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Route strategies
The division of routes for the programme of route strategies on the Strategic Road Network

Information correct at 13 March 2015
1. Introduction

Highways England is the new public sector company owned by government and set up to operate and improve the motorways and major A roads in England, otherwise known as the Strategic Road Network (SRN).

The SRN is arguably the biggest and single most important piece of infrastructure in the country. It is at the core of our national transport system. Its many arteries connect our major towns and cities, ensure commuters make it to work every day and help millions of us visit our friends and families.

Our motorways and major A roads are the most heavily used part of the national road network. They carry a third of all traffic and two-thirds of all freight, provide business with the means to get its products and services to their customers, gives access to labour markets and suppliers and encourage trade and new investment. It is essential to the growth, wellbeing and balance of the nation's economy.

Our primary role is to deliver a better service for road users and to support a growing economy. We will work in the interests of taxpayers, road users, and the millions of people who rely on the network every day.

Purpose of route strategies

The route strategies process provides an opportunity for us to be clear about what we intend to do where, why and when. We will operate within five year spending control periods known as a Road Period. The first Road Period has an overall capital investment of £11.3bn from 2015/16 to 2019/20.

Our route strategies will outline our priorities for the Road Period and beyond. These documents also provide a transparent frame of reference for future delivery including details about our proposed investment to improve asset condition; and our vision for the Customer Operations service.

The clarity of route strategies, coupled with the new funding certainties of the Road Investment Strategy (RIS) and the plans set out in our Strategic Business Plan and Delivery Plan, will enable customers, stakeholders, partners and suppliers to engage with Highways England with confidence and reduced risk.

This will help to generate future efficiencies for our investment plans and performance improvements, improving customer experience, and better inform the strategic investment plans of our public and private sector partners.

This route strategy for South Pennines route is a culmination of two years of work listening to our stakeholders, customers, partners and suppliers.

It has informed the Road Investment Strategy – Investment Plan for Road Period 1 (2015/16 to 2019/20) and is our statement of how we will tackle the most important challenges and opportunities for our customers as set out in the Route Strategy Evidence Report for this route. This strategy also shows how we will work toward delivering the ambitions set out in our Strategic Business Plan, and the Government’s RIS at a route level.
Setting the first Road Investment Strategy

During September and October 2013 we held a series of engagement events across the country to inform the development of the evidence base for route strategies. We invited over 800 stakeholders to provide evidence and contribute to discussions about the current and future performance of the Strategic Road Network, in their local area and to identify local priorities.

In April 2014 we published a set of 18 route evidence reports and technical annexes. The reports established the necessary evidence base to help identify performance issues on routes and to anticipate future challenges.

Following the publication of the evidence reports, during stage two of the route strategies process from May to November 2014, we identified over 200 locations nationwide for further study and over 250 potential investment options and areas for study. These were evaluated and sifted against five themes; network performance and safety, a good neighbour to the environment and communities, customer experience, strategic access and connectivity and helping us grow.

From the sifting process a number of investment options were identified and these were used to inform the Government’s RIS, which was published in December 2014.

The RIS sets out the investment plan and performance requirements for the network for the next 5 years, together with a long-term commitment to capital funding totalling more than £11bn with a further £4.2bn for the first year of Road Period 2. This long-term investment will enable us to start work on delivering a modern and sustainable network that will tackle congestion, supports economic growth and provides better connections across the country.

In December 2014, we also published our first Strategic Business Plan (SBP) setting out our main activities over the 5-year Road Period. It describes how we will go about delivering the investment plan and the requirements of a demanding performance specification. Supporting the SBP will be a five year Delivery Plan which will set out our detailed programme, and how we will go about changing the way we work and delivering the performance specification.

To address the increasing demands from a growing population and to meet and exceed our customer expectations over the next 25 years, we will create a modern, technologically advanced road network that is smoother, smarter and sustainable and continues to enable the nation’s economy to grow and remain competitive.

Over the coming decades the SRN must provide significantly higher levels of integration with other transport developments to improve domestic connectivity, encourage trade and investment, and enable British businesses to compete in international markets.

