

Notice of Consultation

A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Scheme

Section 47 Planning Act 2008

Notice Publicising a Statement of Community Consultation

National Highways is planning to upgrade approximately 8.5 miles of the A358 between Southfields roundabout on the A303 and the M5 at Taunton to a high-quality dual carriageway. The highways improvement scheme, known as A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Scheme, comprises the following elements:

- Approximately 8.5 miles of new dual carriageway connecting junction 25 of the M5 at Taunton with the existing A303 at Southfields roundabout near Ilminster
- The section west of the proposed junction at Mattock's Tree Hill would be offline to the existing road corridor, while the section east of the junction would follow the existing corridor
- M5 junction 25 connection and improvements
- A new bridge to carry Stoke Road over the A358
- A new junction at Mattock's Tree Hill, connecting the A358 to the local road network
- An additional bridge at Griffin Lane would be built for the eastbound A358 carriageway
- A new bridge to carry Bickenhall Lane over the A358
- A new bridge to carry Village Road over the A358
- A new junction at Ashill, connecting to the local road network
- Southfields roundabout connection and improvements
- A new cycle route that would run from Henlade to the Southfields roundabout, making use of the local road network and new off-road routes

We intend to make an application to the Planning Inspectorate under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for a development consent order to authorise construction of the scheme.

Before making our application we must produce a document called the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) setting out how we will consult the local community about our proposals. We also must make this statement available for inspection by the public and publish this notice stating where and when the statement can be inspected. We then must carry out consultation in accordance with the statement.

This notice contains a summary of the consultation details. However, full details of the consultation can be found in the SoCC. This can be viewed along with our consultation materials, online at: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A358-taunton-to-southfields or at the following locations throughout the period of our consultation: **Tuesday 12 October to Monday 22 November 2021.**

Please note: Consultation materials will be available from the start of the consultation date on the website and locations below, as detailed, not in advance.

Locations with consultation documents

Ilminster Library

Ditton Street, Ilminster TA19 0BW
9:30am – 12pm Monday, Wednesday and
Saturday, 9:30am – 4:30pm Tuesday and
Friday

Somerset West and Taunton Council

Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton,
Somerset TA1 1HE
8:30am – 5pm Monday to Friday

You can also view our consultation materials at our consultation events where you can speak with the project team and share your views. Subject to COVID-19 restrictions we intend to hold events at the following venues during the consultation period:

Public Consultation Events

Taunton Racecourse

Orchard Portman
Taunton
TA3 7BL

Tuesday 19 October 2021 from 2pm to 8pm

Monks Yard (Conference Room)

Horton Cross Farm
Horton Cross
Ilminster
Somerset
TA19 9PT

Saturday 23 October 2021 from 11am to 6pm

Holiday Inn Taunton (Priory Suite)

Deane Gate Avenue
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2UA

Wednesday 3 November 2021 from 11am to 6pm

You can also view our consultation materials in our virtual consultation room, which will be open 24/7 during the consultation period. You can access our virtual consultation room and find out about our Q&A webinar sessions and web chats at: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A358-taunton-to-southfields

The scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment development, which means a Preliminary Environmental (PEI Report) has been produced (to describe the environmental effects of the scheme) and is being consulted on alongside the other consultation documents. It also means that an Environmental Statement will be produced and submitted with the application in due course.

Contact the team:

Email:

A358TauntontoSouthfields@highwaysengland.co.uk

Write: FREEPOST A358 TAUNTON TO SOUTHFIELDS (the address must be written in capital letters and you do not need a stamp)

Telephone: 0300 123 5000
(Monday to Friday 09.00 - 17.00)