

Hereford Transport Package

Frequently asked questions (for website)

What is the Hereford Transport Package?

The Hereford Transport Package includes the Hereford Bypass and a package of other measures as set out below:

- A new road to the west of the city. The exact route has not been determined but would include a new river crossing.
- Improvements to increase walking, cycling and bus use for short distance journeys, and more attractive and healthier public spaces.

Why are you consulting on the HTP now?

The aim of consultation is to provide an opportunity for people to learn about the HTP project, comment on the proposals and suggest alternative options / solutions for considerations.

To help us design the HTP, we would like your thoughts on:

1. The current transport problems in Hereford
2. The types of walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements you'd like to see and where you think these are needed
3. Other measures you would like us to consider
4. The issues we need to consider when identifying possible bypass routes to the west of the city. This will include homes, businesses, buildings and wildlife habitats.

In addition to this first phase of consultation, there will be two additional phases of consultation on the HTP. These will include:

- A second phase to discuss the possible bypass routes and the possible types and location of walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements; and
- A third phase to discuss the proposed bypass route and proposed package of walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements.

Why are you proposing a bypass?

A new Hereford bypass as part of a package of measures would:

- Support the delivery of 6,500 new homes, 6,000 jobs, a new university and expansion of the Hereford Enterprise Zone at Rotherwas
- Deliver much-needed additional transport capacity by providing an alternative route for the A49
- Lead to wider economic benefits for business and employment because journey times would be more reliable
- Strengthen local and regional connections, particularly to Wales and the Midlands, which would remove the need for many heavy goods vehicles to travel through the city
- Improve our community's health and the environment by improving air quality and emissions and encouraging walking, cycling and bus use
- Create opportunities to improve public spaces

- Reduce the operational maintenance costs on the A49 and improve the safety of our network.

What route would the bypass take?

The proposed bypass will be to the west of the city. The exact route has not yet been confirmed, but will be within the Core Strategy bypass corridor to the west of the city.

How will you identify possible bypass routes?

We have undertaken a number of studies which identified the Core Strategy bypass corridor. We are progressing the appraisal of route options within this corridor.

We have carried out investigations into a number of issues and identified constraints within the corridor to help establish possible bypass routes including:

- Mapping existing homes and businesses
- Undertaking initial engineering studies
- Surveying traffic, bus, rail, pedestrian and cycle movements
- Carrying out household and school travel surveys

We have also identified:

- Wildlife habitats
- Buildings/areas of historical importance
- Public rights of way
- Major parks and conservation areas

The findings of this technical work will help us identify possible bypass routes. We will avoid (where possible) and mitigate against adverse impacts and physical damage. At the same time, the design will seek to safeguard residential amenity and business interests.

What types of walking, cycling and bus improvements are you proposing?

Some possible improvements could include:

- Safer and better cycling routes (such as new dedicated cycle lanes, cycle friendly junctions, reduced speed limits and traffic-free routes)
- Safer and better walking routes (such as wider footways, improved pedestrian crossing facilities, reduced speed limits and traffic-free routes)
- A more attractive urban environment (such as shared space and the planting of trees to create green corridors)
- Junction treatments (for example improved shared space and raised tables to slow traffic)
- Improvements to bus stops, bus services and facilities (such as real time information displays, shelters and seating).

How many new homes will be developed as a result?

The bypass would enable to development of 6,500 new homes which will be built by 2031.

Would the bypass bring any other benefits, such as new schools?

The bypass would provide the necessary infrastructure to support new homes and communities. New areas of housing could include new community infrastructure such as new parks, schools, small scale retail, health provision, sports facilities, and walking, cycling and bus improvements.

How much would the scheme cost?

The total cost of the Hereford Bypass scheme is estimated to be £132 million. The estimated cost of the Hereford Transport package is £150m.

How would the bypass be funded?

