

# A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool scheme **Statement of Community Consultation**



## Introduction

We (Highways England) are publishing **this Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)** in connection with a proposed improvement to the A585 between the Windy Harbour junction and Skippool junction in Lancashire. The purpose of this document is to set out how we will consult the local community in the vicinity of the scheme about the proposed application. The document also provides background to the scheme and how the application to build it will progress.

## The application

We are developing this scheme under the Planning Act 2008 and are publishing this statement under Section 47 of that Act. We have consulted Fylde Borough Council and Wyre Council, the local authorities responsible for areas where the scheme will be built, about plans to consult the local community.

The Planning Act 2008 requires us to make an application to the Secretary of State through the Planning Inspectorate for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build the scheme. The Secretary of State's role is to consider whether authorisation should be given for major infrastructure projects like this scheme. We anticipate that a DCO application for the scheme will be submitted in October 2018. The Planning Inspectorate will examine the DCO application and the Secretary of State will decide on whether the scheme should go ahead.

Government policy relating to the development of the national road network is set out in the National Networks National Policy Statement (NNNPS). This provides the framework for DCO applications to be considered against.

When we submit the DCO application, the Secretary of State must consider whether our consultation has been adequate. This pre-application consultation will be important in relation to the examination process that follows after an application is accepted by the Planning Inspectorate. Therefore, the best time to provide feedback on this scheme is now by taking part in this pre-application consultation.

You can find more information about the Planning Inspectorate and the Planning Act 2008 on their Gov.uk website <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk> or by calling the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000.

## The scheme

The A585, between Windy Harbour junction and Skippool junction is a severe bottleneck, affecting people's journeys between the M55 and the northern part of the Fylde peninsula. The proposals for the scheme were developed in response to the problems identified in the South Pennines Route Based Strategy Evidence Report (February 2014). The scheme was identified as being required to address the problems in this location, and a Strategic Outline Business Case was prepared.

We announced our preferred route on 24 October 2017. The preferred route is a new bypass to the south of the current route. This includes upgrading a section of road from Windy Harbour junction to a dual carriageway, then moving on to a new stretch of road with a junction at Garstang New Road, bypassing Little Singleton and creating a new junction with the A586 Garstang Road East, before tying back in to the existing road at a new junction east of Skippool.

The announcement follows the non-statutory consultation in 2016 – in which 78 percent of people and both Fylde and Wyre Councils backed the bypass option over an alternative to improve the existing single carriageway road.

The scheme objectives are:

- Reduce congestion on the existing A585 through Little Singleton, Shard and Skippool junctions and making people's journeys more reliable
- Support employment and residential/commercial development and growth opportunities
- Improve connectivity and access across the existing A585 between the Little Singleton and Skippool junctions
- Create a more appealing environment for cyclists and pedestrians and support the sense of community along the A585 between Windy Harbour and Skippool

### **Consulting the community**

In accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, we are consulting people living in the vicinity of the proposed scheme.

We have already carried out consultation on options for the scheme. The non-statutory public consultation exhibitions took place between September and October 2016 when members of the public were asked for their views. More details, including the outcomes of this consultation is included in the public consultation report, available to download from <http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/a585-windy-harbour-to-skipool/>, by emailing [A585WindyHarbourtoSkippool@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:A585WindyHarbourtoSkippool@highwaysengland.co.uk) or to view for the duration of the consultation period at the deposit point locations listed below.

In Addition, three Community Reference Group meetings have been held during 2016 and 2017 that have included representatives from the local councils, residents associations and some of the local interest groups.

We want to make sure that the local community, the residents, local interest groups, businesses, visitors and road users have the opportunity to fully understand the scheme and comment on our proposals. To do this we are holding our statutory consultation between March and May 2018. It will start on 21 March and will end on 8 May, during which we will provide consultation information on various issues including:

- Proposed route and strategy
- Works to the existing road ("de-trunking")
- Environmental assessments and potential environmental impacts

- Potential environmental mitigation measures
- Arrangements during construction of the scheme

We are in the process of carrying out an Environmental Impact Assessment. The scheme is an Environment Impact Assessment; therefore we are publishing a Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report and a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) as part of the consultation material. This gives information about the potential environmental effects of the scheme and the measures proposed to reduce those effects, so to assist well-informed responses to the consultation. The PEI Report has been developed based on assessment work done to date. The PEI Report and the NTS will be available at the consultation events. A copy of the PEI Report and the NTS are also available online or to view at the deposit locations listed.

All comments received will be considered and will influence, where possible, any further refinements to the Project and our approach to environmental mitigation.

