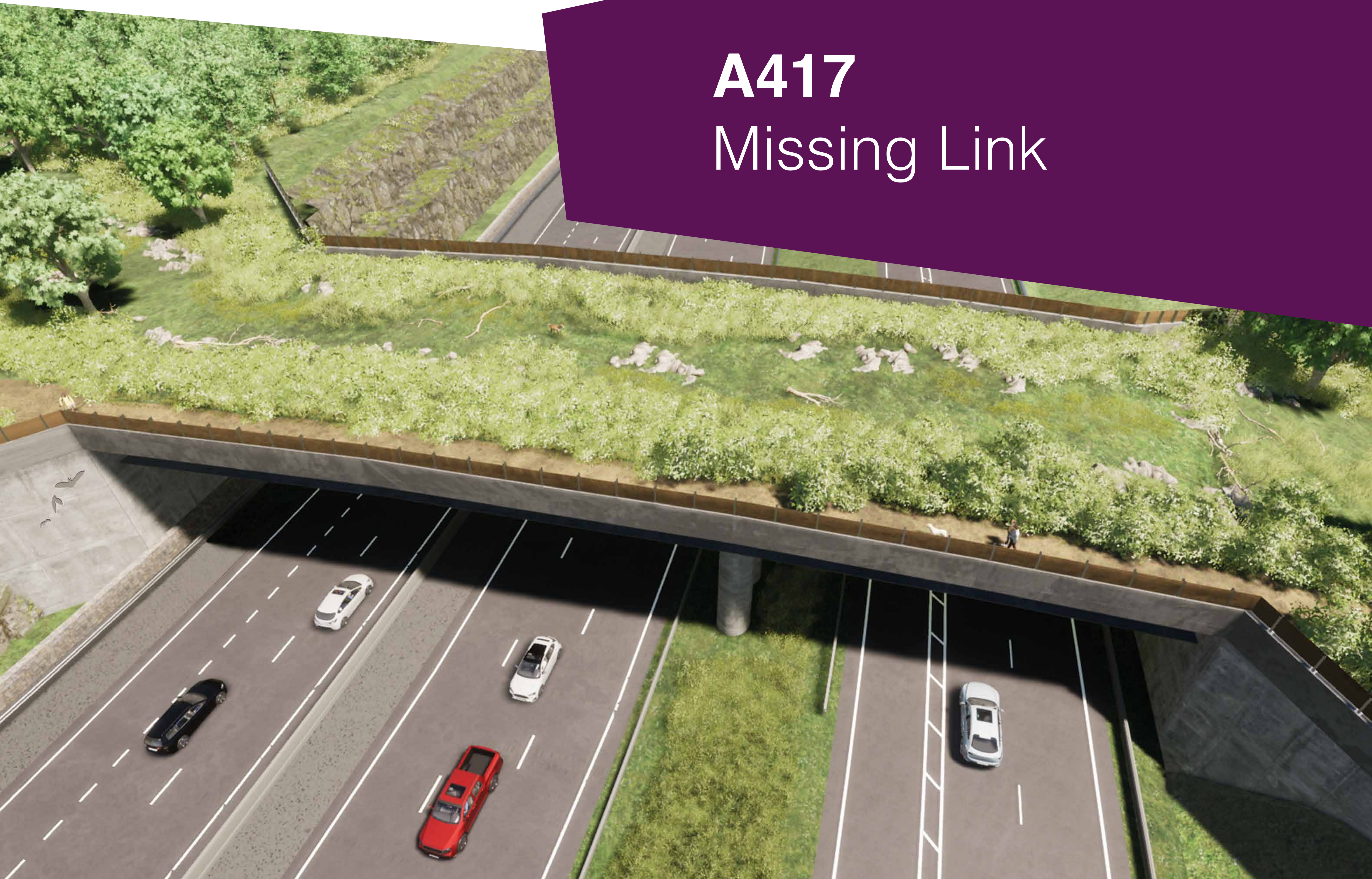


A417 Missing Link



Artist's impression looking north
towards Ullenwood junction

New crossings: Cotswold Way and Gloucestershire Way crossings

Responding to your feedback, and with the benefit of new survey information, we're now proposing two key new crossings of the A417:

Cotswold Way crossing

A new crossing in the region of 5m wide near Emma's Grove.

The benefits

The Cotswold Way crossing would:

- enable users of the Cotswold Way National Trail to safely cross the A417 (meaning users of this national trail would no longer have to walk down the hill to the Air Balloon roundabout and cross the busy and noisy A417)
- be for walkers, cyclists, and horse riders, including disabled users
- be wide enough to be used as a cattle crossing, something requested by local farmers
- broadly follow the historical alignment of the Cotswold Way National Trail
- reconnect the Cotswold Way National Trail, and provide better links to Emma's Grove, the Gloucestershire Way and the proposed new Air Balloon Way
- be built using materials that are sympathetic to the local landscape and include a viewing platform for people to enjoy this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Gloucestershire Way crossing

A new crossing in the region of 25m wide north of Shab Hill junction.

The benefits

The Gloucestershire Way crossing would:

- enable users of the Gloucestershire Way to safely cross the A417, without having to navigate the busy Shab Hill junction
- be for walkers, cyclists, and horse riders, including disabled users
- be planted with hedgerows to help bats and other animals such as badgers and barn owls to cross safely; this requirement has been identified by the latest ecological survey data
- be wide enough to accommodate and separate wildlife and people
- broadly follow the historical alignment of the Gloucestershire Way
- improve access to places of historical interest, such as at Emma's Grove and Barrow Wake
- reconnect the Gloucestershire Way and link key landscape features in the area, including Ullen Wood, Emma's Grove and the new Air Balloon Way
- be built using materials that are sympathetic to the local landscape and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

In addition, we're proposing to plant hedgerows on the proposed Stockwell Farm and Cowley Lane overbridges, which will help connect habitats and integrate them into the landscape.