

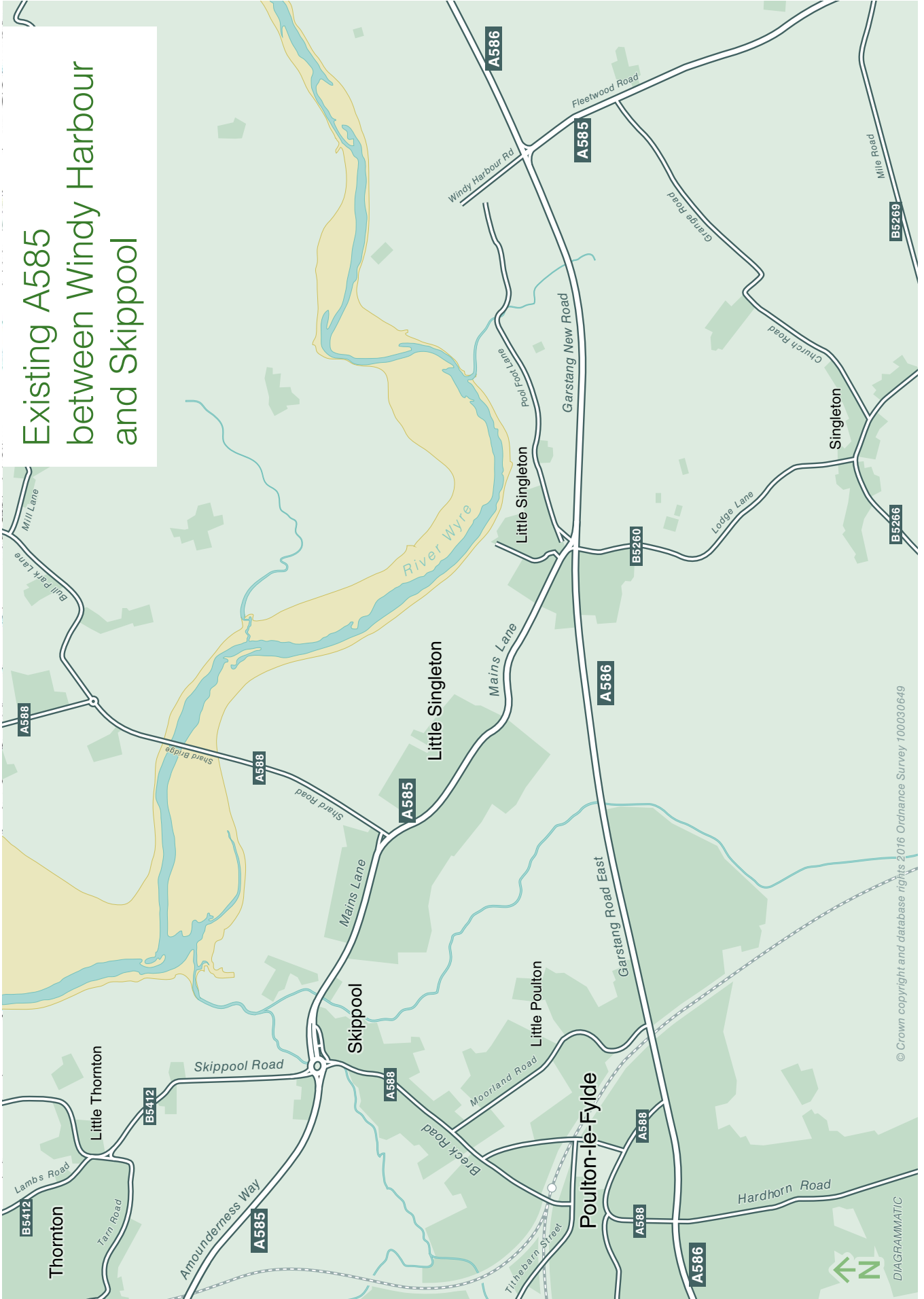
A585

Windy Harbour to Skippool improvements

Public consultation



Existing A585 between Windy Harbour and Skippool



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A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool improvements

About us

Highways England (formerly known as the Highways Agency) is the government company charged with operating, maintaining and improving England's motorways and major A roads.

Summary

We are looking at ways to improve the A585 between Windy Harbour and Skippool junctions. The government announced proposals to improve the A585 in their Road Investment Strategy, published in December 2014.

