

A19/A184 Testos junction Improvement **A19**

Public consultation



Introduction

The Highways Agency is proposing to make improvements to the A19/A184 Testos junction. The scheme will relieve congestion and improve road safety at the junction while minimising environmental impacts.

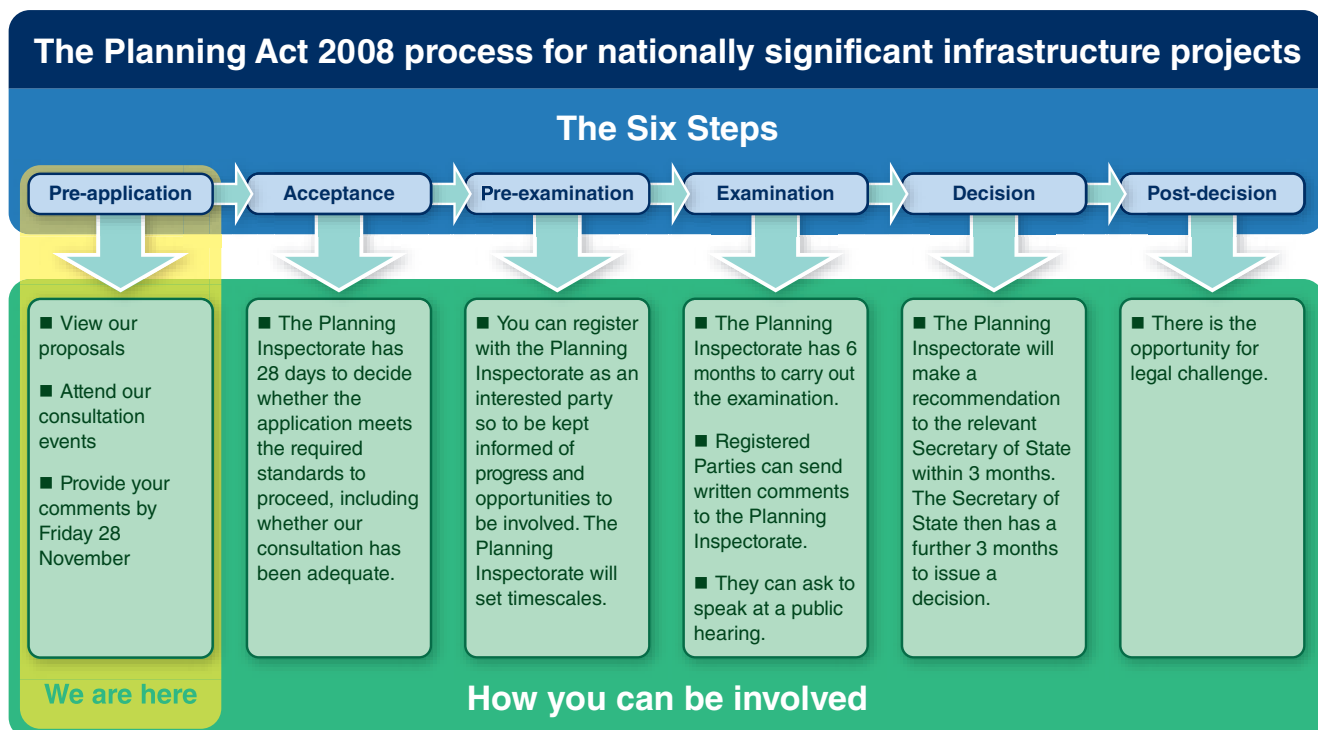
A consultation exercise was held between March and June 2009 on three options. A further validation exercise with key stakeholders was carried out in February 2014. This process culminated in a preferred route announcement in June 2014.

Since the preferred route announcement the design has been developed further and we are now able to present our proposed junction improvements in more detail and are seeking your views on them.

