



**Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director - Place**

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| Report to: | <b>Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee</b> |
| Date:      | <b>17 July 2023</b>                              |
| Subject:   | <b>Highways Major Project Update Report</b>      |

**Summary:**

This report outlines an update on progress of the Highways Major Projects.

**Actions Required:**

The Committee is asked to consider and comment on the detail contained in the report and recommend any actions to the Executive Member for Highways, Transport, and IT.

**1.0 Background**

1.1 In previous reporting the highway major projects have been included in the overall highway performance report. It was felt that as there are numerous queries relating to the major project programme it would be advantageous to have a separate report, therefore this report is the first one to updates the committee to the progress of highway major projects.

**2.0 Completed Projects**

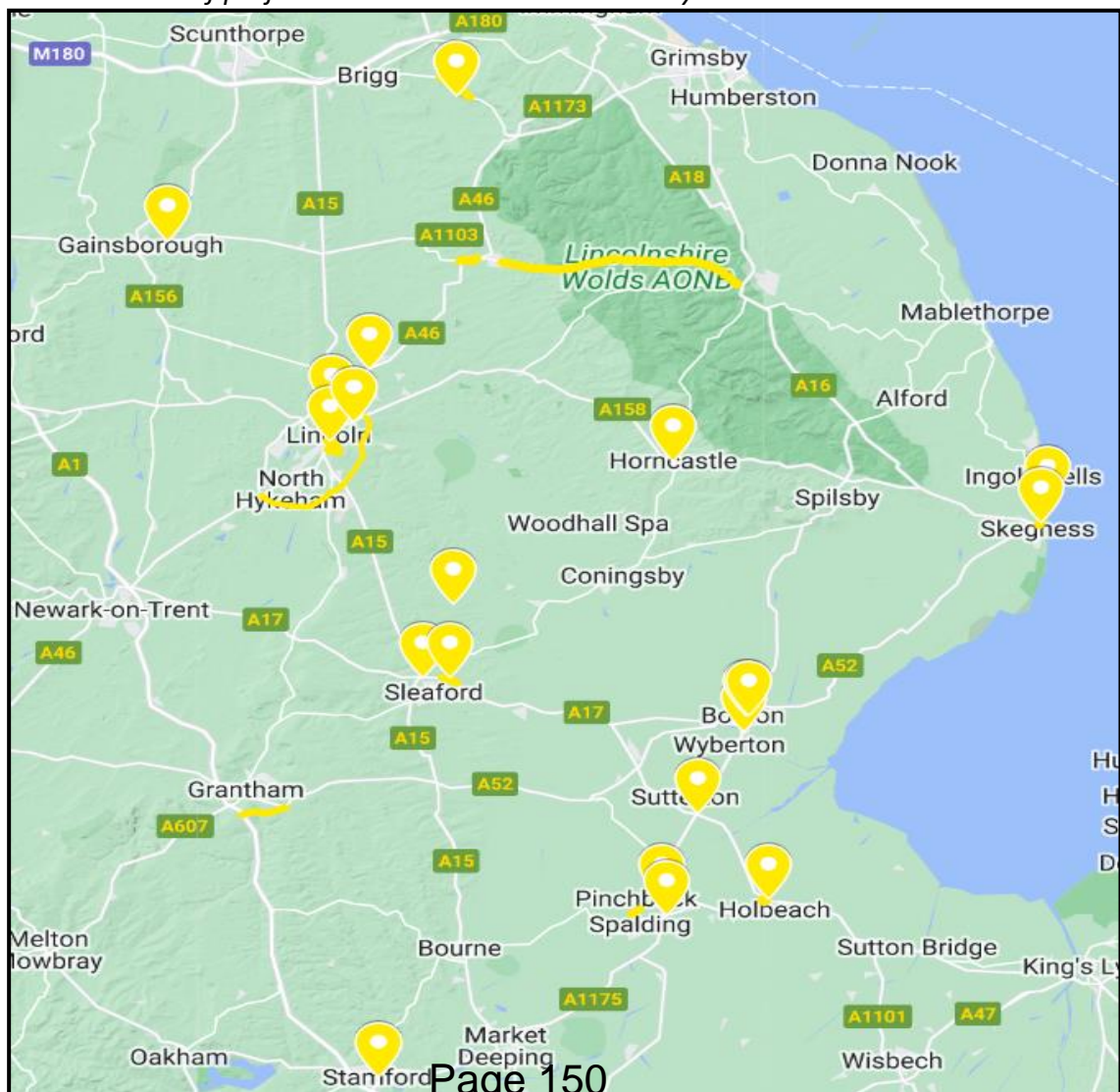
2.1 As this is the first report, it felt appropriate to reflect on the major projects that LCC have completed on the last 6 years.