By 2040, we want to have transformed the busiest sections of the SRN to deliver the safer, more stress-free journeys that our customers desire, and the enhanced reliability and predictability that is so important to business users and freight. We see the SRN working more harmoniously with its surroundings, impacting less on local communities and the environment.

We know it will take time to make this vision a reality but we have already started our work and the planned investment during Road Period 1 will take us a step closer to making this vision a reality.

Realising this will require a network that works in a fundamentally more effective way. This means updating infrastructure to make the best use of technology, improving how drivers, vehicles and non-users interact both on and with the network, and placing the customer at the heart of how the network is managed.
What we will do

As described in our Strategic Business Plan, to improve the capacity and performance of the network we will:

Modernise the network

Provide more capacity and better connections by:

1. Developing a national spine of Smart Motorways and adding new capacity at key points on the network
2. Upgrading key non-motorway routes to the new Expressway standard
3. Doing more to ensure the network has a positive impact on the environment and neighbouring communities
4. Improving facilities for cyclists, pedestrians and other road users

Maintain the network

Take a longer term and more efficient approach to maintaining our roads by:

1. Upgrading some of the busiest junctions and alleviating many of the worst bottlenecks
2. Resurfacing much of the network and improving the condition of our other assets
3. Designing and packaging our work in a way that improves productivity and minimises the disruption to our customers

Operate the network

Keep traffic moving and better inform our customers by:

1. Improving information to help people make better decisions before and during their journeys
2. Increasing availability through better planned road works
3. Working with others to respond more effectively to incidents that cause the most congestion
What we will deliver

The increased investment in the SRN over the next 5 year road period will deliver substantial benefits for road users, communities and the nation as a whole. The key strategic outcomes of the planned investment will be:

**Supporting economic growth** through a modernised and reliable network that reduces delays, creates jobs and helps business compete and opens up new areas for development.

**A safe and serviceable network** where no one should be harmed when travelling or working on the network.

**A more free-flowing network** where routine delays are more infrequent and journeys are safer and more reliable.

**An improved environment** where the impact of our activities is further reduced ensuring a long-term and sustainable benefit to the environment.

**A more accessible and integrated network** that gives people the freedom to choose their mode of transport and enable safe movement across and alongside the network.

As we describe the investment priorities over this Road Period and into the next, we will indicate the primary strategic outcomes of the scheme. In everything we do, we will continue to adhere to the principles of sustainable development and continue to improve links with local transport and strengthen connections with other transport modes.
Figure 1
South Pennines
Route strategy overview map
2. The main issues and challenges

Summary of the evidence report

The potential ability of the route to cope with planned growth is the key message from the evidence report. Planned growth in the major urban centres will place additional demands on the route and, as such, ensuring that the route can accommodate future economic development is a key priority for us and our stakeholders.

The South Pennines route provides east to west connectivity but also passes through or close to a number of urban areas. This leads to conflicts between long distance traffic and shorter commuter trips exacerbating capacity issues around the urban centres. Both the Leeds and Manchester City Regions are identified as key growth locations and the ability of the route to support this planned growth is identified as a key challenge. Linked to this, a lack of suitable alternative Trans Pennine routes to the M62 was a key issue identified in the evidence report.

Accommodating planned growth at airports and ports was a further issue identified. Growth around Manchester Airport, the Port of Liverpool, Rossington Inland Port and Immingham were all raised as concerns by stakeholders. Whilst committed schemes at some locations will address the issues identified, it’s likely that further improvements will be required at some locations to help fully realise the growth aspirations at the ports along the route, particularly at the Port of Liverpool.

The ability of junctions on the route to cope with traffic is also a key issue to come out of the evidence and engagement.

Although smart motorways will improve capacity on the mainline, the schemes will not enhance junctions. The evidence report identified a number of key junctions and interchanges where smart motorways have or will improve the mainline but investment will still be needed at junctions. The evidence report also identified a number of committed and pipeline schemes which would benefit the route; it did however also recognise significant further investment would be needed in addition to these committed schemes to accommodate future demand. The report identified some key locations with significant future planned growth where schemes had not at that point been committed these included the M53 in Cheshire and the A64 in York.

A number of locations which were ranked in the top 250 for casualties or which have a high risk of collision were also identified. The safety of vulnerable road users was also considered an issue. This highlights a further conflict which exists on the route between serving strategic and local needs.

