

# A46

## Newark Bypass

### 2023 Summary



## Welcome to our first end of year summary for the A46 Newark Bypass

The A46 Newark Bypass is a critical part of our investment to make all our major roads more dependable, durable and most importantly, safe. Our improvements to the route that connects the M1 and Leicester to the A1 and central Lincolnshire will help reduce congestion in the area.

We propose to improve the A46 Newark bypass by widening 6.5km of the existing single carriageway to a dual carriageway, to provide two lanes in each direction between Farndon and Winthorpe roundabouts near Newark-on-Trent.

This summary provides more information on:

- Our latest safety campaign
- You said, we listened
- Building community links
- Site surveys
- Social Value fund
- Preparing our Development Consent Order (DCO)
- What to expect once the DCO has been submitted
- How to stay informed about the DCO
- Charity champions
- Thanks from the Team

# A year in figures...

£4,170+ fundraising

215 volunteer hours



22,598 hours of surveys undertaken

6 stakeholder working groups





Driving safely during any season is essential but is especially important when faced with the challenges of winter. Being prepared can help you have a safe TRIP this festive period.

Before setting off:

- make sure you get a good night's sleep before your trip
- avoid alcohol the day before as this can disrupt sleep and affect your driving the following day
- know what medications you're on and how they affect you
- avoid driving between midnight and 6am when you're likely to feel most tired

Need to alert us to an incident, get help or advise us on an issue? Call us on 0300 123 5000 when it's safe to do so.

For more advice and guidance, visit: <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/road-safety/trip/>

## Building community links

Over the last 12 months, our team, led by our social value manager, have been building long-term relationships with the local community through school and college visits and resource sharing activities with community groups.

We've attended a Year 11 careers fair at Orchard School, outlined careers in construction for students at Newark College during their Big Welcome Event and represented the industry at the Future First Expo, organised by Newark College in partnership with Newark & Sherwood District Council.

We've met with organisations and groups in the community such as YMCA, Fare Share and Newark Friendship Group, to gain a greater understanding of the support available in the area.



## You said, we listened

As part of our ongoing commitment to listening to and acting on the comments and suggestions from the community surrounding the scheme, we made several changes following the completion of our statutory consultation in December 2022.

The majority of changes were to our scheme boundary, also referred to as our 'draft order limits' or 'red line boundary'. During our targeting consultation, in March 2023, we consulted further on these updates and to a design change at Winthorpe roundabout.

Following the completion of this consultation we refined our scheme design ready for submission to the Planning Inspectorate as part of our Development Consent Order (DCO).

We shared the [summary report](#) with you in July, to provide an overview of how people had responded to the statutory and targeted consultations.

You'll be able to find the full report showing how we responded to your comments in the consultation report, within our DCO application. This will be available for you to view once the Planning Inspectorate has accepted our application.



## Site surveys

You'll probably have spotted our survey teams in fields beside the scheme and over in Kelham throughout the year.

In January and February, specialists from the ecology team were busy investigating habitats near the river and up trees as they completed their assessments.

Topographical surveys, looking at culverts (concrete structure beneath the road), road surfaces and current ditches across the scheme took place in early 2023.

Meanwhile, Strata Geotechnics were working across the scheme to help us understand in more detail the types of soils and rock making up the land beneath the scheme.

Utility trial hole surveys were undertaken in May, to locate and report on current services located near the proposed scheme works.

In the summer we were surveying Smeaton's Arches to create a 3D model of the grade II listed, red brick arches, which lead from Cattle Market roundabout down the A616 towards South Muskham.

Our archaeology teams visited throughout the year to collect geophysical data, field walking and metal detecting surveys. Archaeology trial trenching took place in the autumn, with visits from the district and county archaeologists.

This extensive survey work could not take place without the support of the many landowners surrounding the scheme. Thank you to them!



## Social Value fund

In June we launched the social value fund to the community during an event at Beanblock Café.

