England to explain to you – consultees, stakeholders and customers – how your personal data will be used and stored. Highways England adheres to the government’s consultation principles, the Planning Act 2008 as required, and may collect personal data to help shape development of highways schemes. Personal data collected by the project team will be processed and retained by Highways England and its appointed contractors until the project is complete. Under the GDPR regulations you have the following rights:

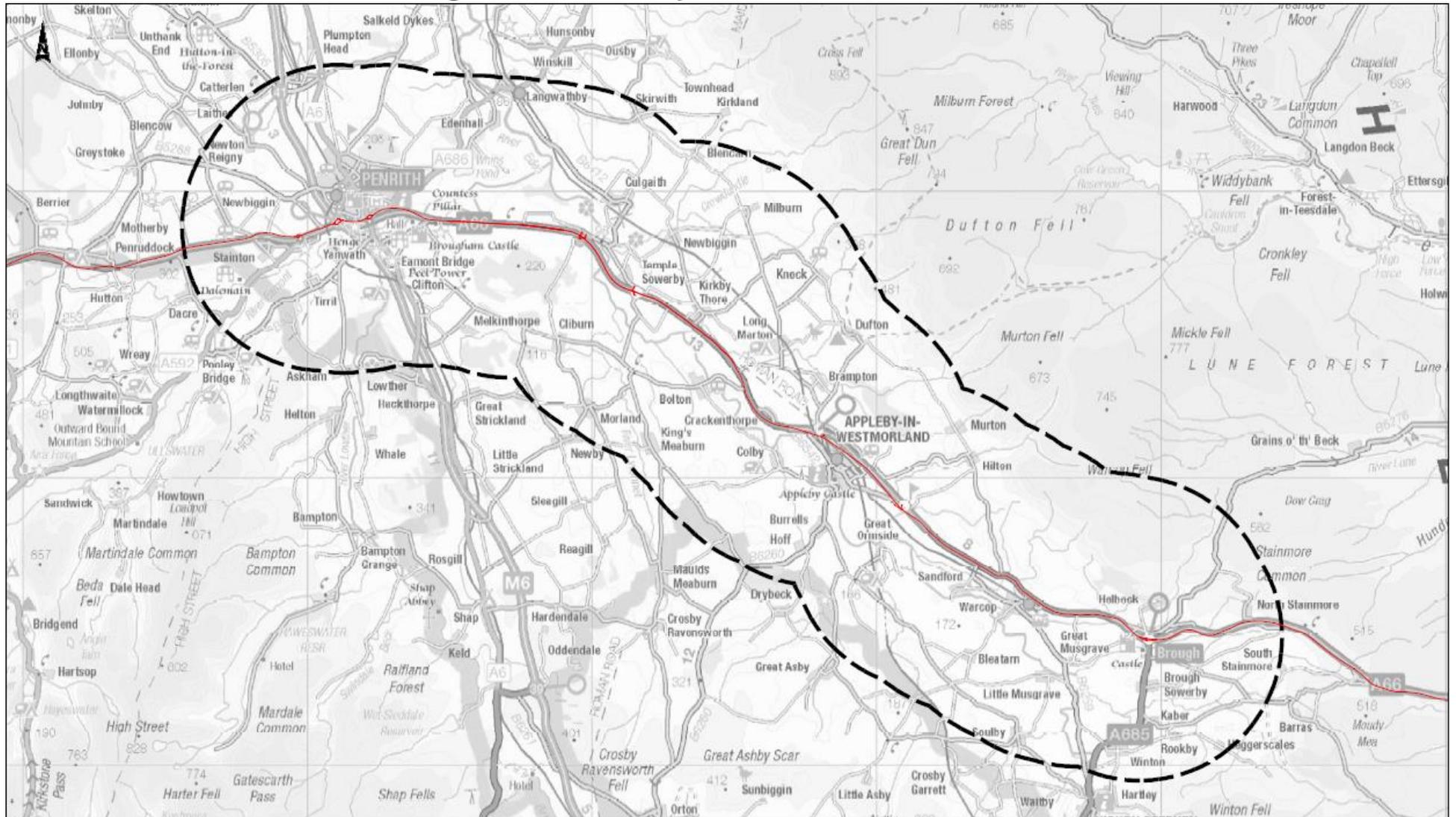
- Right of access to the data (Subject Access Request)
- Right for the rectification of errors
- Right to erasure of personal data – this is not an absolute right under the legislation
- Right to restrict processing or to object to processing
- Right to data portability