*Table 1 –Major Highway Projects Delivered or are being Delivered*

| <b>Project Name</b>                                      | <b>Construction Commenced</b> |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Peppermint Junction, Holbeach                            | 2017                          |
| Lincoln Eastern Bypass                                   | 2017                          |
| Sutterton Roundabout                                     | 2017                          |
| Bunkers Hill - Drainage and Highway Improvement, Lincoln | 2017                          |
| A17 Sleaford Embankment Slip                             | 2017                          |
| Wolsey Way, Wragby Road Improvements, Lincoln            | 2018                          |
| Middle Rasen Surface Water Flood Alleviation             | 2018                          |
| Horncastle ULA Improvement Package                       | 2018                          |
| Riseholme Road Roundabout, Lincoln                       | 2020                          |

| Project Name   | Construction Commenced |
|--|------------------------|
| Rugby Club Junction, Sleaford                        | 2020                   |
| Corringham Road Junction Signalisation, Gainsborough | 2020                   |
| A52 Roman Bank, Skegness                             | 2020                   |
| Welton/Dunholme Roundabout                           | 2020                   |
| Safer Road Bid - A631 Corridor                       | 2020                   |
| Digby Surface Water Flood Alleviation                | 2020                   |
| Grantham Southern Relief Road – Phase 3              | 2021                   |
| Spalding Western Relief Road – Section 5             | 2021                   |
| Holdingham Roundabout Signalisation, Sleaford        | 2021                   |
| Safer Road Bid - A1084 Corridor                      | 2021                   |
| Red Lion Square                                      | 2022                   |
| Dolphin Lane   | 2023                   |
| Boston Marsh Lane Roundabout                         | 2023                   |
| Boston Active Travel                                 | 2023                   |
| Springfield Road Roundabout                          | 2023                   |
| Spalding Active Travel                               | 2023                   |
| Greencell Roundabout                                 | 2024                   |
| North Hykeham Relief Road                            | 2025                   |

Plan 1 – Location of project distribution across the county



**2.2 Example Delivered Projects**

*Riseholme Road Roundabout – Before and After*



*A46 Dunholme/Welton Roundabout – Before and After*



*Holdingham Roundabout – Before and After*



### 3.0 Live Project Update

#### 3.1 Grantham Southern Relief Road

Phase 1 from the B1174 running towards the A1 was completed 2016.

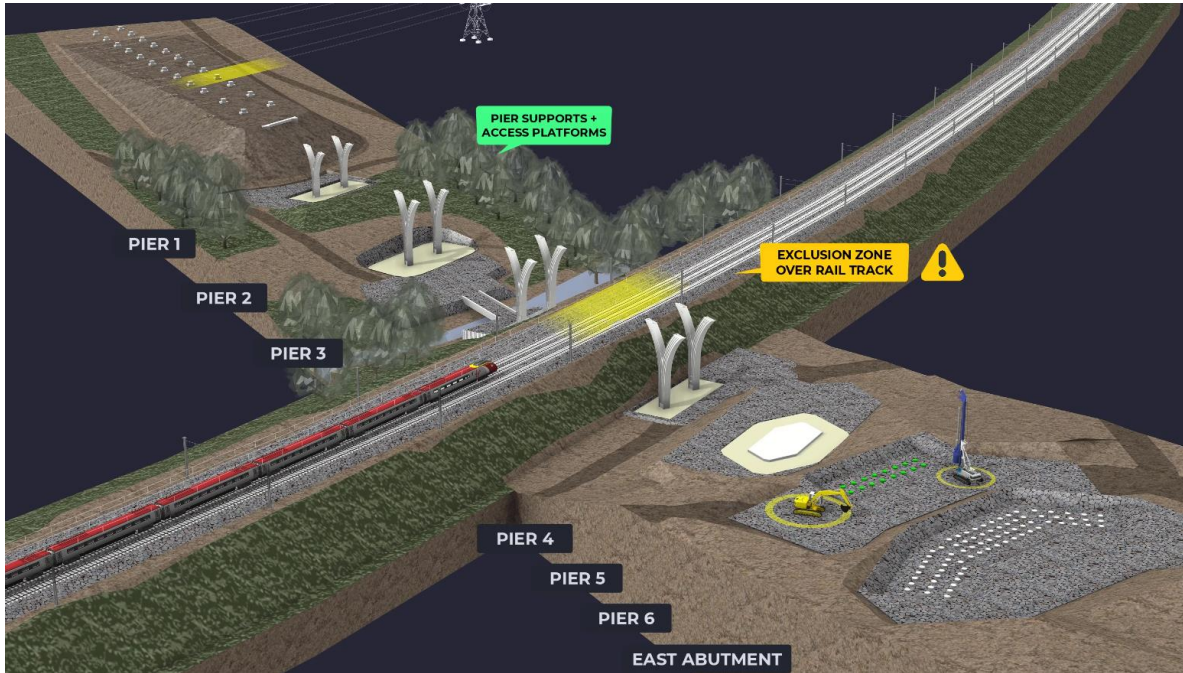
Phase 2 which is the new graded separated junction on to the A1 was completed 2022.