The A585 is the main road in and out of Fleetwood and surrounding areas and it is heavily congested. We want to improve journey times and make the road safer and more accessible for local users, walkers and cyclists.

We want to hear your views

We're carrying out a public consultation to obtain feedback on the two improvement options for the A585 and to explain how you can have your say about how we develop them.

This consultation runs from Monday 5 September to Monday 17 October 2016. All responses to the consultation will be considered and will inform, where appropriate, how the proposals are refined.

This is not the only opportunity you will have to give your view. We will consult with you again after the designs have been developed further.

For full details of the scheme and for further information, please visit our website at www.highways.gov.uk/a585windyharbour-skipool

Progress to date

In our first newsletter, which was circulated to those living near to the improvements and published on our website, we let you know that we planned to carry out surveys to collect information on the environment and regional and local traffic. The initial stages of this work have been completed and we've used it to develop the options that we'd now like to share with you.

The options

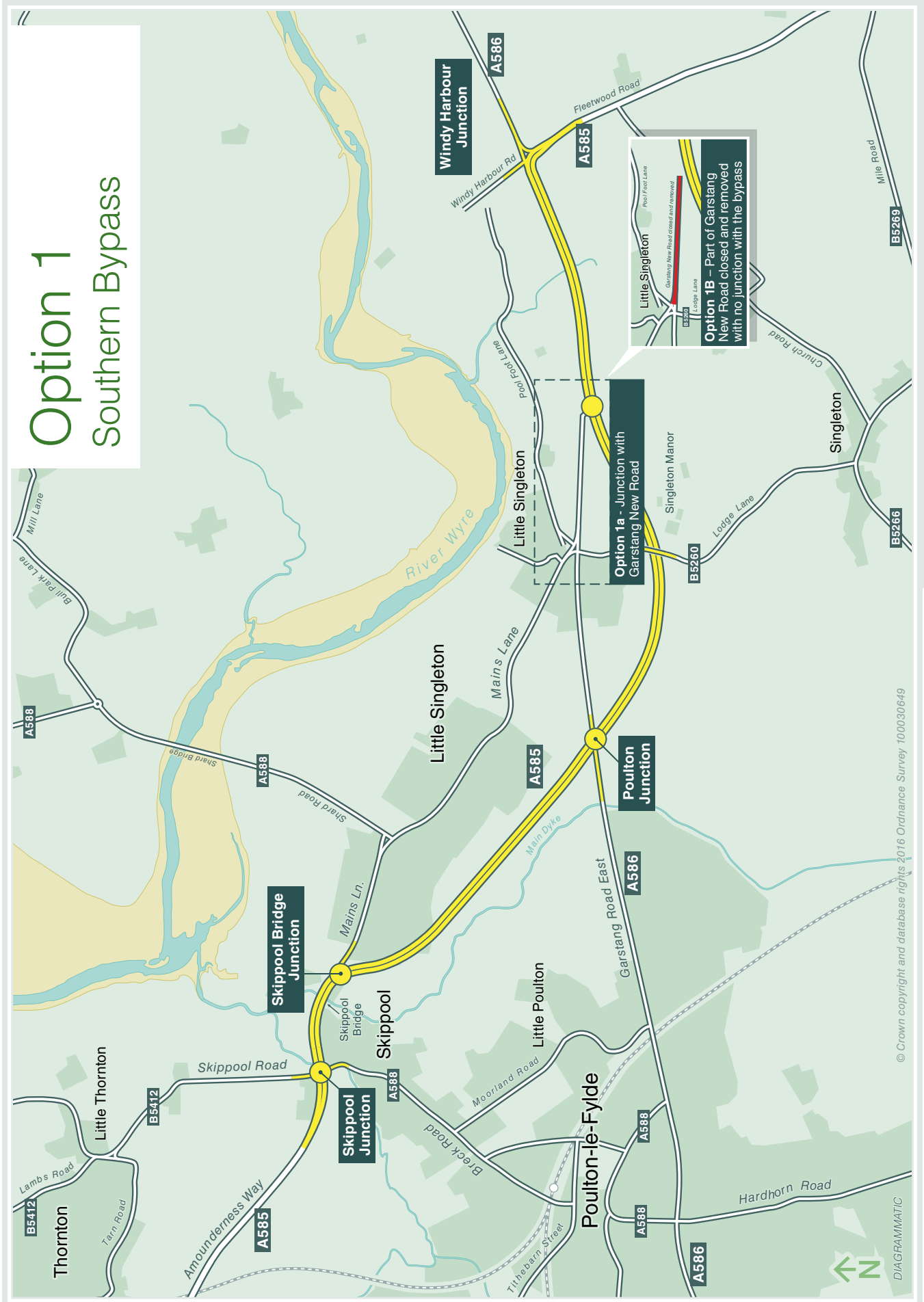
We are consulting on 2 options:

Option 1: a bypass to the south of the A585. There are a couple of variations within this option.