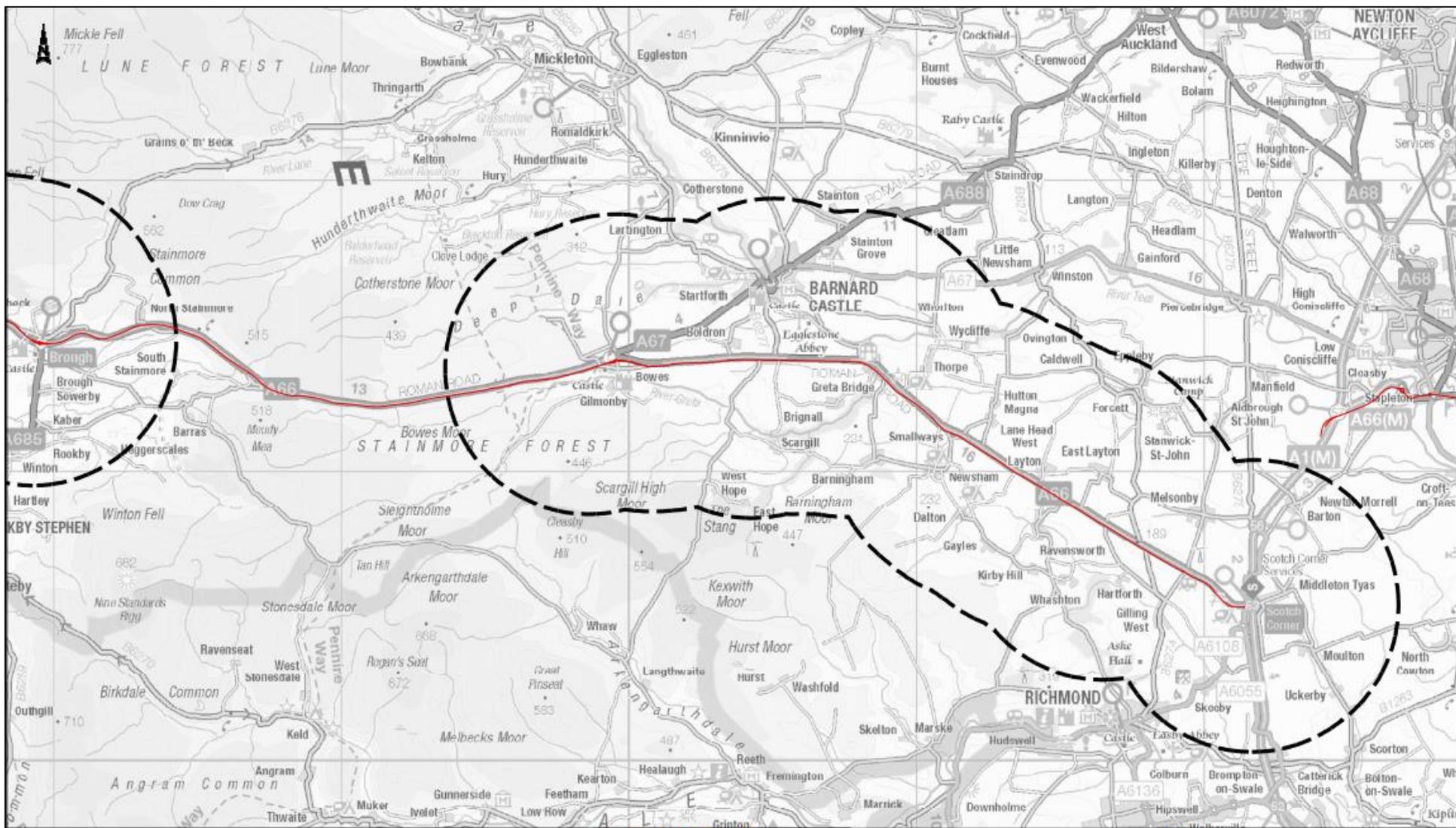
11.2 If, at any point, Highways England plans to process the personal data we hold for a purpose other than that for which it was originally collected, we will tell you what that other purpose is. We will do this prior to any further processing taking place and we will include any relevant additional information, including your right to object to that further processing.

11.3 You have the right to lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority, the Information Commissioners Office.

11.4 If you’d like more information about how we manage data, or a copy of our privacy notice, please contact: DataProtectionAdvice@highwaysengland.co.uk

Appendix A – Consultation Target Area for flyer





Appendix B – List of Stakeholder Focus Groups

- **Strategic Environmental Bodies**
- **Environmental Interest Group**
- **Walking Cycling and Horse-Riding**
- **Emergency and public services**
- **Local businesses**
- **National Freight**
- **Local Authorities**
- **Tourism**

On 20 August 2021, it was announced that Highways England would be changing its name to National Highways. The name change reflects the role of the strategic road network – to connect the nation’s regions – and the part it plays in setting Highways standards across the UK.

We have continued this consultation under the Highways England branding to avoid confusion but will be rebranding this project as of 8 November.

The remit of the organisation has not changed and we will continue to operate and maintain England’s motorways and A roads.

Disclaimer: This document is strictly confidential to its recipients and should not be copied, distributed or reproduced.