Phase 3 is the final phase of the project and is the largest and most complex to deliver. It consists of a five span viaduct carrying the road over the East Coast Mainline railway and the River Witham. Works commenced April 2021 and much of the project has progressed well with sections already open. There have however been issues with the viaduct design with regards piling and embankment stability. As a result, the bridge has been lengthened approximate 70m towards the East to avoid the area where the poor ground is situated. This has resulted in project delay, pushing the completion to 2025. The project will also incur significant cost increases which are being developed in conjunction with the design solution. A full investigation is under way to understand how this has occurred and where the liability rests. Notwithstanding, the bridge has progressed with the pier foundations completed and the piers themselves installed. Piling works for the extended bridge have also now commenced. Works are now progressing towards the next milestone which will be the installation of the beams linking the piers in Winter 2023 going through to Spring/Summer 2024.

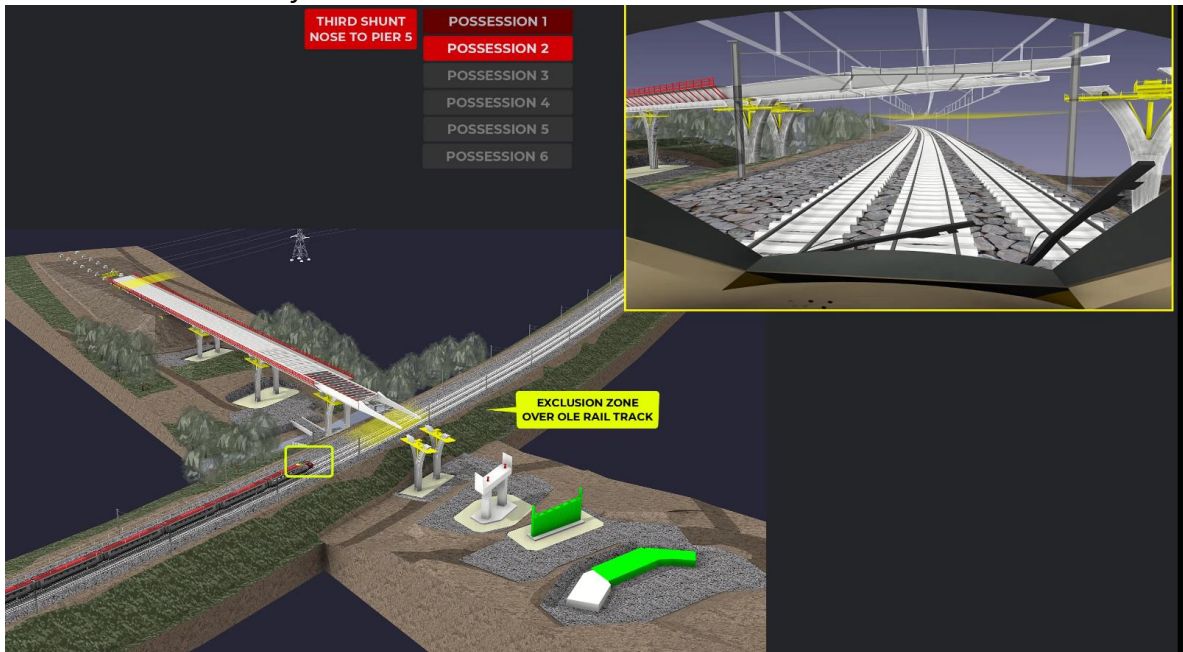
*GSRR – Viaduct Piers Installed*



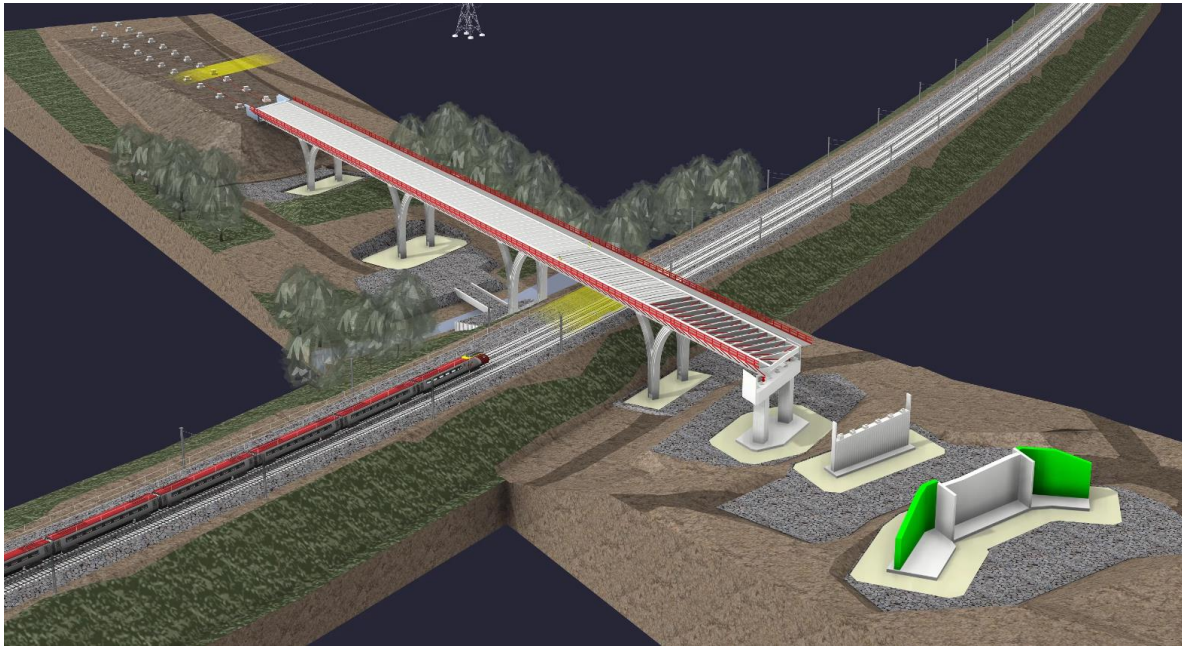
GSRR – Visualisation of Viaduct Installation 1



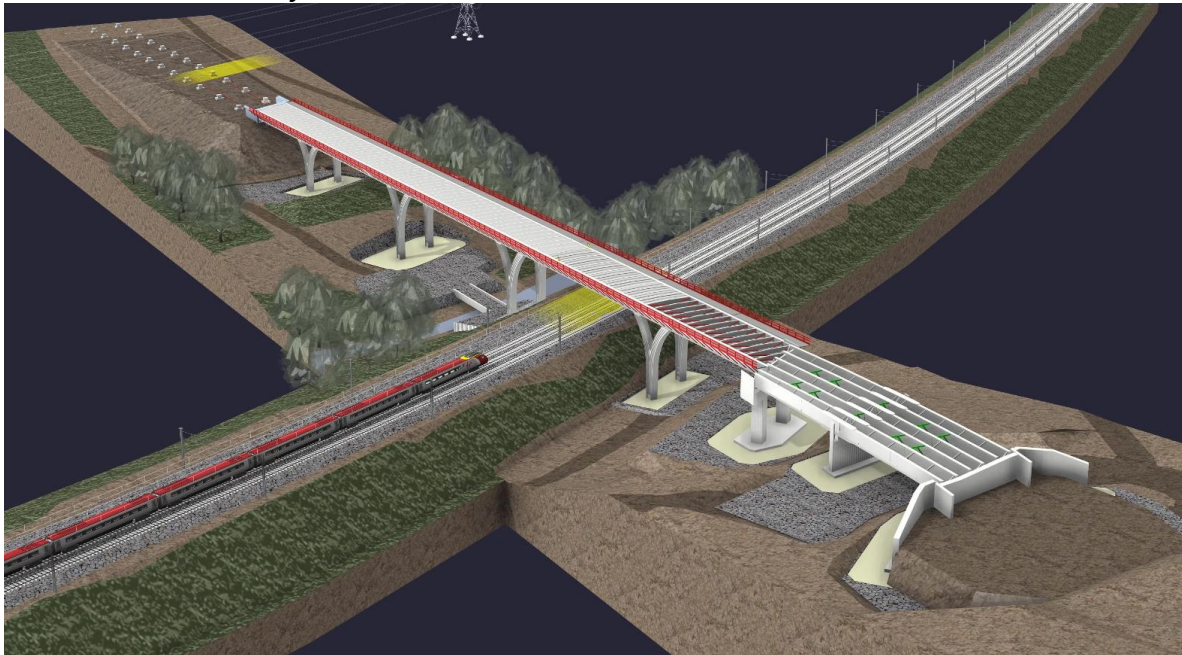
GSRR – Visualisation of Viaduct Installation 2