Air Quality and noise are the biggest environmental challenges across the route. Supporting economic growth whilst bringing air quality along the route within European targets is a significant challenge identified in the evidence report.

Figure 2 summarises some of the key issues and challenges that are likely to be experienced on this route during the 5 years from 2015.
Figure 2
Key opportunities and challenges for the route

- A585 - M55 to Fleetwood Congestion
- M55 J1 Congestion
- M56 J14 - J16, M53 J11 - J12 Concrete surfacing
- M62 J7 Congestion
- M56 J15 - J16, M53 J11 - J12 Concrete surfacing
- M56/M6 merge Congestion
- M61/M6 merge Congestion
- M62 approach to J10
- M58 J6/M6 J26 Congestion
- Gaps in technology provision M55, M61, M58
- Gaps in technology provision M57, M62
- Gaps in technology provision M53
- Gaps in technology provision M53, M58
- M65 eastbound to J12
- Mersey Gateway Bridge connection to M55
- Safety issues A585
- Safety issues A5036
- A55/A483 Roundabout Congestion
- A55/A483 Roundabout Congestion
- A463 Maintenance of cycleways, Footways & Soft Estate
- A50360/M57/M58 Switch Island
- M53 Congestion
- M62 J8 - J10 Congestion
- A50360 Congestion
- A5036 Maintenance of cycleways, Footways & Soft Estate
- A5036 Maintenance of cycleways, Footways & Soft Estate
- A585 Windy Harbour Junction
- A585 Singleton Crossroads

Operation
Safety
Asset condition
Capacity
Social and environment

South Pennines – Leeds media services N130396
Figure 2
Key opportunities and challenges for the route
Figure 2
Key opportunities and challenges for the route

1. Conflict between long distance traffic and short commuter trips.
2. Lack of strategic alternative in event of an incident.

1. Need for surfacing renewal including road markings and studs.
2. Concrete surfacing defects at various locations across route.
3. Major interventions to structures.

1. Noise First Priority locations.
2. Air quality issues.

- Con. - Safety - Asset condition - Capacity - Social and environment
Illustrative

**Figure 2**
Key opportunities and challenges for the route

- **Growth** will add to problems of delay especially on single carriageway sections. High demand on route in peak tourist season.
- Capacity of local road network affecting SRN.
- Future growth will add to existing congestion on the A64 around York.
- Future growth will add to existing congestion. Especially where the SRN interacts with LRN at junctions A63, A1033.
- Growth will increase congestion & numbers of HGV’s A180, A160, M180, M181.
- Additional pressure on M18 resulting from planned growth at Hatfield, FARRR’s, RHAD’s.
- M18 flood risks.
3. Our Investment Priorities

In this section, we have combined the newly announced schemes in the RIS with existing programmes of work to identify our investment priorities on this route for the period 2015-2020, and an indication of committed priorities beyond this. The investment on this route aims to address some of the main issues and challenges identified in the route strategy evidence reports. The process for planning network investment for future road periods is summarised in Section 4.

A series of dedicated funds were also announced in the RIS, providing the opportunity to deliver enhancements for cycling, safety and better integration as well as environmental improvements and air quality mitigation. A further fund will support growth and housing.

We are currently identifying the primary opportunities we hope to support through these ring-fenced funds, and our plans will be will be updated annually and on an iterative basis throughout this road period, drawing on the priorities identified in our evidence reports.

Figure 3 shows the locations on this route where major roads schemes are currently in construction and where the Department for Transport has announced committed/funded schemes which have either development or full funding and, where relevant, strategic studies.
Committed/funded scheme
Strategic studies
In construction

Figure 3
Our investment priorities
Figure 3
Our investment priorities
Figure 3
Our investment priorities
Figure 3
Our investment priorities

Committed/funded scheme
In construction

Scarborough
York
Doncaster
Grimsby

Malton
A64 Hopgrove junction
A64
A63
A180
A160
M18
M18
A63 Castle Street
A60/A180 Port of Immingham
Grimsby
Humberside International Airport
Goole

South Pennines – Route strategy – Map 4 of 4
Creative services, M140384 South Pennines

Illustrative
Modernising the route

There are currently two key road projects in construction on this route, including M60 Junction 8 to M62 Junction 20 and A556 Knutsford to Bowdon, the latter is due to open for traffic in 2016/17.