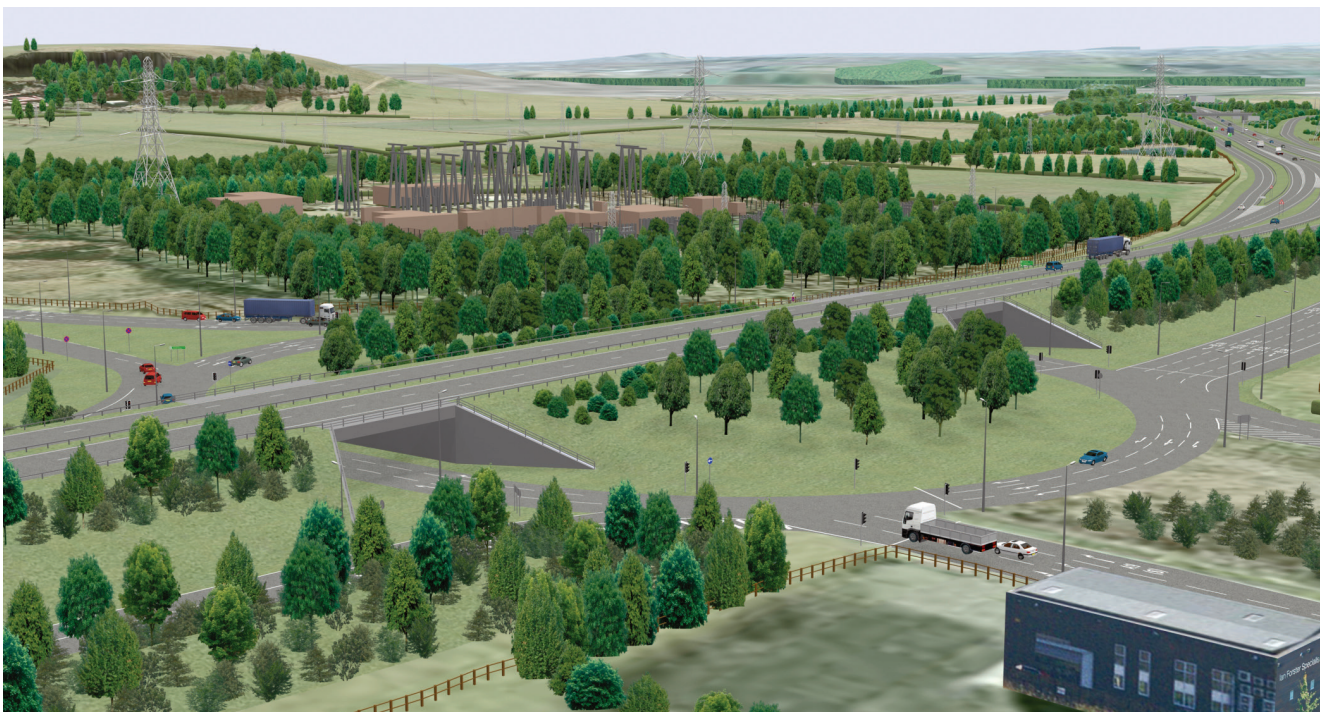
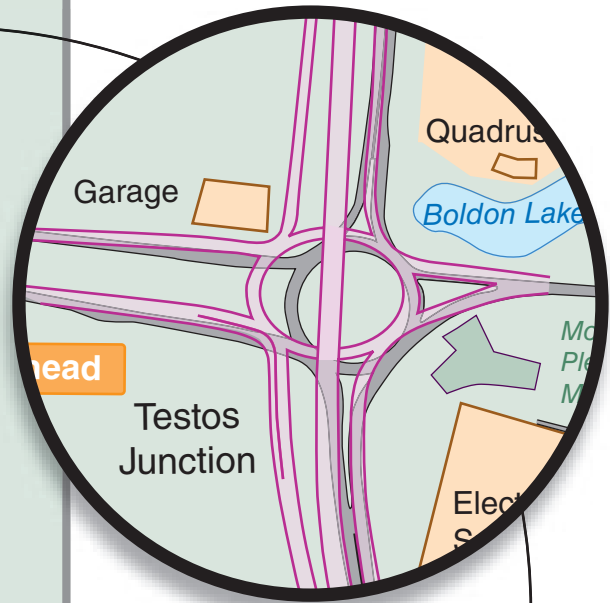
The project is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008. As such, we are required to make an application for a development consent order (DCO) to construct the project. We intend to make our application by spring/summer 2015. The application will be made to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) who will examine the application and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport who will make a

decision on whether or not the project should go ahead.