*GSRR – Visualisation of Viaduct Installation 3*



*GSRR – Visualisation of Viaduct Installation 4*



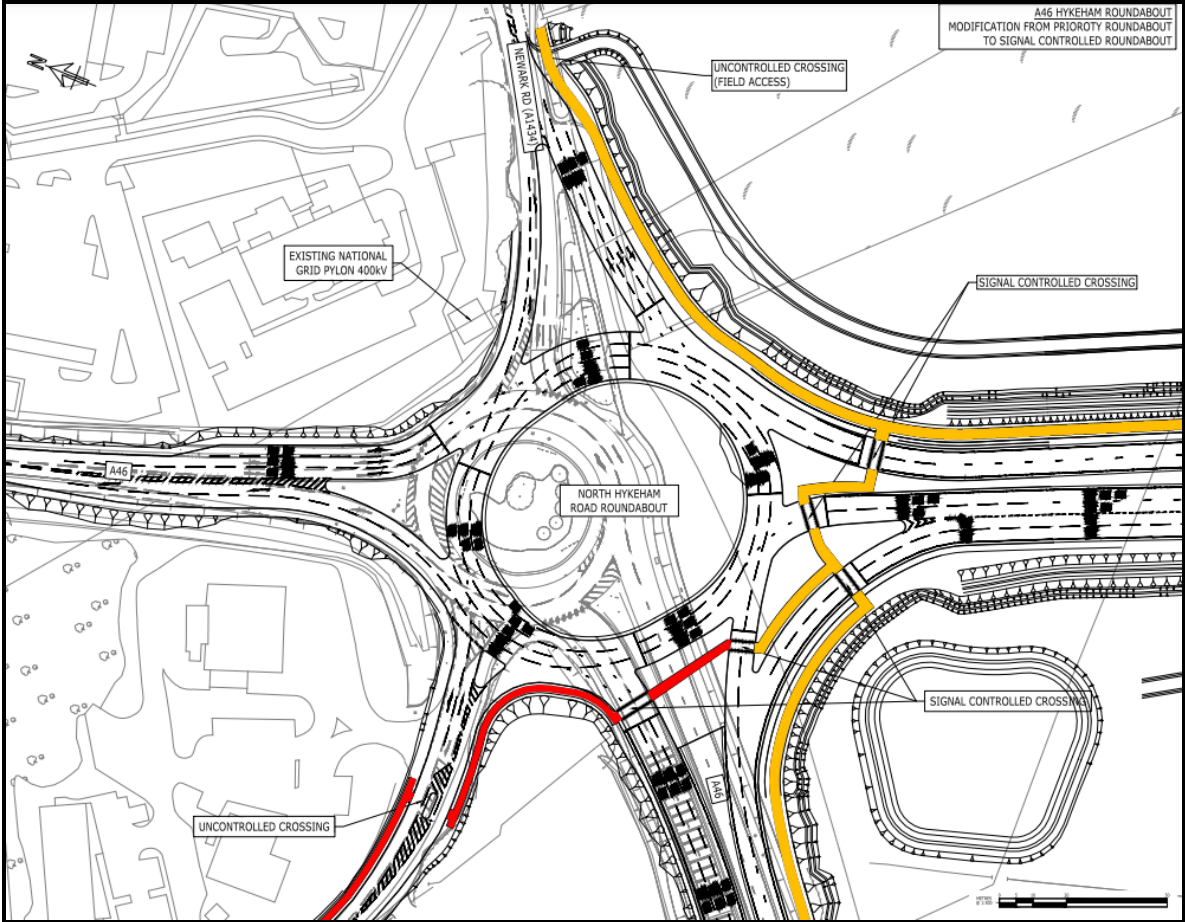
### **3.2 North Hykeham Relief Road**

When complete, this new road will link the A15 Lincoln Eastern Bypass with the A46 Western Bypass at Pennells Roundabout to create a full ring road around Lincoln. The project also aims to:

- Assist the sustainable economic growth of Lincoln and Lincolnshire
- Maximise accessibility to Lincoln.
- Improve journey times and road safety in Lincoln.

In December Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) was informed that the project had achieved programme entry approval from the Department for Transport (DfT), which also secured £110m towards the project from the DfT. A key decision to appoint Balfour Beatty as the Design and Build Contractor was approved on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 who in turn appointed a design consultant, Ramboll. The project has recently completed the majority of data acquisition and preliminary design in advance of a planning application being submitted in October 2023. An initial public engagement event took place September 2022 to ensure the public are informed on progress and to gain their views on progress being made. There have been two further engagement events in March and June 2023. Feedback has been generally positive with good comments received about how the project team have listened and enacted some changes based on the public's opinions. Intrusive Geophysical, Ground Investigation and Ecology surveys are completed which has allowed the team to model the environmental impact and pose mitigation, such as bunding, landscaping, etc. These elements were shared with the public and the June engagement event. The next milestone is to present the project to the Executive for a key decision which will allow a planning application to be submitted October 2023.

*NHRR – Proposed Layout of North Hykeham Roundabout*



*NHRR – Visualisation of Proposed Layout of North Hykeham Roundabout*



### **3.3 Spalding Western Relief Road (SWRR)**

Section 5 (Northern Connection) – In February 2018 South Holland District Council in collaboration with LCC were successful in securing £12 million from the HCA for delivering this section of the SWRR. Since then, a further £8.13 million has been sourced from the HCA.