Eighteen projects have committed funding and provided that the necessary statutory approvals are granted and the schemes continue to demonstrate public value for money, these will start construction during Road Period 1. These include schemes to improve access to the ports at Immingham and Liverpool, improvements to the M53, M56 and M62 which were key locations identified in the evidence report.

A further three schemes have full committed funding ready to start construction in Road Period 2, again provided that the necessary statutory approvals are granted and the schemes continue to demonstrate public value for money. These include improvements to intersections such as Simister Island, Lothhouse Interchange and Chain Bar which were all identified by stakeholders in the evidence report.

Further details on all of these schemes can be found in Appendix A.

In considering the delivery of our major road schemes we have identified indicative start dates, to give an indication of when work is likely to commence on site. These dates will be subject to continuous review during the Road Period and updates will be provided in our Delivery Plan.

In addition to the key investment priorities, the Department for Transport will commission a series of six strategic studies to address some of the most fundamental challenges on the road network. Two of these strategic studies, Manchester North-West Quadrant and Trans-Pennine Tunnel, will directly interact with this route.

Further information on these strategic studies can be located in Annex A.

Maintaining the route

As part of maintaining this route, we plan to upgrade some of the busiest junctions and alleviate many of the worst bottlenecks.

As we take a longer term and more efficient approach to maintaining our roads, we will look for opportunities to programme these improvements alongside other modernisation or renewal activities.

Many of our routes carry a combination of strategic, freight and commuter traffic with hundreds of thousands of vehicles travelling on our roads daily. Our challenge is maintaining a network that is in demand 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, all year round and is also key to supporting the nation's economy. This heavy use of the network combined with its complexity means the network requires maintenance more often and at a higher standard than less busy roads. Maintaining the SRN is important to keeping it functioning and available to our customers. In July 2013, Government committed additional funding to the renewal of the strategic and local road network. On the strategic road network, this allowed for the renewal of up to 80% of roads.

Key facts about this route

- 1044 miles
- 13% of national traffic in 2014
- 18 billion vehicle kilometres travelled on this route in 2014
At present, renewals are planned on an annual basis. As we enter this new system of funding over the longer, 5-year periods, we will work to deliver efficiencies in how we plan for and undertake renewal activity.

The annual cycle of funding has often resulted in planning work in the spring and summer before carrying it out in the autumn and winter when the weather is poor. A longer-term and more integrated view of maintenance and modernisation, based on better asset knowledge, will offer greater benefits in terms of minimising disruption to our customers and ensuring best value whole-life cost from the asset.

Our programme of renewals for 2015/16 is well understood and by December 2015, we plan to have our programme for renewal and small-scale enhancement programme defined for 2016/17. At the same time, we will develop a methodology for getting inputs for regional delivery plans that will adopt a longer term view (3-5 years or beyond) and will be updated annually and on an iterative basis throughout Road Period 1.

The development of our plans will be controlled by regional programme boards and coordinated through an integrated portfolio management approach that packages together all our renewals, major schemes, and routine maintenance activities for both now and in the future. This will mean we can carry out all necessary works in one go, working towards an aspiration of not having to go back and carry out further work on any given part of the network for at least five years.

In 2014 across the whole of the SRN total traffic was recorded at 137.4 billion vehicle kilometres (bvkm). The South Pennines route accounted for 13% of this (18.0 bvkm).

Over the course of the 5 years to 2020, our current understanding is that we might need to resurface up to 65% of the roads on this route and we plan to spend approximately £330.4m in doing so.

This will include an initial budget of £64.8m during financial year 2015/16. As we develop our longer term programme of renewals and assumptions are refined, we expect this will change. We will report on and refresh our Delivery Plan annually.

The indicative 5 year funding on renewal of roads for this route is shown below in Table 1, however this is subject to change and will be updated annually in the Delivery Plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funding</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>£64.8m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>£65.5m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>£66.1m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>£66.6m</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019/20</td>
<td>£57.2m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>£330.4m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are also working towards the renewal of some key structures on this route including the A56 Chester Road Bridge, Runcorn (M56). Replacement of this structure will take place as part of the M56 Junction 11a works. We have allocated an initial budget of £18.5m for the renewal of structures during financial year 2015/16.