The consultation runs from 13th October 2014 to 28th November 2014. All responses to the consultation will be considered and will influence, where possible, further refinements to the proposals.



Proposed route



Visualisation of the view looking south east towards the electricity sub station with the improvement

The proposed route

The A19/A184 Testos junction improvement:

- Raises the existing A19 carriageway using an embankment and two bridge structures to carry it above the modified roundabout
- Provides access to Downhill Lane using two parallel link roads connecting to the south facing slip roads
- Removes the existing bridleway bridge



Visualisation of the view looking north along the A19 with the improvement

Your Views

We will be improving pedestrian, cyclist and equestrian access and we would like your views on this.

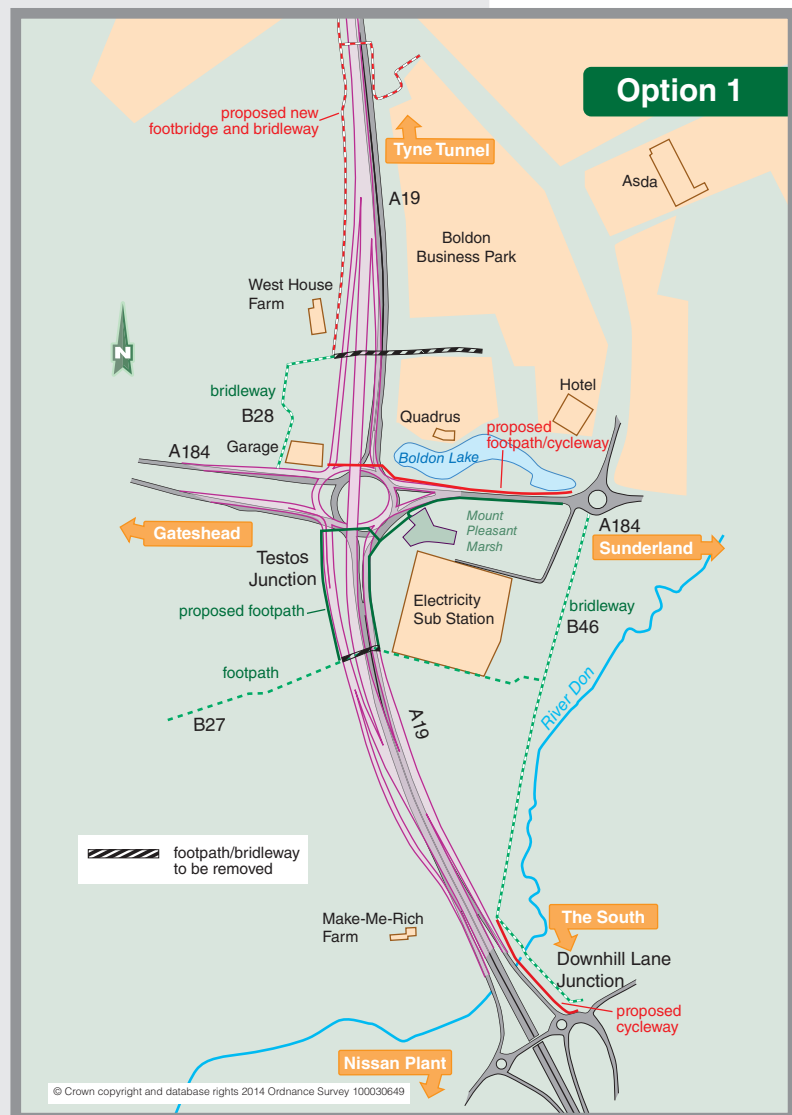
We are considering three options for a new layout of footpaths, brideways and highway crossings. All of the non-motorised user options are designed to provide overall improvements in connectivity and safety.

Option 1 is based closely on proposals first put forward in 2009. Two alternative options have been considered based on looking afresh at the needs and aspirations of all users in the area around the junctions.

There are three options available as follows:

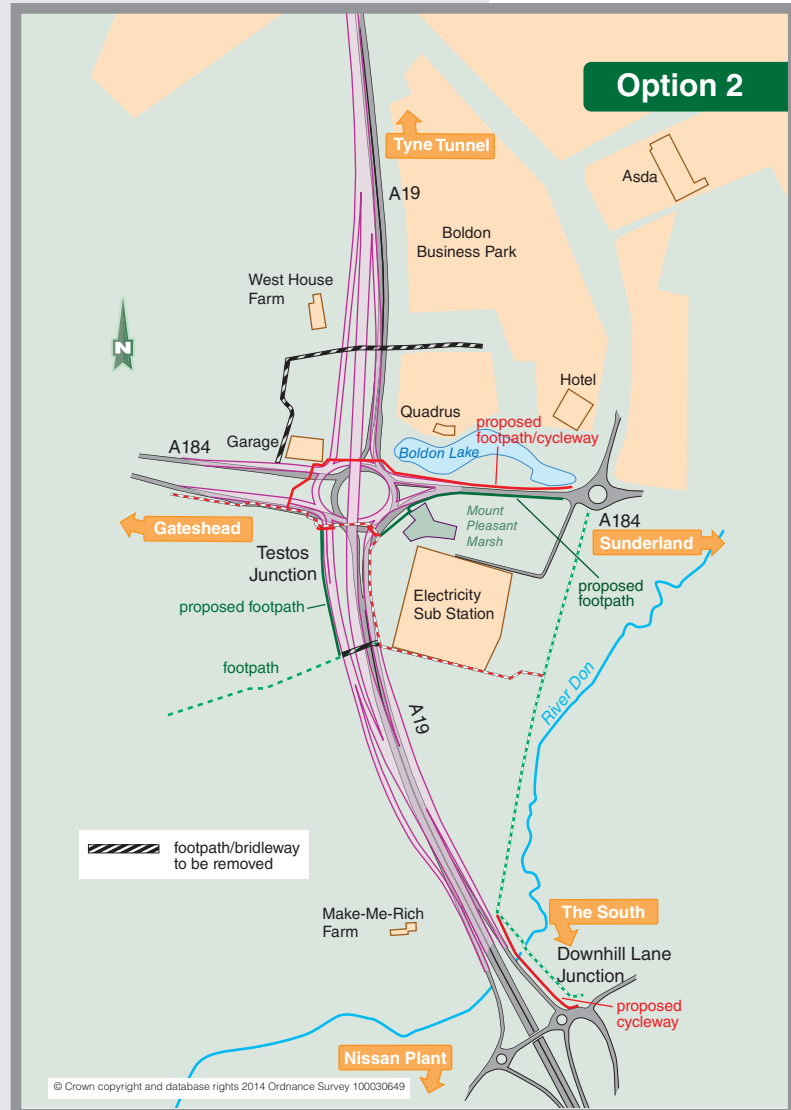
Option 1

- The existing bridge carrying bridleyway B28 over the A19 would be relocated further north, the bridleyway would be extended northwards to reach the new bridge and would be linked to Brooklands Way and Abingdon Way to the north.
- On the north side of Testos junction, a signalised cyclist/pedestrian crossing over the A19 slip roads would replace the existing pedestrian crossing. South of Testos junction, the existing footpath B27 would be diverted northwards to the junction itself on both sides of the road, where a new signalised crossing would be provided.
- At Downhill Lane junction, a new ramp would be provided linking bridleyway B46 to the junction to give cyclists a safe route to access the junction along an observed route without putting themselves in danger.



Option 2

- Bridleway B28 and its existing bridge over the A19 would be replaced by a signalised crossing on the south side of the Testos junction roundabout. This would be suitable for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders and segregated from vehicular traffic by boarded barriers. The new crossing would be linked westwards to West Pastures Lane and south/eastwards to bridleway B46 by new bridleway provision. A new footpath link on the south side of the A19 would also be provided linking eastwards back to the roundabout at the A184/Abbingdon Way junction.
- On the north side of Testos junction, a signalised cyclist/pedestrian crossing over the A19 slip roads would replace the existing pedestrian crossing. West of Testos junction, a new signalised crossing would be provided for pedestrians and cyclists over the A184.
- At Downhill Lane junction, a new ramp would be provided linking bridleway B46 to the junction, parallel to but outside the slip road, to give cyclists a safe route to access the junction along an observed route without putting themselves in danger.



Testo's junction improvement Public consultation questionnaire **A19/A184**

We would like your views on our proposed improvements. You can also complete this questionnaire online at <http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/A19-Testos-Junction-Improvements>.

Please return this questionnaire to reach us by Friday 28th November 2014.

1. Please provide us with your name and address, or, if you would prefer your comments to be anonymous, your postcode only.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

2. Do you broadly agree with the proposal? (please tick) YES NO

3. Do you understand the benefits of the proposal? (please tick) YES NO

4. What do you currently use the road for?
(please rank 1 – 4, where 1 refers to most regular use)

Business Residential Leisure

Other:

5. How do you normally travel on the route? (please tick all that apply)

Car Bus Cycle Walk

Other:

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Agency.

The Agency will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances; this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties. Confidential responses will be included in any statistical summary of number of comments and views expressed.

Provision for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians (non-motorised users)

6. Which is your preferred option for non-motorised users? (please tick)

- Option 1 Option 2 Option 2a

7. Please explain your reasons for the response to Q.6.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

You may be aware that Sunderland City Council and South Tyneside Council have been working together on the development of an International Advanced Manufacturing Park (IAMP) north of the Nissan plant.

Work has already been undertaken to improve traffic flow at the A1290 Downhill Lane junction. It is likely that more expansive junction improvements will be required here as Nissan continues to expand and the proposed manufacturing park grows.

There may be an opportunity to construct a larger A19/A1290 Junction. However, this will be dependent on the successful outcome of a number of issues relating to funding, timing and expected benefit.

The completion of the larger junction improvements as part of the Testos scheme would increase capacity within the network on a shorter timescale, reduce disruption by co-ordinating construction programmes and allow further enhancements to be brought online when required.

8. If the opportunity arose the construct the larger junction at Downhill Lane, subject to the issues outlined above, would you like to see it constructed as part of the works at Testos Junction? (please tick)

[Please note that there is no commitment to construct the larger junction and we are simply canvassing for local opinion at this stage]

- YES NO

9. Please explain your reasons for the response to Q.8. Is there anything else we should take into account in developing the design and planning the construction?

e.g. local knowledge, road safety and environmental considerations

.....
.....
.....

10. Please use this space to provide any further comments or suggestions:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Please help us understand the range of people we are consulting by completing the following section. This information will not be used for any other purpose.

11. Age: 16 – 24 25 – 34 35 – 44
 45 – 54 55 – 64 65+
12. Gender: Male Female
13. Do you consider yourself to have a disability? If yes, please tick this box
14. Did you attend the consultation event? If yes, please tick this box
15. By completing this questionnaire, you have identified that you have an interest in this project. It would help us if you could identify the nature of your interest. You may tick more than one box.
- Business Local Business Residential Agricultural interest
- Public rights of way user Leisure Other:
- Regular user of the A19/A184 in a private vehicle / commercial vehicle

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire

Fold B

Business Reply
Licence Number
RSAS-ZGKK-CSUL



A19/A184 Testos junction Project Team
Highways Agency
Lateral
8 City Walk
LEEDS
LS11 9AT

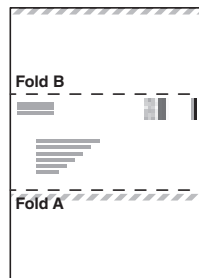
Fold A

Folding instructions

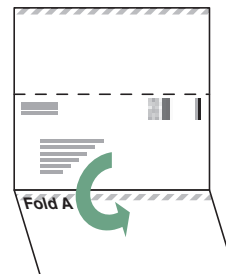
Once you've completed the questionnaire please follow these instructions before returning it to us:

1. With the return address facing you...
2. fold the bottom part backwards along Fold A;
3. fold the top part backwards along Fold B;
4. turn the folded questionnaire over; and
5. secure it by sticking clear tape along the length of hatched area.
6. There's no need for a stamp, just pop it in the post.

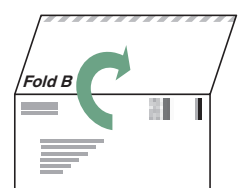
1.



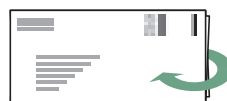
2.



3.



4.



5.

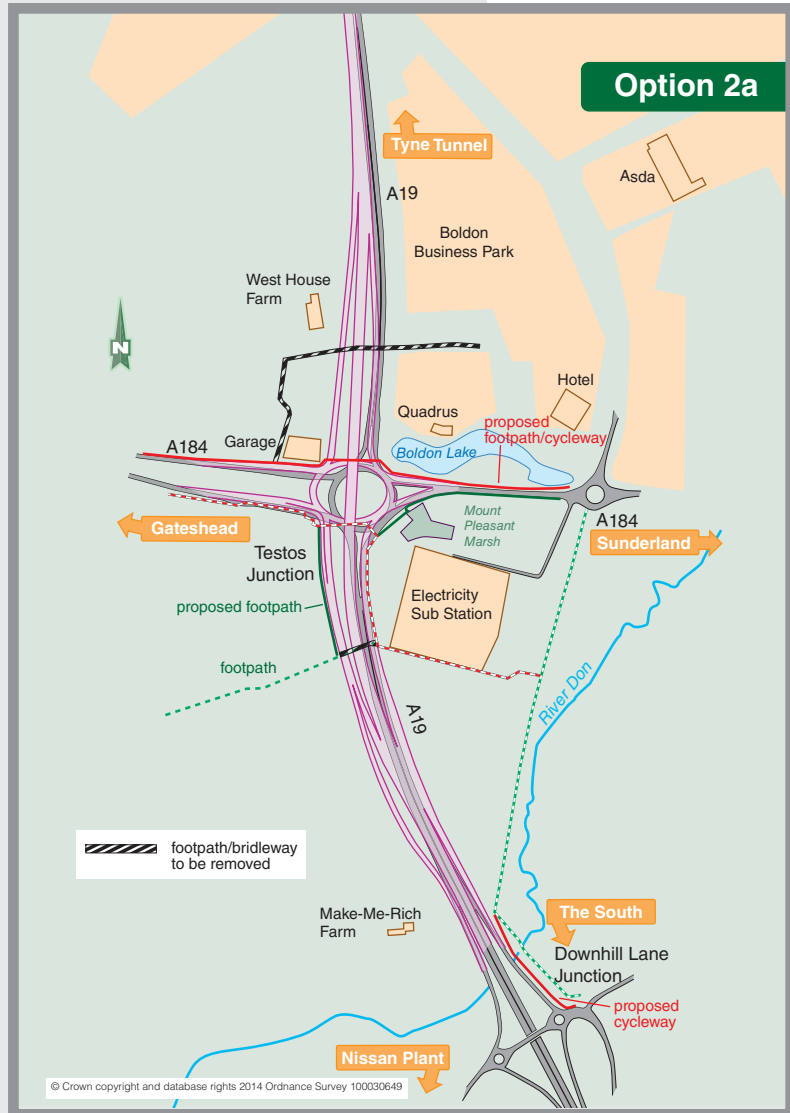


6.



Option 2a

- Bridleway B28 and its existing bridge over the A19 would be replaced by a signalised crossing on the south side of the Testos junction roundabout. This would be suitable for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders and segregated from vehicular traffic by boarded barriers. The new crossing would be linked westwards to West Pastures Lane and south/eastwards to bridleway B46 by new bridleway provision. A new footway link on the south side of the A19 would also be provided linking eastwards back to the roundabout at the A184/Abbingdon Way junction.
- On the north side of Testos junction, a signalised cyclist/pedestrian crossing over the A19 slip roads would replace the existing pedestrian crossing. West of Testos junction, a new footpath/cycleway link would be provided along the northern footpath of the A184.
- At Downhill Lane junction, a new ramp would be provided linking bridleway B46 to the junction, parallel to but outside the slip road to give cyclists a safe route to access the junction along an observed route without putting themselves in danger.



Environmental considerations

The scheme is being designed to minimise the effect on the environment.

We will be completing a full statutory environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the project, which is currently in its early stages. A detailed environmental statement (ES) will be submitted as part of the development consent order application. We have also prepared a document called Preliminary Environmental Information to set out our progress and results so far, so that you can respond to this consultation in a well-informed way.

The aims of the EIA are to work out the effects the proposed scheme would have on the environment to influence the design to reduce environmental effects, and to identify mitigation measures for any effects that remain.

The EIA covers a wide range of environmental themes as set out in our technical scoping report:

Air quality

We will consider the health related issues of local and regional air quality together with the global issue of climate change. We will also consider emissions that may arise from the project during construction and once open to traffic.

We are analysing data from long term air quality monitoring in the local area.

Noise and vibration

Traffic flow data and construction methodology will be used to assess the noise and vibration impacts of the project during construction and once open to traffic.

We are conducting new noise monitoring in the local area to validate our information about the local noise environment.

Cultural heritage

We will consider archaeological sites, historic buildings and landscapes. We will consider and manage direct impacts as well as how the



project affects the settings and landscapes of potentially important local assets.

We carried out archaeological/heritage surveys in 2006/7 and this information is still relevant.

Landscape and visual amenity

We will look at the effects on the local landscape and on the quality of views.

We will carry out surveys and prepare photomontages to illustrate the changes in views from key locations which will be published in the environmental statement.

Ecology and nature conservation

We will consider the effects on ecologically important sites, protected species and other sensitive species including bats, water voles and otters.

We undertook extensive ecological surveys in 2006/7 and are currently re-surveying for a number of species within the appropriate seasons. Surveys have so far found evidence of water voles and otters, but no evidence of great crested newts or badgers.

Road drainage and the water environment

We will assess the effects on surface water, groundwater and flood risk during construction and operation.

Dedicated environmental features will be built in to the drainage system to improve the quality of water drained off the road before release into the environment and to reduce flood risk.

Geology and soils

We will consider the disturbance of groundwater, the impact on soil quality and the disturbance of any contaminated land.

We will review the outcome of previous ground investigation surveys to inform our environmental studies in respect of soils and geology.

Waste and material

We will identify opportunities where possible to reduce, reuse or recycle waste.

We are investigating the possibility of re-using surplus excavated material from a separate scheme 5 miles to the north. The re-use of these materials has the potential for a significant sustainability and cost benefit.

Effects on the travelling public

We will consider safety, journey time, congestion and accessibility for everyone along the route, including motorised users, pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders.

We will draw on the detailed traffic model and the landscape assessment. We have conducted dedicated surveys of non-motorised users and consulted local user groups.

Community and private assets

We will consider the effects of the scheme on land or other assets owned or used by the community. This includes land such Boldon Lake and Mount Pleasant Marsh. We are also looking at the effects on privately owned assets such as farm land.

We have updated all of our records of land ownership and occupation and we are consulting everyone with a land interest. We are in discussion with South Tyneside Council and West Boldon Environmental Education Centre as well as conducting detailed agricultural studies and consultation.



What happens next?

Following the consultation we will consider your responses as we develop the proposals further. We will then submit our application for a development consent order (DCO) to construct the project and include a consultation report which will provide a summary of responses and a description of how these have influenced the application. If the DCO is granted we estimate that subject to the construction budget being agreed, the works will commence in Autumn/Winter 2016/17 and that the road will be open for traffic in Autumn/Winter 2018/19.

the Statement of Community Consultation, scheme layout plan, preliminary environmental information, and copies of our consultation event boards are available online at:

<http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/A19-Testos-Junction-Improvements>

or can be viewed at the locations listed below

Please ensure your comments reach us by Friday 28th November 2014.

How you can get involved

Consultation events

Friday 7th November 2014, 12pm – 8pm
Saturday 8th November 2014, 10am – 4pm

Quality Hotel,

Boldon Business Park,
Witney Way,
Boldon
NE35 9PE

We will also be holding a similar event for employees at the Nissan site.

We would encourage you to come along to one of our consultation events to discuss the proposals in more detail with our project team. If you are not able to attend this event, please complete the questionnaire included with this leaflet or online at the address below. Alternatively, you can provide your comments to the project team using the contact details overleaf.

When making comments please provide us with your name and address, or, if you prefer your comments to be anonymous, your postcode only. It would also help us if you would identify the nature of your interest in the project. Further consultation materials, including

The consultation materials will be available to view at the following locations:

- **South Shields Central Library,**
Prince Georg Square, South Shields
NE33 2PE.
Opening times Monday and Wednesday
0900hrs to 1900hrs; Tuesday, Thursday
and Friday 0900 hrs to 1700hrs; Saturday
1200hrs to 1600hrs
Tel: 0191 427 1818
- **East Boldon Library,**
Boker Lane, East Boldon, NE36 0RY.
Opening times: Monday and Friday 0930
to 1230 and 1330 to 1700hrs; Tuesday
and Thursday 0930 to 1230 and 1330 to
1900hrs.
Tel: 0191 424 7853
- **Hebburn Library,**
Station Road, Hebburn, NE31 1PN.
Opening times: Monday and Wednesday
0930 to 1900hrs; Thursday and Friday
0930 to 1700hrs; Saturday 0900 to
1300hrs.
Tel: 0191 483 2088

- **Sunderland City Centre Customer Service Centre,**
31-32 Fawcett Street, Sunderland,
SR1 1RE.
Opening times: Monday to Thursday
0830 to 1715hrs; Friday 0830 to 1645hrs.
Tel: 0191520 5555
- **Bunny Hill Customer Service Centre,**
Hylton Lane, Sunderland, SR5 4BW.
Opening times: Monday to Friday 0930 to
1700hrs.
Tel: 0191 520 5555
- **Washington Millennium Centre Library,**
The Oval, Concord, Washington, NE372QD.
Opening times: Monday 1000 to 1800hrs;
Tuesday 1000 to 1300hrs; Friday 1300 to
1700hrs.
Tel: 0191 561 3878
- **Gateshead Civic Centre,**
Regent Street, Gateshead, NE8 1HH.
Opening times: Monday to Friday 0900 to
1700hrs.
Tel: 0191 433 3000
- **North Tyneside Council,**
Planning Reception, Quadrant the
Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park,
North Tyneside, NE27 0BY. Opening
times: Monday to Thursday 0830 to
1700hrs; Friday 0830 to 1630hrs.
Tel: 0345 2000 101
- **Jarrow Library,**
Cambrian Street, Jarrow, NE32 3QN.
Opening times: Monday 0930 to 1700hrs;
Tuesday and Thursday 0930 to 1900hrs;
Friday 0930 to 1700hrs; Saturday 1200 to
1600hrs.
Tel: 0191 489 7000

The consultation materials will also be available to view at the Highways Agency, Lateral, 8 City Walk, Leeds, LS11 9AT. Viewing times: Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm. Tel: 0113 283 6258

Please note that viewing locations may be closed on bank holidays.

Paper or CD copies of the consultation materials can be provided on request. There will be a charge for some documents. Please contact the project team for further details regarding prices and payment methods.

Making your comments

Comments on our proposals can be made by:

- Completing our questionnaire. This is enclosed with this leaflet and available to complete online at the project webpage at:
<http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/A19-Testos-Junction-Improvements>
- Alternatively further paper copies can be requested free of charge by contacting the project team as follows:
- Email – a19testosjunctionimprovements@highways.gsi.gov.uk
- Writing to us at A19/A184 Testos Project Team, Major Projects North, Highways Agency, Lateral, 8 City Walk, Leeds LS11 9AT

If you have any questions about this consultation, please contact the project team using any of these details or by calling us at **0113 2834708/0113 2836337**

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

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Agency.

The Agency will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances; this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties. Confidential responses will be included in any statistical summary of number of comments and views expressed.

© Crown copyright 2014.

You may re-use this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence:

visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/>

write to the **Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU,**

or email psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

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

If you have any enquiries about this publication email

ha_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk or call **0300 123 5000***.

Please quote the Highways Agency publications code **PR61/14**

Highways Agency media services Leeds. Job number N140274

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

* Calls to 03 numbers cost no more than a national rate call to an 01 or 02 number and must count towards any inclusive minutes in the same way as 01 and 02 calls. These rules apply to calls from any type of line including mobile, BT, other fixed line or payphone. Calls may be recorded or monitored.