Works commenced in January 2022 with the construction of the two piling platforms to allow the c1600 number piles to be installed to support the bridge over the rail line. These piles are now complete and so are the pile caps. In addition, the new roundabout on Spalding Road is complete and open to traffic. The works have now moved on to the bridge foundations and installation of the vertical light weight fill embankment. Works are programmed to be completed Summer 2024.

*SWRR – Aerial Progress Photo in May 2023*





### 3.4 Lincolnshire Coastal Highway

Lincolnshire County Council investigated potential improvements to the A158 across the county from the A1 to the North Sea coast, known as the 'Lincolnshire Coastal Highway'. This looked at the options for intervention along the route. In identifying improvements to the Highway, consideration was given to being future-ready, building in capacity to support growth, investigating options across a range of modes and building in resilience and lower longer-term costs for management of infrastructure.

A Horncastle bypass concept paper was completed which identified expected costs and benefits. Due to the DfT scoring mechanism, the benefits are very low in comparison to the cost and therefore would not attract any central government funding. This project is therefore currently not being progressed but is included in the Council's pipeline of projects to consider in the future.

A Skegness Relief Road concept paper has also been completed which indicates a route that attracts a poor/very poor 'Benefit to Cost Ratio' score meaning that it's unlikely to attract third party funding should a funding opportunity be presented.

A feasibility of an Orby bypass has been completed indicating a very poor 'Benefit to Cost Ratio' score meaning that it's unlikely to attract third party funding should a funding opportunity be presented.

### 3.5 Levelling Up Fund Projects (LUF)

LCC submitted a bid to central government under the LUF initiative, this consisted of the following projects:

- A16/A151 Springfield roundabout capacity improvement
- A16 Greencell roundabout (Spalding Power Station) capacity improvement
- A16 Kirton four-way signalised junction – with associated small section of dual carriageway leading into and out of the junction along the A16 – *Now removed, see below.*
- A16 Marsh Lane Roundabout
- Boston Active travel scheme
- Spalding Active travel scheme

In October 2021 it was announced that the bid had been successful. Since the announcement the projects have all moved into detailed design with a view to start on site in 2023 and be completed 2025.

There were concerns raised from the local community regarding the development of the Kirton signalised junction. A public meeting was held in July where the project team attended to answer questions and took away a large quantity of views and thoughts for the form of the proposed scheme. Following this meeting discussions have been ongoing with the DfT and recently they have announced

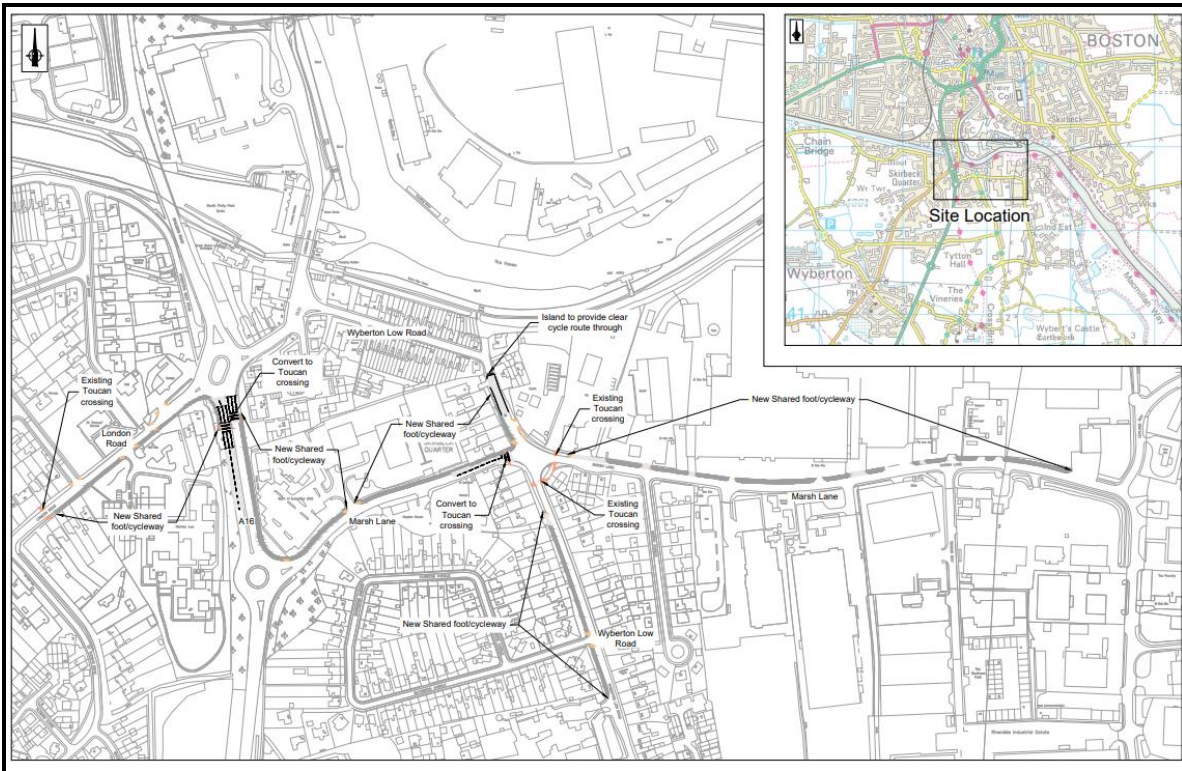
that they are content with the removal of this scheme from the programme and to use those funds to offset the inflationary costs increases on the other five projects.

The first two projects, Marsh Lane roundabout and Boston Active Travel have commenced on site in May 2023 and are due to be complete by the end of the year.

Visualisation of Boston Marsh Lane Project

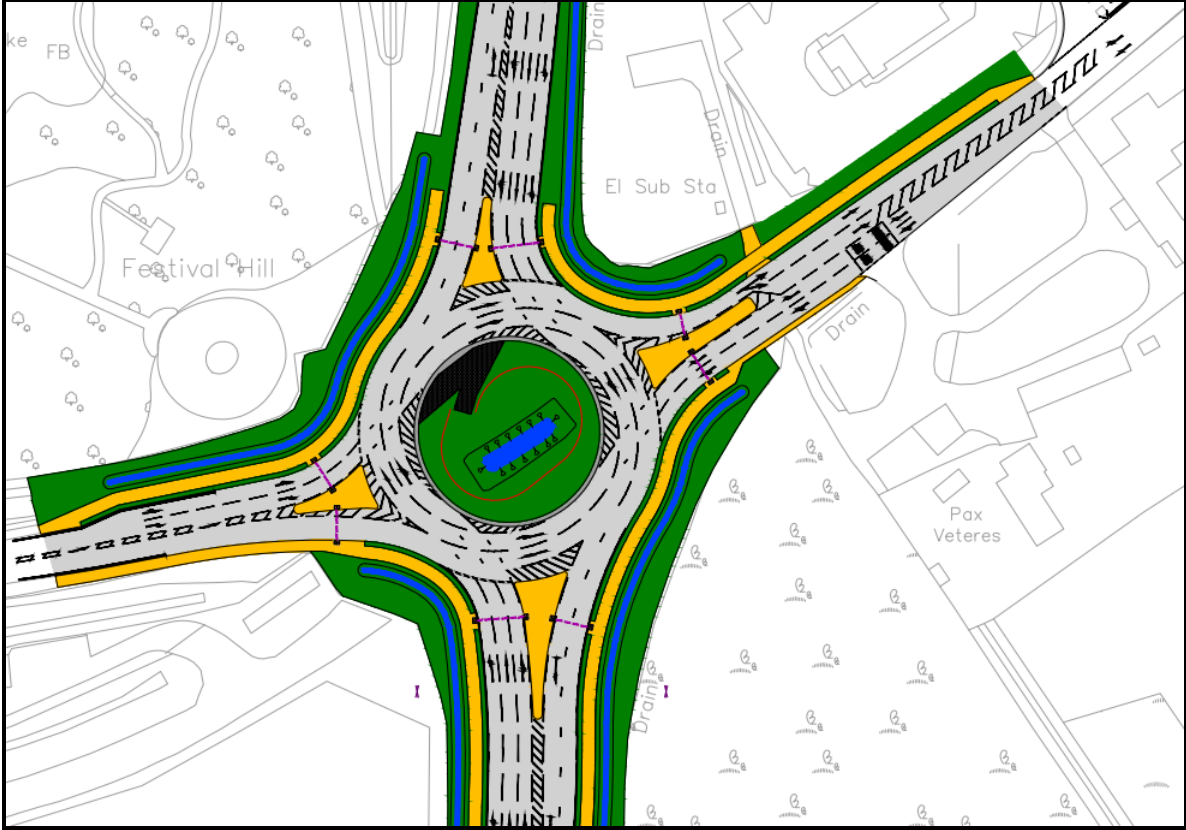


Boston Active Travel Project

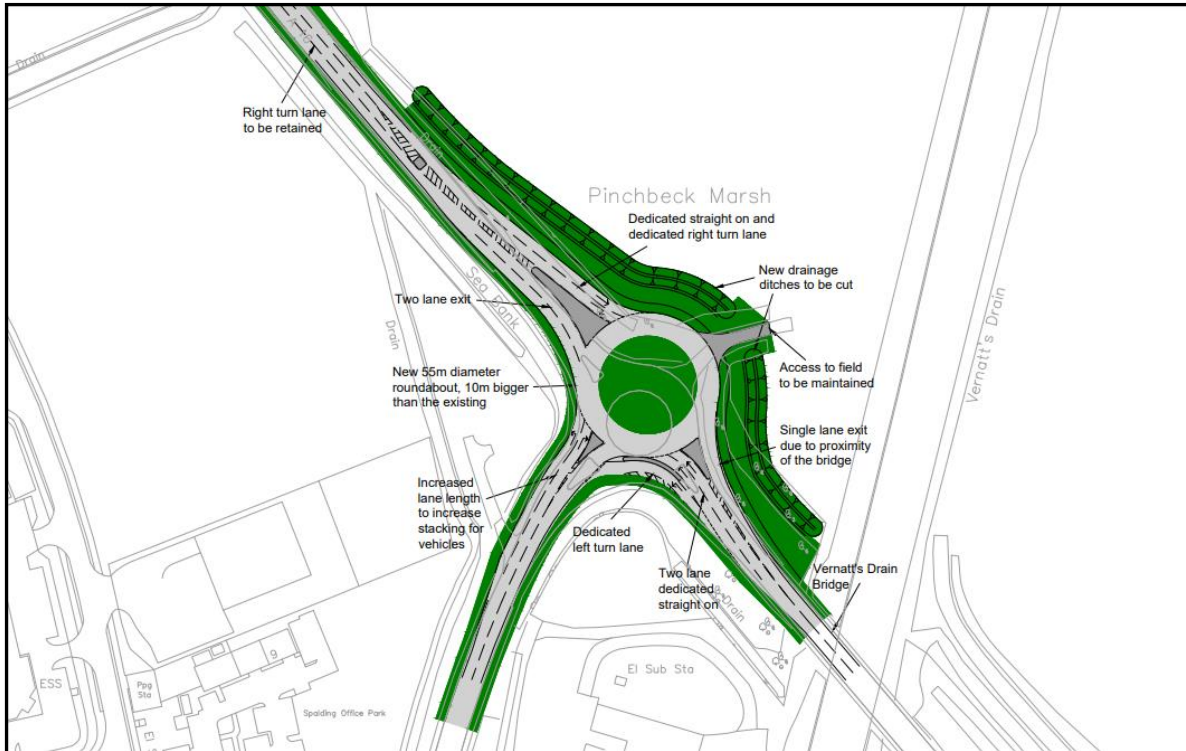


Springfield and Grencell roundabout received positive views from Highway and Scrutiny Committee in May 2023 and were presented to the Executive in June 2023 for a Key Decision. This decision was approved, and the project team are working towards commencing Springfield Road Roundabout in September/October 2023.

*Springfield Road Roundabout Proposed Layout*



*Grencell Roundabout Proposed Layout*



### **3.6 Grantham Future High Street Fund**

South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) was successful with their Future High Street fund bid, which included two projects which impact the highway. These include Station Approach five arm junction and the Market Place. The Station Approach project entails improving the pedestrian facilities to make the flow of pedestrian movements coming from the station into Grantham town centre a more pleasing experience. At the moment it is very industrial, therefore the project will remove barriers, improve the form of the pedestrian islands, install conservation street furniture amongst some more general maintenance elements. The Market Place project will lift the existing carriageway stone setts, so they are the same level as the existing footway stone setts. This combined with the removal of street furniture will allow for more events to be held in the marketplace while not impacting the stability of the carriageway.

Both these projects are nearing the end of detailed design with the next stage being procurement and gaining approval from SKDC to underwrite the costs. These projects have recently been put on hold to allow time for SKDC to review their funding position.

It should be stressed that these are not County led projects and therefore the risks sit with SKDC.

### **3.7 Sincil Bank**

The City of Lincoln was successful with their Towns Fund Bid, which included amongst other things Sincil Bank regeneration scheme. This project includes embedding a one-way system and residents parking facilities that will complement the potential residents parking Traffic regulation orders (TROs). The project also entails a significant sum of public realm improvement to enhance the town scape. There are concerns regarding the cost of the scheme compared to the budget allowance when factoring in the accelerated construction inflation that has occurred since the bid was successful. As such the team are preparing for the project to be split in phases so that the County can ensure the scheme does not go over the funds that the City of Lincoln have.

It should be stressed that this is not a County led project and therefore the risks sit with City of Lincoln Council (CoLC).

### **3.8 Dolphin Lane**

This a joint funded project between LCC and Boston Borough Council which originated from the District's Heritage Lottery Fund. The project is a public realm scheme that improve the pavement to new stone setts that are in keeping with the surrounding environment. This will connect directly to the Market Place which has the same type of stone setts. Works started in May 2023 and are progressing well.

### *Dolphin Lane – Slab Installation*



#### **4. Conclusion**

The Committee is asked to consider and comment on the detail contained in the report and recommend any actions to the Executive Member for Highways, Transport, and IT.

#### **5. Consultation**

##### **a) Risks and Impact Analysis**

N/A

#### **6. Background Paper**

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Sam Edwards, Head of Highways Infrastructure and Laboratory Services who can be contacted on 01522 550328 or [sam.edwards@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:sam.edwards@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

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