Technology is already performing an increasingly important role in ensuring the safety and reliability of the network. We are continuing to use more technology to help us collect data and disseminate key information that informs road users and our staff about incidents and congestion ensuring network users are well-informed and supporting traffic operations.

During 2015/16 we plan to renew essential communication and electrical infrastructure, such as emergency roadside telephones, variable message signs and CCTV.
Operating the route

We want to operate our network in such a way that we can keep traffic moving and better inform our customers. A key part of that is improving the information we provide to people before and during their journeys to help them make better decisions. There are a range of activities we will undertake in this Road Period to improve how we operate our roads. We are currently planning our programmes of works, and we will update this annually and on an iterative basis throughout Road Period 1.

Operational capability and response to Congestion

We will continue to upgrade our Regional Control Centres systems through joint strategic initiatives which will interlink all key command and control systems into a single more efficient operating system, enabling remote operation and response from any control centre.

This will improve our effectiveness, resilience and our ability to flex operational capability at particularly busy times or during emergency incidents.

Improving the data and information gathering from Regional Control Centres and the National Traffic Operation Centre, will help us to develop our website, mobile applications and social media sites to become the trusted source of information on live road conditions. This will help our customers make informed decisions about their journeys.

Incident prevention measures and better management of incidents

Through our Traffic Officer Service we work hard to deliver a reliable service to customers through effective traffic management and the provision of accurate and timely information. While we already do this well, we understand the importance of continually improving this service to our customers with the aim of achieving 90% customer satisfaction.

We will develop and deliver an incident prevention strategy to identify gaps in our current approach and to identify and develop interventions to address these. We will also deploy on-road operational resource to some of the busiest A-roads.

Throughout Road Period 1, we will continue to work with our partners to refine and improve strategic development of the initiatives and protocols aligned to the Collision, Lead, Evaluate, Act, Re-open (CLEAR) initiative and the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Programme. This includes close liaison with other roads responders, such as emergency services or other government vehicle enforcement agencies to reopen the network quickly after major incidents.

Strengthening collaborative partner relationships like these will also assist us to operate the strategic and local road networks more effectively around planned events.

Managing network capacity effectively

We will deliver better planning, scheduling and management of road works to ensure that we do not occupy road space for longer than necessary. This will include carrying out multiple improvements and/or maintenance schemes at the same time, with the intention of not returning to the same area within any five year period.

Actively listening to our customers and seeking their feedback

Our customer panel is in place and is made up of around 1,000 customers representing our full range of customers and neighbours that use or are directly affected by our network. The panel is representative of each of our regions, with known demographics, user type and network usage.

We will further develop this panel to ensure we are able to capture a reliable insight about our customers’ opinions. This panel will help us to better understand where and how we need to improve or develop new services and also test concepts and ideas before full development.
Transport Focus has been appointed as a watchdog for our company and will represent the voice of motorists and other road-users. We will develop a positive and constructive working relationship with them to better understand the needs and views our customers in order to continuously improve the services we provide.

It is also our intention to develop and publish a Customer Service Strategy by December 2015.

This will explore how we need to adapt and improve our customer satisfaction research, to enable us to gain a better understanding of what our customers want. We will improve the way our customers interact and communicate with us through the Customer Contact Centre.

Expressways

An Expressway will provide a high-standard route normally associated with our modern Smart motorways, on the all purpose trunk road network. It will transform those busy all-purpose roads by creating a free-flowing route where currently there are frequent junctions and local turnings causing congestion.

We will deliver improvements on the A556 section of this route, by removing infrastructure barriers and delivering a higher quality journey experience, improving the operation of this section to an Expressway standard.

Throughout Road Period 1 we will continue to develop the standards for the Expressways concept with the aim of proposing and constructing a number of further schemes in Road Period 2.
4. Planning for future investment

The investment planning cycle
Roads Reform paved the way for longer term funding for the SRN, and now through The Infrastructure Act funding will be allocated for 5-year Road Periods.

So that we spend this money wisely, Highways England and the Department for Transport will implement a planning cycle for future investment. This is outlined in Part 6 of our Licence to operate.