Our consultation will involve:

Method	Detail
<b>Public Consultation Exhibition</b>	<p>The public consultation exhibitions will be held at:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday 23 March 2018 with VIP preview* Between 14:00-20:00 Singleton Village Hall, Station Road, Singleton, FY6 8LL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 7 April 2018 Between 10:00-16:00 Singleton Village Hall, Station Road, Singleton, FY6 8LL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 10 April 2018 Between 15:00-20:00 Wyre Civic Centre, Breck Road, Poulton-le-Fylde, FY6 7PU</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 11 April 2018 Between 13:00-19:00 Fleetwood Nautical Campus, Broadwater, Fleetwood, FY7 8JZ</p> <p>The exhibitions will give people an opportunity to view scheme proposals, talk to the project team and provide comments.</p> <p>The public will be informed of the exhibitions through channels including advertisements in appropriate local newspapers, via our webpage, the media, direct communications and scheme updates.</p>

Method	Detail
	<p>*A VIP preview will be held during the first hour of the exhibition for statutory consultees to attend by invitation.</p> <p>Response forms will be available at the exhibition events for members of the public to record their comments and these can either be left with the project team and/or sent back separately via the address noted below.</p>
<b>Scheme webpage</b>	<p>The webpage will be updated with consultation materials including the brochure with questionnaire, the PEI Report and NTS, and the SoCC on a dedicated scheme webpage: <a href="http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/a585-windy-harbour-to-skipool/">http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/a585-windy-harbour-to-skipool/</a>.</p>
<b>The public consultation brochure</b>	<p>The public consultation brochure will be sent to directly affected residents, stakeholders and those who have previously made contact. A wider distribution catchment area will also receive notification of the consultation period – either by a letter or A4 flyer. These zones can be seen in Appendix 1.</p>
<b>Council and community / area forum briefings</b>	<p>Local councils and community / area forums within whose area the proposed scheme will be carried out will be offered briefings to discuss the proposal. Local Authorities affected by the scheme or neighbouring the scheme are detailed at Appendix 2.</p>
<b>Stakeholder forum briefings</b>	<p>When invited, and where it is possible to do so, the project team will attend meetings of local community groups affected by the proposal.</p>
<b>Establishing stakeholder groups</b>	<p>Having built a relationship with the local community, we will consider, in consultation with relevant town and parish councils and community / area forums, whether there is benefit in establishing a stakeholder group, to which we would invite local community nominated representatives to discuss our proposals. If a similar stakeholder group is already in existence or established by the relevant Local Authorities, we will participate when invited.</p>
<b>Consultation response</b>	<p>Written comments can be made either online at <a href="http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/a585-windy-harbour-to-skipool/">http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/a585-windy-harbour-to-skipool/</a> or in writing to the following address: Freepost A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool scheme.</p>
<b>Media</b>	<p>The consultation will be advertised in one national newspaper and at least three locally circulating</p>

Method	Detail
	newspapers (Blackpool Gazette, Lancashire Evening Post and Fleetwood News). Adverts will be placed in the local newspapers at the launch of the consultation. Press releases detailing the consultation and how the community and road users can participate will be issued.
<b>Social Media</b>	The public consultation will be advertised on our Highways England North West Twitter feed @highwaysNWEST.

### Documents available for inspection

Scheme summary information, this SoCC, and other relevant technical documents listed in Appendix 3 will be available online and will be added to throughout the course of the scheme at <http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/a585-windy-harbour-to-skipool/> and will be available to view, free of charge during the consultation, at the inspection locations listed below:

Deposit Location	Opening times
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Poulton Library</b></li> </ul>	Monday and Friday 09:00-17:00 Tuesday and Thursday 09:00-19:30 Wednesday 09:00-12:30 Saturday 09:00-13:00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Singleton Village Hall</b></li> </ul>	Opening times vary depending on events held at venue.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wyre Civic Centre</b></li> </ul>	Monday to Friday 08:30-17:00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Blackpool Central Library</b></li> </ul>	Monday to Wednesday 09:30-17:00 Thursday 09:30-19:00 Friday 09:30-17:00 Saturday 09:30-16:00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Thornton Library</b></li> </ul>	Monday 09:00-19:00 Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 09:00-17:00 Thursday and Saturday 09:00-13:00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fleetwood Library</b></li> </ul>	Monday and Friday 09:00-17:00 Tuesday and Thursday 09:00-19:00 Wednesday 09:00-12:30 Saturday 09:00-16:00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Koi Pool Water Gardens</b></li> </ul>	Monday to Saturday 09:00-17:30 Sunday 09:00-16:30

## Next steps

Comments made during the consultation will be recorded and we will carefully consider them when developing the scheme proposal. An explanation of how comments received have shaped and influenced our proposals will be reported in a Consultation Report, which will accompany the DCO application as required by Section 37(3) (c) of the Planning Act 2008. The Planning Inspectorate will decide whether the application meets the required standards to proceed to examination, and will determine whether our pre-application consultation has been adequate.

We need to collect and assess all responses to consultation before compiling the DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate. To allow time to do this, we must receive feedback by the 8 May 2018.