Option 2: improvements to the existing A585 (no bypass).

Our preferred solution is Option 1, a bypass to the south of the A585 because we consider it offers the best combination of benefits, but we want to hear your views.

In developing these options, we also considered a bypass to the north of the A585 but we rejected it as it offers no extra benefits over the southern option, but is considerably more expensive and is likely to have greater environmental impacts.



Option 1: Southern Bypass

This option provides a dual carriageway from Windy Harbour Junction running westwards and passing to the south of Little Singleton. It passes under Lodge Lane with no junction before swinging northwards to a new junction with Garstang Road East that we have called Poulton Junction. North of this junction the bypass runs to the west of the existing A585 along the Main Dyke valley to join a new junction connecting with the existing road immediately south of the bridge over Main Dyke (Skippool Bridge). The dual carriageway then continues westwards over a new bridge spanning Main Dyke to connect with Skippool Junction.

We have considered two variants of the Southern Bypass:

1A with a junction at Garstang New Road

1B without a junction, which would enable a section of Garstang New Road to be closed and removed at the approach to Windy Harbour junction.

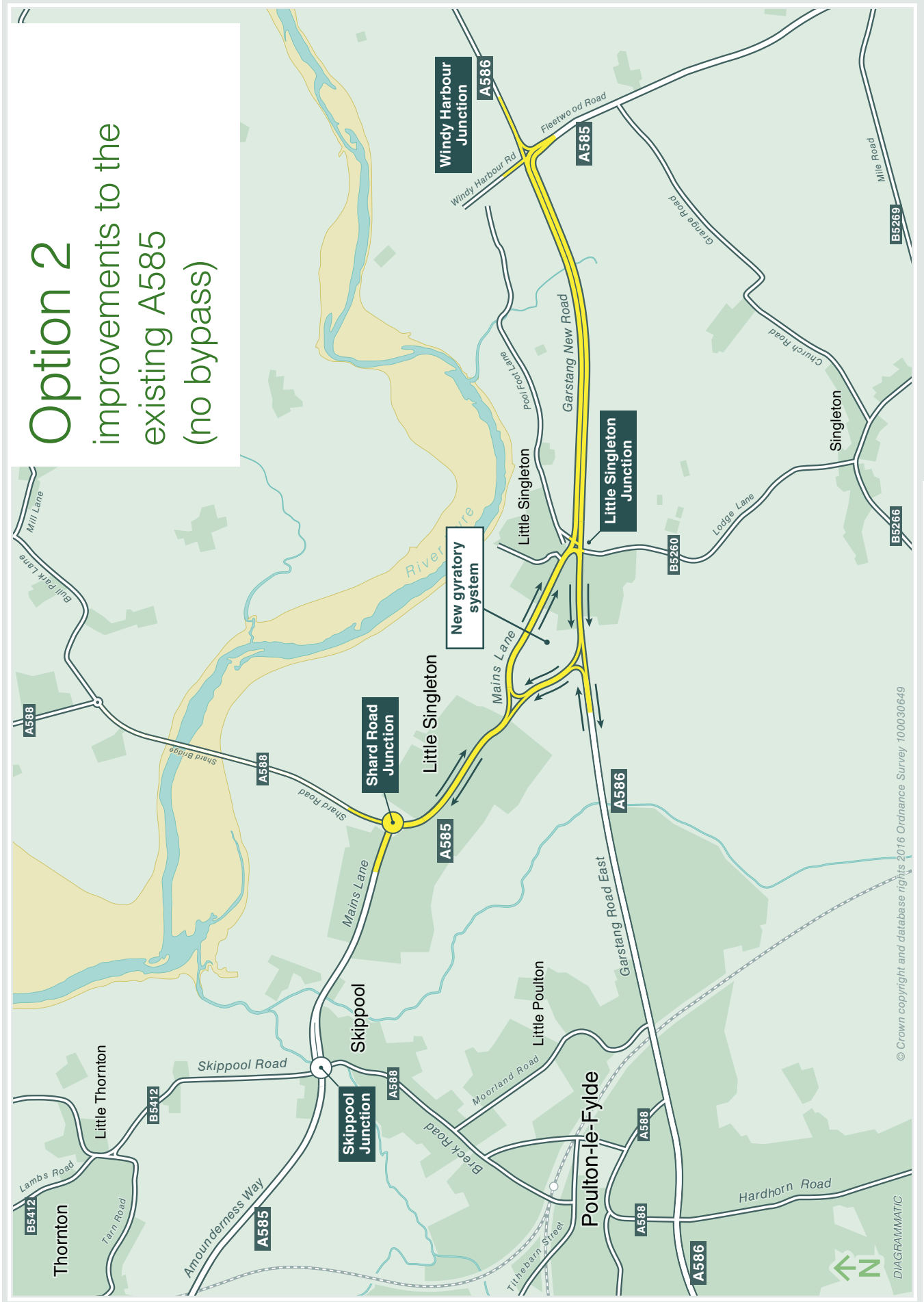
Option 1A with a junction would allow an eastern connection with Little Singleton, however it is less likely to remove through traffic along the existing route. Option 1B with no junction is likely to offer improved journey times along the bypass and remove more through traffic along the existing route, but may require a footbridge at the public footpath east of Little Singleton to allow a safe crossing point across the bypass. The two alternatives are shown in more detail on the map on page 2.

Previously considered but rejected - Northern Bypass

The Northern Bypass was rejected due to cost, environmental impact and because it offered no additional benefits to the Southern Option.



Option 2
 improving to the
 existing A585
 (no bypass)



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Option 2: improvements to the existing A585 (no bypass)

This option improves the existing road instead of building a bypass which requires a one way gyratory to be created within Little Singleton. The improvements include:

- making Garstang New Road from Windy Harbour to Little Singleton a dual carriageway
- creating a one-way two lane gyratory system within Little Singleton
- a new two lane northbound link within Little Singleton that will form part of the gyratory system and connect with Mains Lane

- replacing the existing traffic signals at Shard Road with a new junction located to the north-east of the existing junction

The improvements to the existing A585 are presented as a non-preferred option as:

- they offer lower journey time improvements than the bypass
- they don't support growth and development as much as the bypass
- they don't reduce the impact of traffic on local communities as much as the bypass

The options compared:

The bypass will be less disruptive to traffic during construction and it would enable the existing Mains Lane (from Skippool Bridge Junction to Little Singleton) and Garstang New Road (to its junction with the bypass) to be 'de-trunked' (handing over responsibility of the road to the local council) although it is a more expensive option. This is likely to reduce traffic levels and may enable us to make improvements to assist pedestrians and cyclists. The information below will be refined as we develop our plans and carry out more assessments.

	Option 1	Option 2
	Southern Bypass	Improve existing A585
Improvement to journey times	✓✓✓	✓✓
Environmental impacts	See next section	See next section
Improvements for cyclists and pedestrians	✓✓	✓
Area of land take required	Significant	Moderate
Cost to construct	£££	£
Time to construct	Over 2 years	Over 18 months
Disruption during construction to residents and businesses	Slight	Substantial
Disruption during construction to traffic	Limited	Substantial

Our preference is for Option 1 because we consider it offers the best combination of benefits. However, we'd like to know what you think.

Environmental Impact

Both schemes would have positive and negative environmental impacts locally.

In developing options and designs, we pay particular attention to the environmental impact of both the construction work and finished scheme.

We consider:

- Noise and vibration
- Air quality
- Landscape and visual effects
- Cultural heritage
- Nature conservation
- Drainage and water environment
- People and communities
- Geology and soils

Initial studies indicate that Option 1 could offer improved air quality and improvements in access for walkers, cyclists and equestrians associated with “de-trunking” the bypassed section of the A585.

If Option 1 is selected, there would be reduced traffic noise along Mains Lane between the village of Little Singleton and Skippool. The new bypass may lead to increased noise at the rear of properties on the south side of Mains Lane and around Lodge Lane, south of Little Singleton. If Option 2 is selected a combination of noise increases and decreases would also occur in Little Singleton and Skippool, with increases notably relating to the new link road proposed as part of the one-way gyratory.

Part of Option 1 would be located nearer to Main Dyke. We take great care to protect the water environment and to ensure that whatever option is developed, it would not cause pollution or flooding.

We are very mindful of the potential impact on protected species including bird populations. Further survey work is currently underway to establish a detailed baseline for these. If we identify any threat to wildlife we will work with Natural England to mitigate the risk.

We have noted the presence of conservation areas at Singleton and Poulton-le-Fylde as well as Grade II listed buildings and a number of other known heritage assets in the area including the line of a Roman road west of Skippool. These are relevant to both options and any potential impact on cultural heritage will influence how we design the scheme. Where appropriate, we will use mitigation measures to minimise any impacts.

Option 1 would introduce a new bypass to the south of the existing A585 route. Option 2 would involve a number of changes to the existing A585 route including a new gyratory system and changes to junction layouts. We will look into potential landscaping and screening options.

Our environmental experts will be at the public information exhibitions and they will be available to answer your questions about the environmental aspects of the scheme.

Have your say

Meet staff from Highways England to learn about the options and have your say by attending one of our public information exhibitions:

- **Friday 16 September**
2pm to 8pm
Singleton Village Hall, Station Road,
Singleton, FY6 8LL
- **Saturday 17 September**
10am to 4pm
Singleton Village Hall, Station Road,
Singleton, FY6 8LL
- **Wednesday 21 September**
4pm to 8pm
Wyre Civic Centre, Breck Rd,
Poulton-le-Fylde, FY6 7PU

A copy of this brochure, including a scheme fly-through, can be found on our website at www.highways.gov.uk/a585windyharbour-skipool where you can also register for updates.

The best way to ensure that your views are registered and considered is by completing our questionnaire. You can do this on our website or by completing and returning the attached questionnaire.

You can also comment by emailing us at A585WindyHarbourToSkipool@highwaysengland.co.uk or by writing to us at: **A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool Project Team, Highways England, Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD.**

If you have any questions about this consultation please call the project team on **0300 470 2700**.

Public viewing places

You can also find this brochure at the following places from 5 September 2016:

Poulton Library, Blackpool Old Road,
Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire, FY6 7DH

Singleton Village Hall,
Station Rd, Singleton, FY6 8LL

St. Annes Library, 254 Clifton Drive South,
St Annes on Sea, FY8 1NR

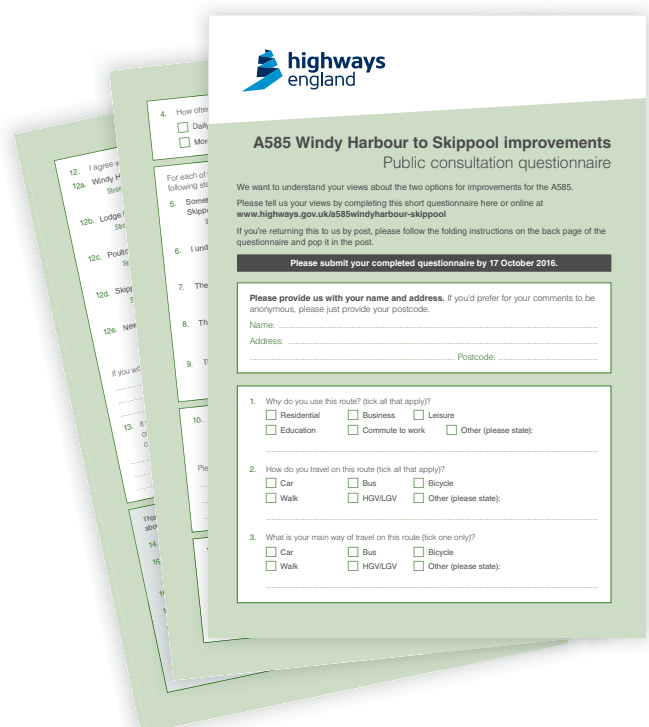
Wyre Civic Centre,
Breck Rd, Poulton-le-Fylde, FY6 7PU

Blackpool Central Library,
Queen St, Blackpool, FY1 1PX

Thornton Library, Victoria Road East,
Thornton Cleveleys, FY5 3SZ

Fleetwood Library,
North Albert St, Fleetwood, FY7 6AJ

The Koi Pool, Mains Lane, FY6 7LJ

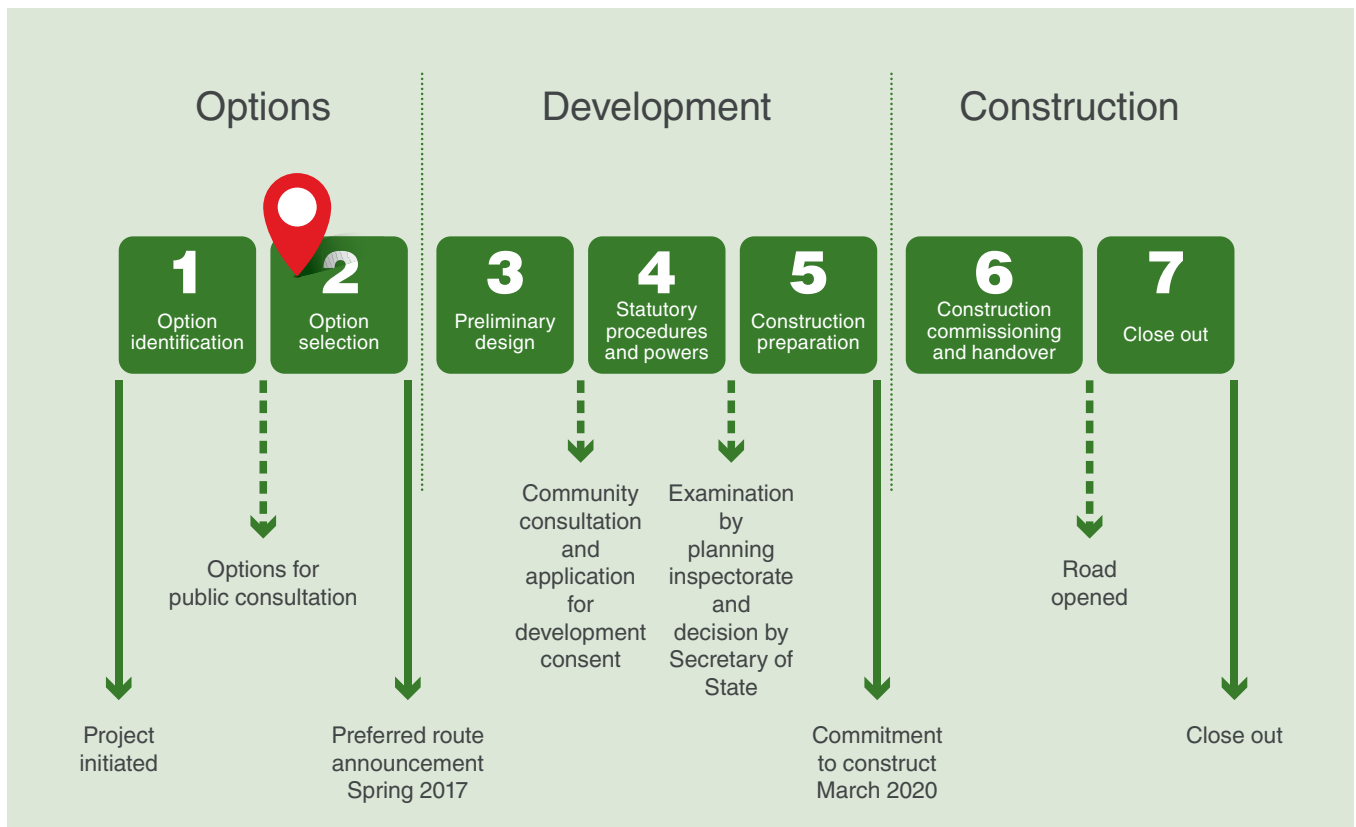


Next steps

The timeline below shows what will happen at each stage of the scheme. We are currently at Stage 2 - option selection. We will review the responses from this public consultation and report our findings to the Secretary of State. There will then be an announcement on the preferred route for the scheme.

Following this announcement we will carry out further surveys and investigations to inform the detailed design. We will consult again on the detailed proposals when you will have another opportunity to give us your views on the selected option and how we carry out the work.

We expect work to start by the end of March 2020.



If you need help accessing this or any other Highways England information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

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This document is also available on our website at www.gov.uk/highways

If you have any enquiries about this publication email info@highwaysengland.co.uk or call **0300 123 5000***. Please quote the Highways England publications code **PR80/16**.

Highways England creative job number N160244

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Printed on paper from well-managed forests and other controlled sources.

Registered office Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford GU1 4LZ
Highways England Company Limited registered in England and Wales number 09346363