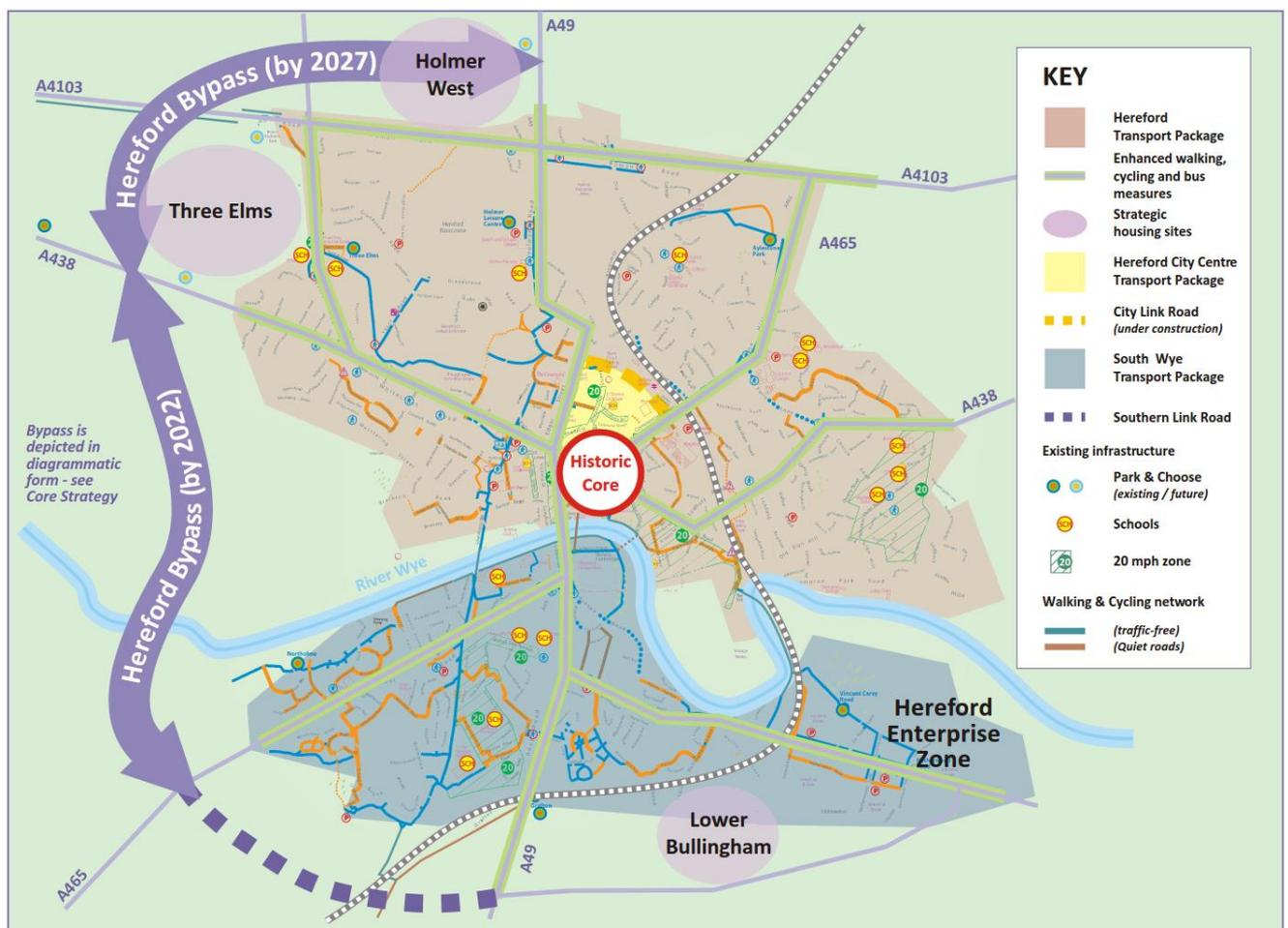
The road could be funded from a number of sources, including developer contributions from Community Infrastructure Levy funds, Section 106 funds and central government grants.

The Council has already secured £27 million for the first phase of the bypass, the Southern Link Road.

When would the bypass open?

The first phase of the bypass, the Southern Link Road is scheduled to be completed in early 2020.