Route Strategies
Highways England is required by the Infrastructure Act and our Licence to prepare and publish route strategies covering the whole of the SRN. These will continue to involve our stakeholders in identifying evidence-led investment priorities.

Strategic Road Network Initial Report
Building on the investment priorities identified through route strategies and advice from the monitor and watchdog, this will be Highways England’s proposition on investment on the strategic road network over the next Road Period.

Draft Road Investment Strategy
Informed by the SRN Initial Report, Government will produce a draft RIS containing a strategic vision, statement of funds available, investment plan and performance specification.

Draft Strategic Business Plan
Highways England’s draft SBP will outline all activities and deliverables for the next Road Period, and based on route strategies, advise the Secretary of State on how best to deliver the strategic vision and performance specification, outlining where when and how best to intervene on the SRN.

Efficiency Review
The Secretary of State may ask the independent monitor to carry out an efficiency review to help determine whether the draft SBP will deliver an appropriate level of performance for the funds invested, and if the programme offers value for the taxpayer.

Finalise RIS and SBP
The Secretary of State will confirm and issue the final RIS together with Highways England issuing the final SBP. The SBP will include a Delivery Plan describing the activities, deliverables and funding on a year by year basis. The Delivery Plan will be reported on and refreshed annually.

Mobilise
Highways England will then undertake a period of mobilisation, including discussions with the supply chain and other preparations ahead of the SBP coming into force at the beginning of the next Road Period.
Preparing for the next round of route strategies

Route strategies will continue to play an essential role in setting the government’s RIS. In future, route strategies will be the main mechanism through which future investment priorities including improvements, maintenance and customer operations will be identified.

These route strategies are the culmination of the work done in our first investment planning cycle, and they have provided useful inputs to the first RIS, but we are looking to review and improve upon this platform. We welcome views from all of our stakeholders on what worked well, and where we could make improvements and would encourage you to let us know so that we can consider this as we prepare for the next round of route strategies.

As we develop our approach, we will seek advice from the independent monitor and watchdog, and once agreed with the Secretary of State, we will publish our approach.

However, we continue to believe that route strategies should be based on robust evidence and input from a broad range of stakeholders. Throughout the first round of route strategies intelligence gathering, the input of our customers and stakeholders was vital to the development of the evidence reports.

We are committed to this approach and we will continue to listen and act on what you say to us. We understand that our stakeholders and customers have local knowledge and experience of using and living alongside our routes. We need to ensure that we capture this knowledge as best we can, while still taking account of our wider Government commitments and responsibilities.

We will review progress and update these route strategies by the end of 2016/17, in time to feed into our first SRN Initial Report.

If you were involved, or kept informed, in this round of route strategies, we will be in touch later this year with our plans.