Since then, we've been delighted to receive so many enquiries to the fund and are currently working through submitted applications to enable us to support a range of activities within the community.

Our first successful applicant was Farndon Cricket Club, who received funding for cricket covers, allowing them to maintain their pitch to allow for more of their sporting community to enjoy games throughout the season.



## Preparing our Development Consent Order

The Development Consent Order (DCO) refers to the collection of assessments, data, plans and proposals which outline how we intend to deliver the A46 Newark Bypass scheme.

We planned to submit these documents to the Planning Inspectorate in autumn 2023; however, the predicted cost of the scheme has risen above the £500m threshold. This means it now falls under the governance of the Department for Transport (DfT) and Treasury rather than National Highways.

**Due to additional governance, we'll now submit our DCO application at the beginning of 2024.**

This does not impact stakeholders or our commitment to delivering these improvements to this vital link road; we'll continue to work closely with DfT in the development and delivery of the scheme.

We'll share more information ahead of our submission of the DCO application. In the meantime, our team will continue to refine our design and liaise with stakeholders to manage the development of Heads of Terms and Statements of Common Ground.

## What to expect once the DCO has been submitted

Once the Planning Inspectorate has received our DCO submission, they will have 28 days to review it and decide whether or not to accept it.

If the application is accepted, they will appoint an Examining Inspector, who will lead the review of the scheme and ultimately decide whether or not to grant permission to proceed.

If the application is accepted, they will also:

- publish all the application documents on their dedicated project page
- publish the date from which you will be able to register to put your case on the application
- publish the date on which the registration period will close

## How to stay informed about the DCO

You can sign up to A46 email alerts from the Planning Inspectorate via their webpage here: [infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/a46-newark-bypass/](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/a46-newark-bypass/)

If you are interested in registering as an interested party and being part of the examination process, details about how to make representation can also be found on the Planning Inspectorate website, here: [infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/participating-in-the-process/](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/participating-in-the-process/)



## Thanks from the Team

You'll likely have met some of our team if you've previously attended one of our resident drop-in sessions or a consultation event. But, as we come to the end of the year, some of them have a message for the stakeholders we've been working with.

**Laura Hampshire**, Programme Lead, National Highways said: "Thank you to everyone who has engaged with us again this year. From those who have helped us refine our design thanks to their local knowledge, to those who have challenged us to consider different construction methods to reduce environmental impacts – thank you!"

**Phil Boffey**, Senior Project Manager, National Highways said: "Thank you to those who have invited us into local working groups, in particular to discuss other local developments and facilities and provisions for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. This all contributes to ensuring we build a scheme that meets the needs of the local community."

**Ngozi Abakasanga**, Project Manager, National Highways, adds: "My particular thanks to the landowners, who've been impacted by surveys this year. Our team appreciate the close working relationships that have been forged, allowing us to carry out this important work."

## Charity champions

Having named Beaumont House Hospice Care and Newark Emmaus Trust as our charity partners, the team have been working to support both through a range of activities over the last 12 months.

To date, we've fundraised more than £1,570 for Beaumont House Hospice Care and £600 for Newark Emmaus Trust.

One of our team has joined the board of trustees at Newark Emmaus Trust, providing pro-bono support to bolster their communications. And in December 2022, we were pleased to be able to deliver Christmas Dinner ingredients to the residents – something we're planning to do again this year.


Together with our charity partners and other local organisations we've provided 215 volunteer hours during activities like the Tour of Britain, which came through the town in June and Newark Dragon Boat Festival in September.

In addition, five members of the team took part in the Newark 100, a cycling event to fundraise for the Children's Bereavement Centre. Collectively, the team's fundraising total reached £2,000 (including gift aid) as they rode more than 470-miles between them.

## Getting in touch

For more information about the A46 Newark Bypass, please contact us:

 [A46newarkbypass@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:A46newarkbypass@nationalhighways.co.uk)

 0300 123 5000

 <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/a46-newark-bypass/>