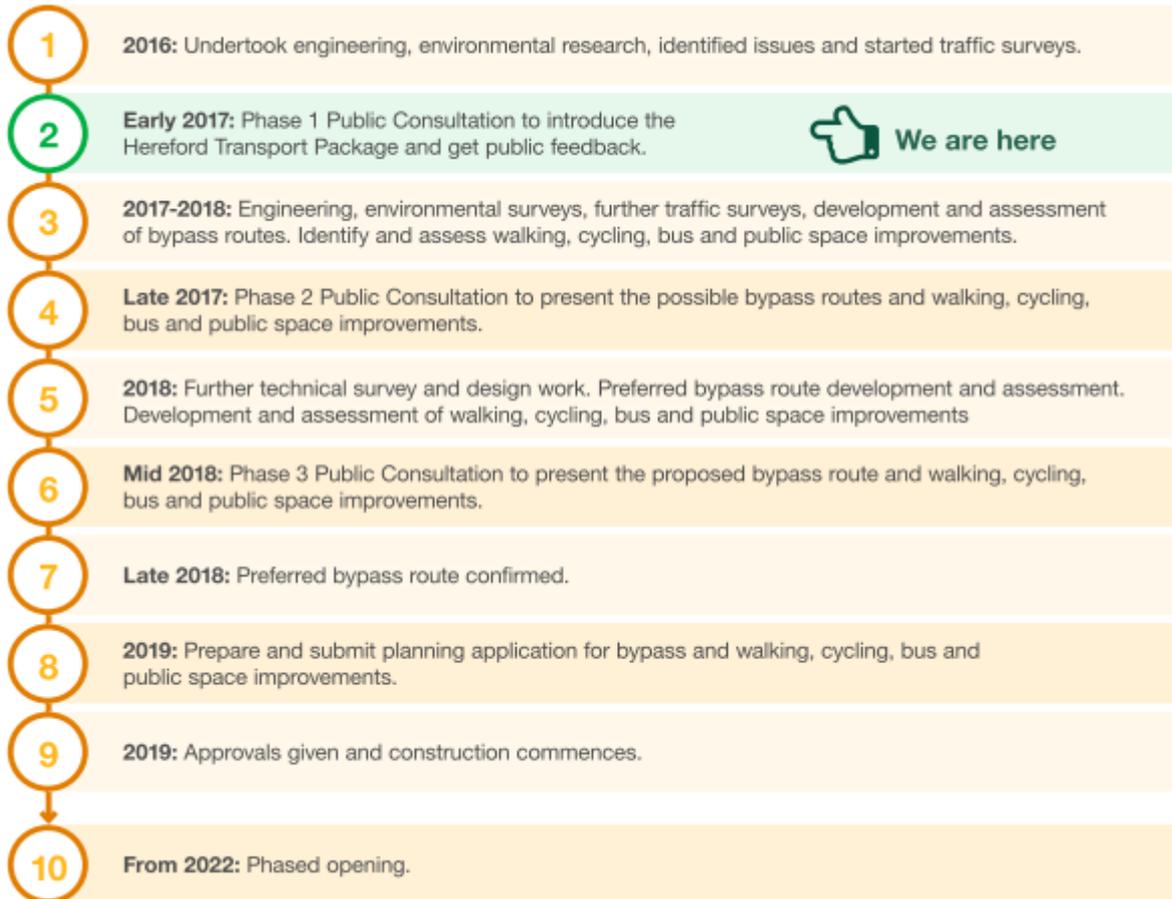
We plan to complete the remainder of the bypass by 2027.



What is the approval process for the bypass?

We are delivering the first phase of the bypass, the Southern Link Road and have secured planning consent for the road. The process that needs to be followed to complete the bypass is summarised below.

Hereford Transport Package timeline



How can I have my say on the proposals?

You can attend one of the public exhibitions at The Courtyard, Edgar Street, Hereford HR4 9JR at the following times:

- Tuesday 4 April 2017, 11am to 7pm
- Wednesday 5 April 2017, 11am to 7pm
- Thursday 6 April 2017, 11am to 7pm.

Members of the project team will be at the session to discuss the proposals, answer questions and take your feedback.

You can also visit the display exhibition at Hereford Library, Broad Street, Hereford, HR4 9AU from Tuesday 11 April 2017 until Friday 19 May 2017 (during normal opening hours).

There is a questionnaire you can fill in whilst at the exhibitions.

You can view all the exhibition materials and fill in the questionnaire online at <https://herefordshire.gov.uk/HerefordConsultation>.