If you are new to route strategies, but would like to become involved, please do let us know by contacting our Customer Contact Centre by telephone 0300 123 5000.
# Annex A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Schemes Overview</th>
<th>Scheme Type</th>
<th>Construction Starts</th>
<th>Open to Traffic</th>
<th>Strategic Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td><strong>M60 J8 to M62 J20</strong>&lt;br&gt;Installation of Smart Motorway technology on the M60 between junction 8 and junction 18, plus the introduction of Smart Motorway with all-lane running between M62 junction 18 and junction 20.</td>
<td>Upgrading to Smart Motorway</td>
<td>In Construction</td>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Traffic" /> <img src="image" alt="Construction" /> <img src="image" alt="Road" /> <img src="image" alt="Smart Motorway" /></td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td><strong>A556 Knutsford to Bowdon</strong>&lt;br&gt;Online and offline widening of the A556 between the M56 and M6 with grade-separated dual carriageway, including a bypass around Mere. This improves the A-road that serves as the main southern access to Manchester to Expressway standard.</td>
<td>Widening</td>
<td>In Construction</td>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Traffic" /> <img src="image" alt="Construction" /> <img src="image" alt="Road" /> <img src="image" alt="Wide Road" /></td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td><strong>A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool</strong>&lt;br&gt;A new offline bypass of the village of Little Singleton, reducing the impact of traffic on the local community and removing a major bottleneck on the main road to Fleetwood.</td>
<td>Bypass</td>
<td>By end of 2019/20</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Traffic" /> <img src="image" alt="Construction" /> <img src="image" alt="Road" /> <img src="image" alt="Bypass" /></td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td><strong>M55 Junction 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;This new junction will link the recently-approved Preston Western Distributor Road to the strategic road network. To be delivered in partnership with local authority</td>
<td>Upgrading junction</td>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Traffic" /> <img src="image" alt="Construction" /> <img src="image" alt="Road" /> <img src="image" alt="Lane" /></td>
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<td>Construction Starts</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td><strong>A5036 Princess Way – access to Port of Liverpool</strong>&lt;br&gt;Comprehensive upgrade to improve traffic conditions on the main link between the Port of Liverpool and the motorway network. This scheme was identified as a central element of the Liverpool Local Growth Deal.</td>
<td>Improved access</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="icons" /></td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td><strong>M53 Junctions 5-11</strong>&lt;br&gt;Upgrading the M53 to Smart Motorway between junction 5 (A41) and junction 11 (M56 interchange) around Ellesmere Port.</td>
<td>Upgrading to Smart Motorway</td>
<td>By end of 2019/20</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td><strong>M56 new Junction 11a</strong>&lt;br&gt;A new junction to link the M56 to the A533 at Runcorn, creating an improved link to the Mersey Gateway bridge from the south.</td>
<td>New junction</td>
<td>By end of 2019/20</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="icons" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td><strong>M60 Simister Island interchange</strong>&lt;br&gt;Comprehensive improvement of the intersection between the M60 (junction 18), M62 and M66 north of Manchester, upgrading the critical junction for traffic heading eastwards over the Pennines.</td>
<td>Upgrading junction</td>
<td>Road Period 2</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="icons" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td><strong>M62 Junctions 20-25</strong>&lt;br&gt;Smart Motorways across the Pennines, from Rochdale to Brighouse. Links two existing Smart Motorway sections to create a continuous smart route from Leeds to Manchester.</td>
<td>Upgrading to Smart Motorway</td>
<td>By end of 2019/20</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="icons" /></td>
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| 10. | Mottram Moor Link Road  
A new dual-carriageway link road from the M67 terminal roundabout to a new junction at A57(T) Mottram Moor and a new single-carriageway link to bypass Mottram. | Upgrading to dual carriageway and bypass | Still being developed | TBC when construction programme known | ![Road icon] ![Interchange icon] ![Landscape icon] ![Traffic sign icon] |
| 11. | M62 Junctions 10-12  
Upgrading the M62 to Smart Motorway between junction 10 (M6 Croft Interchange) and junction 12 (M60 Winton interchange) west of Manchester. This links with the M60 Smart Motorway schemes to the east and the M6 junctions 21A-26 schemes to the north. | Upgrading to Smart Motorway | 2019/20 | 2022/23 | ![Road icon] ![Interchange icon] ![Landscape icon] ![Traffic sign icon] |
| 12. | M60 Junctions 24-27 & 1–4  
Upgrading south-eastern quadrant of the M60 to Smart Motorway between junction 24 (M67 Denton interchange) and junction 4 (M56 Kingsway interchange). | Upgrading to Smart Motorway | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | ![Road icon] ![Interchange icon] ![Landscape icon] ![Traffic sign icon] |
| 13. | M621 Junction 1-7 improvements  
Junction enhancements and localised widening of sections of the M621 between J1–7 providing safer and more reliable journeys for those travelling in the city. | Upgrading junctions | 2020 | TBC when construction programme known | ![Road icon] ![Interchange icon] ![Landscape icon] ![Traffic sign icon] |
| 14. | M1/M62 Lofthouse interchange  
Reconstruction of the junction between the M1 and the M62 as an all-direction free-flowing interchange. | Upgrading junction | Road Period 2 | TBC when construction programme known | ![Road icon] ![Interchange icon] ![Landscape icon] ![Traffic sign icon] |
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<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td><strong>M62/M606 Chain Bar</strong></td>
<td>Junction upgrade</td>
<td>By end of 2019/20</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A major improvement to this key interchange to provide additional capacity and in particular to facilitate movements between Leeds and Bradford.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td><strong>A61 Dualling</strong></td>
<td>Upgrading to dual carriageway</td>
<td>Still being developed</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dualling of the A61 north of Sheffield between the A616 roundabout and junction 36 of the M1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td><strong>A628 climbing lanes</strong></td>
<td>Upgrading carriageway</td>
<td>Still being developed</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consideration of the provision of two overtaking lanes on the A628 near Woodhead Bridge and near Salter’s Brook Bridge.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td><strong>A64 Hopgrove junction</strong></td>
<td>Upgrading junction</td>
<td>Road Period 2</td>
<td>TBC when construction programme known</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upgrading the Hopgrove roundabout, to the east of York, to a grade separated junction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td><strong>A63 Castle Street</strong></td>
<td>Upgrading junction</td>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>2020/21</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Grade separation of the A1079 Mytongate junction in Hull and improvements to the surrounding roads, including the provision of improved pedestrian and cyclist access across the A63. Along with the Connecting the City Bridge, funded through the Humber Growth Deal, this will improve cyclists’ and pedestrians’ access to and from Hull Marina and road access to and from the port of Hull.</td>
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| 20. | **A160/A180 Port of Immingham**  
Improvements to the junction between the A180 and A160 near Immingham port, plus upgrading the A160 to a full dual carriageway between the A180 and the port itself. | Upgrading junction           | 2015/16            | 2016/17          | ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) |
| 21. | **A57(T) to A57 link road**  
A new single carriageway link from the A57 at Mottram Moor to a new junction on the A57 at Brookfield, bypassing the existing A628/A57 and A57 Woolley Lane/Hadfield road junctions. | New link                     | Still being developed | TBC when construction programme known | ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) |
| 22. | **M56 Junctions 6-8**  
Upgrading the M56 to Smart Motorway between junction 6 (Manchester Airport) and junction 8 (A556). Together with improvements to the A556, the M6 junction 19 and Smart Motorways on the M6, this forms part of a comprehensive upgrade to Manchester’s southern access. | Upgrading to Smart Motorway  | 2019/20            | 2021/22          | ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) |
| 23. | **A628 Safety and technology improvements**  
Safety Measures focused on addressing accident clusters; and the provision of traffic light cameras, speed cameras and message signs to allow drivers to make informed decisions. | Improving safety and upgrading technology | Still being developed | TBC when construction programme known | ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) ![symbol](image) |
S. Trans-Pennine Tunnel