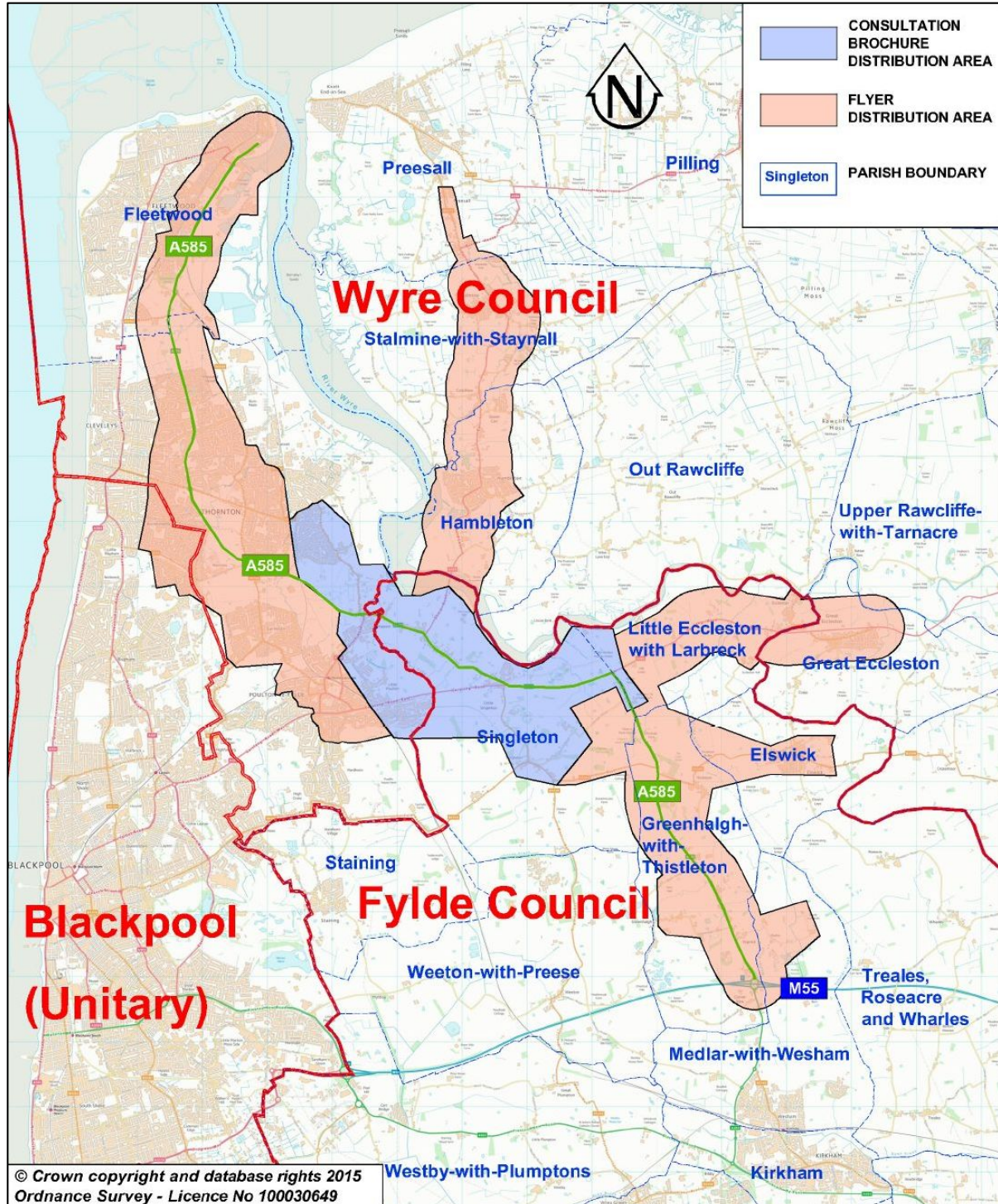
If you want to contact us or find out more about this scheme, you can:

- Visit the scheme webpage: <http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/a585-windy-harbour-to-skipool/>
- E-mail us: [A585WindyHarbourToSkipool@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:A585WindyHarbourToSkipool@highwaysengland.co.uk)
- Call us: 0300 470 2700
- Write to us: Freepost A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool scheme.
- Visit the appropriate local authority webpage:
  - Fylde Borough Council <http://www.fylde.gov.uk/>
  - Wyre Council <http://www.wyre.gov.uk/>
  - Lancashire County Council <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/>

Date: 21 March 2018

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Consultation zone





## **Appendix 2 – Local Authorities**

Local Authorities affected by the scheme:

Fylde Borough Council  
Wyre Council  
Lancashire County Council

Neighbouring Local Authorities:

Blackpool Council  
Preston City Council

## **Appendix 3 - Documents to be made available for inspection at deposit location listed:**

Public consultation brochure (including questionnaire response from)  
SoCC  
DCO Leaflet  
Preliminary Environmental Information Report and Non-Technical Summary  
Previous public consultation report

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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For an accessible version of this publication please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

If you have any enquiries about this publication email [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk) or call **0300 123 5000\***.

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