Following the Trans-Pennine routes feasibility study there is a need for further examination of the case for Manchester and Sheffield to be connected by a high-performance link. The Department for Transport are keen to explore the costs and feasibility of this potentially transformational improvement.

Such a connection could have a dramatic impact on the economy of the north, particularly in combination with plans for high speed rail links. It would be capable of fundamentally changing the nature of the journey between two of the most important cities of the north. But the invaluable landscapes and ecological significance of the Peak District National Park rule out a surface link. The only credible solution may be to construct a tunnel under the central part of the Pennines. This carries with it the potential to bring important environmental improvements to the Peak District National Park.

Such a project would be the most ambitious road scheme since the construction of the first motorways fifty years ago. The engineering and delivery of such a tunnel would be a national first. The proposal therefore needs to be studied in detail to confirm its viability and to begin a national debate. Working in conjunction with Transport for the North, this study will examine the strategic options for the tunnel, to understand the viability, costs and deliverability of such a connection, and determine its role and priority within the emerging transport Schemes.

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<td>Trans-Pennine Tunnel</td>
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| S.  | **Manchester North-West Quadrant**  
The M60 plays a vital part in the life of Manchester and is a critical part of the North West transport network. The north-west quadrant of the road between junctions 8 and 18 contains some of the busiest stretches of road outside the M25. The mix of local traffic and strategic traffic, coupled with the design of the road, further exacerbates congestion and environmental problems. 
Projected development is expected to put significant extra pressure on the road. To prevent the M60 becoming a block on Manchester’s growth, more transport capacity must be provided in the area. This study will look at the options for improving the transport network around the north-west quadrant. It will need to consider a range of different modal options, to make sure that the local road network and public transport options play their part. If major enhancements to the SRN are a part of the solution, they will also need to be considered. This study will need to work closely with Transport for Greater Manchester, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and local transport providers. | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |