



Department
for Transport

Roads Investment Strategy A1 East of England – Stakeholder Reference Group

23rd of September 2015





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- ▶ Eric Cooper – Highways England
- ▶ Susan Claris – Arup, study Contractor





Road Investment Strategy:
Overview



Road Investment Strategy:
Strategic Vision



Road Investment Strategy:
Performance Specification



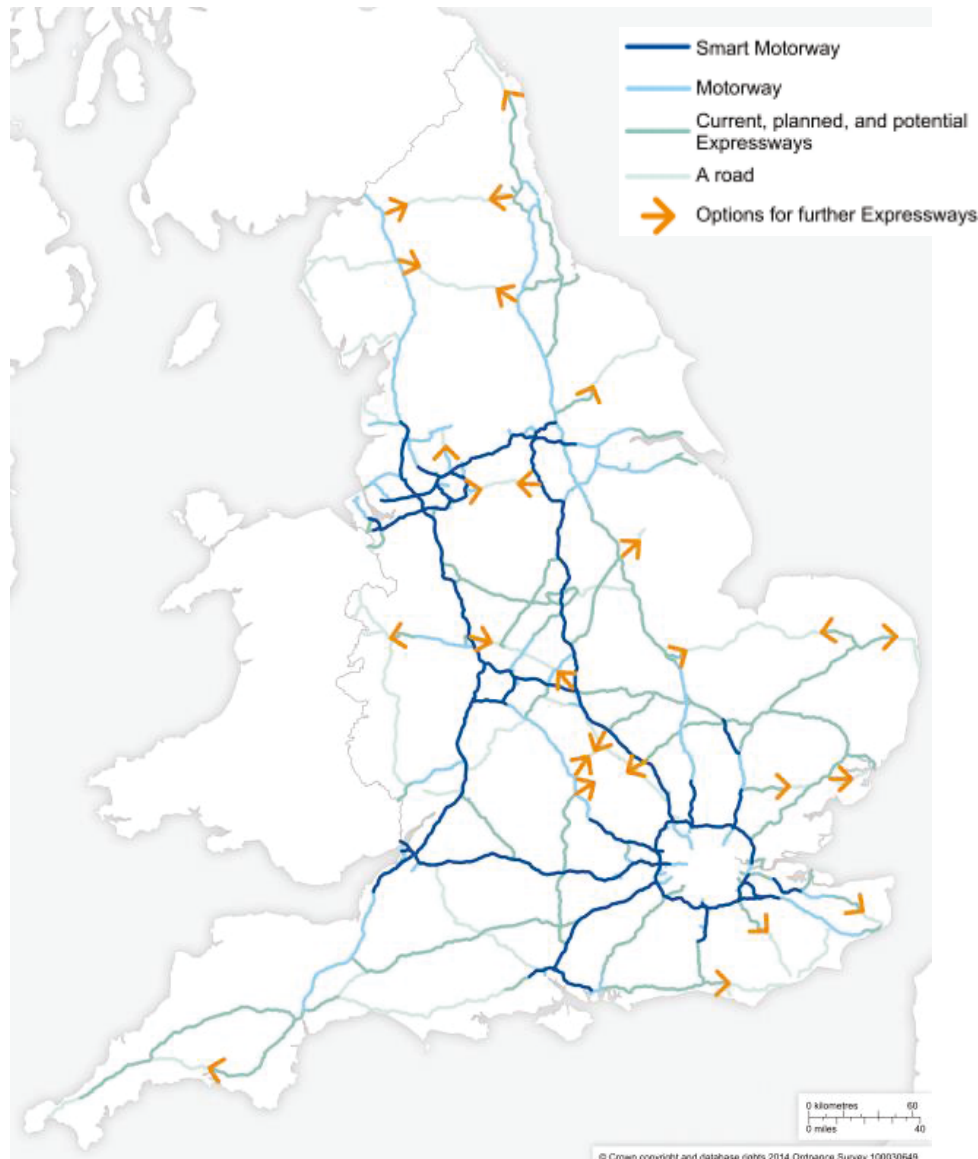
Road Investment Strategy:
Investment Plan



- ▶ On 1 December 2014, the government published the Road Investment Strategy, which outlined how £15.2 billion in capital spend will be invested on the strategic road network between 2015 and 2020.
- ▶ 84 new national road projects were announced, bringing the total being taken forward as part of the Roads Investment Strategy to 127.



The Strategic Studies and the Network towards 2040



“...some of the challenges and opportunities facing the network are too large and too complex to fix in a single Road Period. The answers could involve major new network connections, or fundamental choices about the future of transport in congested parts of the country. These issues need to be examined carefully, and the conclusions need to reflect the views of local residents, business, local authorities and road users of all kinds.”

We are commissioning a series of new strategic studies, to address of the biggest challenges facing the road network.”

Investment Plan: December 2014

This Map appeared in the Roads Investment Strategy. The strategic studies are a key part of determining how, and if, we should get to this point.





What the Road Investment Strategy says:

“The A1 is one of our oldest roads and also one of the least consistent.

...the road today is a patchwork of different standards, ranging from four lane motorway to elderly dual carriageway - sometimes in the same ten mile stretch.

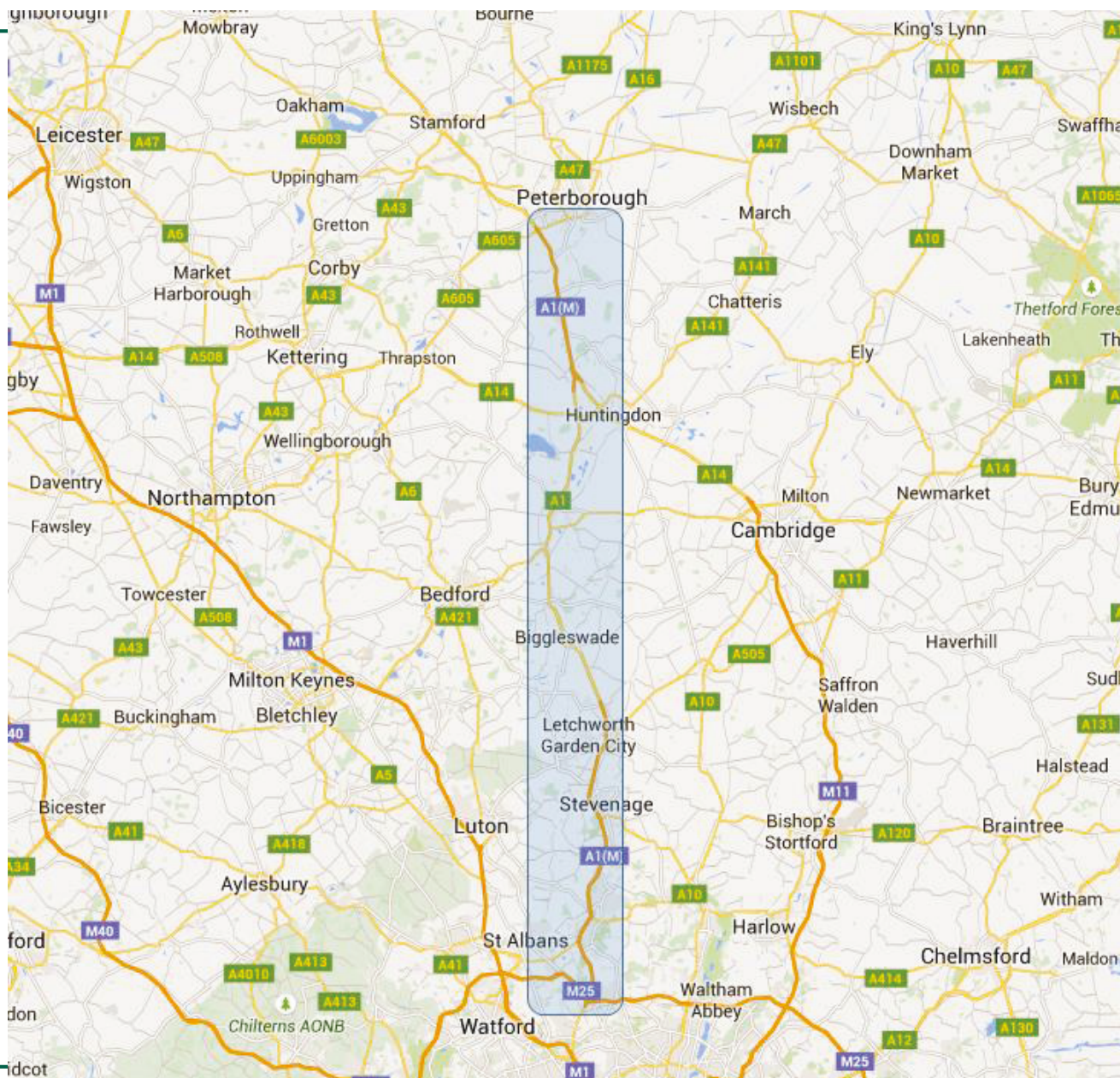
The study will examine whether improvements, including changing the alignment of the road could reduce the environmental impact of the existing route and benefit local communities.”

Investment Plan: December 2014





The Scope of the Study





Road Investment Strategy - A1 East of England

Challenges:

- The road is already busy and near capacity in places; especially as the A1(M) approaches M25
- Non-motorway section has multiple accesses and at grade junctions, giving opportunities to improve safety





A1 East of England Strategic Study: Objectives

- ▶ Understand the strategic case for making improvements to the A1
- ▶ Review previous study work, other relevant data, and current investment plans
- ▶ Identify the options for improving the A1. Understand the operational and technical feasibility, and user benefits and challenges, including weather related resilience, of the different options.
- ▶ Understand the benefits and impacts resulting from improving access to the strategic corridor in the region - including the benefits and impacts accruing on existing routes and local roads
- ▶ Understand the benefits and impacts resulting from additional capacity
- ▶ Understand how options impact on the local and regional economy





- ▶ A report that:
 - ▶ Has clear and concise conclusions
 - ▶ Whose analysis is relevant, robust and trusted
 - ▶ Will gain the confidence of Ministers
 - ▶ Is timely and within budget
 - ▶ Recognises and is consistent with the other strategic studies





Aim

- Ensure that stakeholder views are understood and properly considered during the study process. It will provide a forum for dialogue between the Study Sponsors and project managers and the principal stakeholders with interests in the project.





Stakeholder Reference Group: Role

- Consider the scope of the study
- Provide advice and opinion on the proposed objectives, impacts and benefits
- Support the study team in identifying regional sources of information and analysis
- Facilitate wider representation from local and regional bodies
- Communicate information
- Review and provide feedback on the interim and final study outputs
- Discuss and recommend changes in the Stakeholder Reference Group membership
- Ensure that there is a “regional voice” to the study





- ▶ Study Sponsors & Project Managers

Department for Transport, Highways England, Project Consultants

- ▶ Local Authorities

Authorities directly affected by improvements to the corridor

- ▶ Transport Executives

- ▶ Local Enterprise Partnerships

- ▶ Statutory Bodies

- ▶ Other Transport Operators

Network Rail

- ▶ Road Users

Freight Groups, Road Users, Motoring Associations

- ▶ Trade and Industry

Business associations

- ▶ Environment and amenity groups

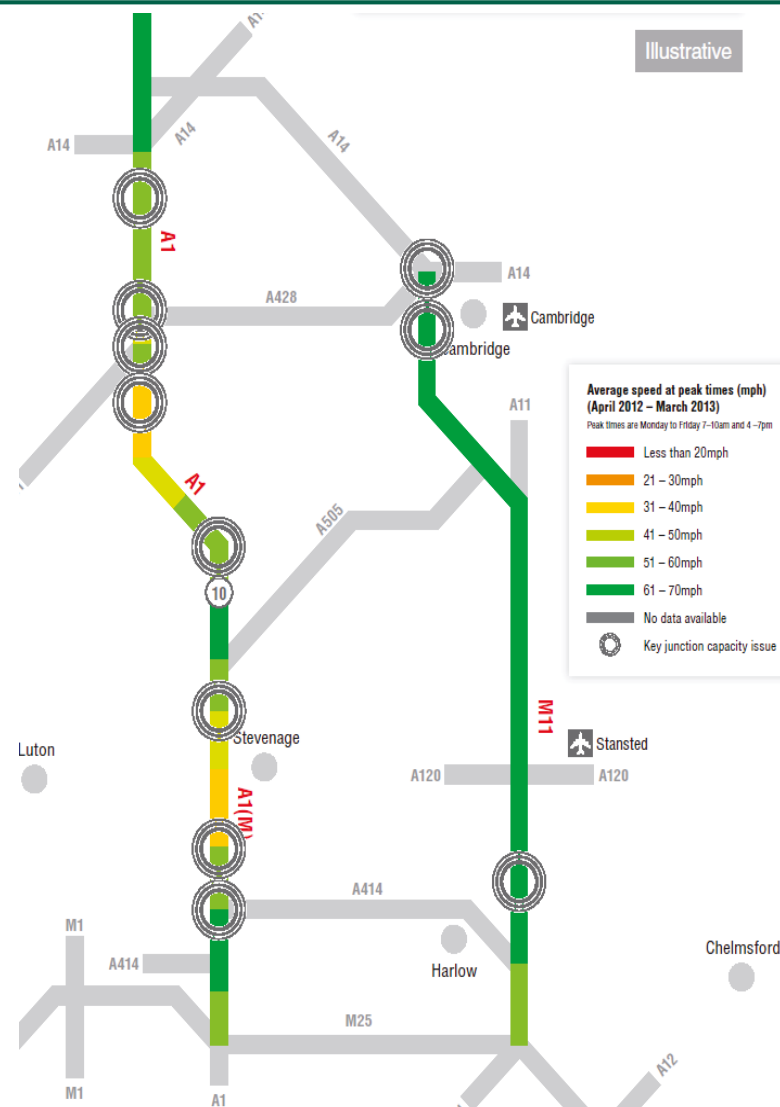




Feedback session from route drive of the A1

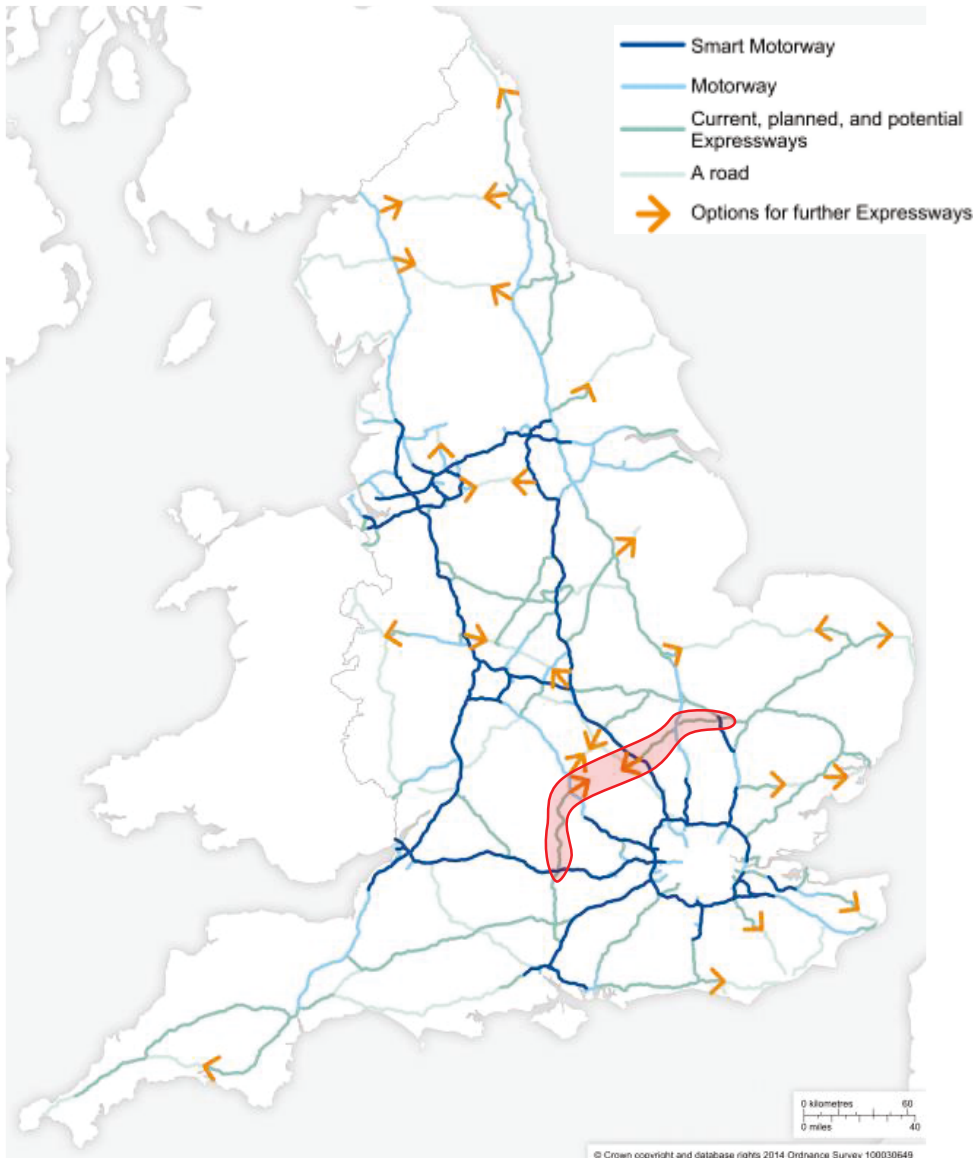
- ▶ Top three issues from each table
 - ▶ Network reliability
 - ▶ Environment
 - ▶ Safety
 - ▶ Resilience
 - ▶ Other




- ▶ What should the vision for the A1 in 2040 look like?





Oxford to Cambridge Expressway Strategic Study



-  Filling 30 mile Oxford-Milton Keynes gap in SRN
-  Supporting growth in other communities, e.g. Bicester
-  Understand improvements to East-West Rail and A428



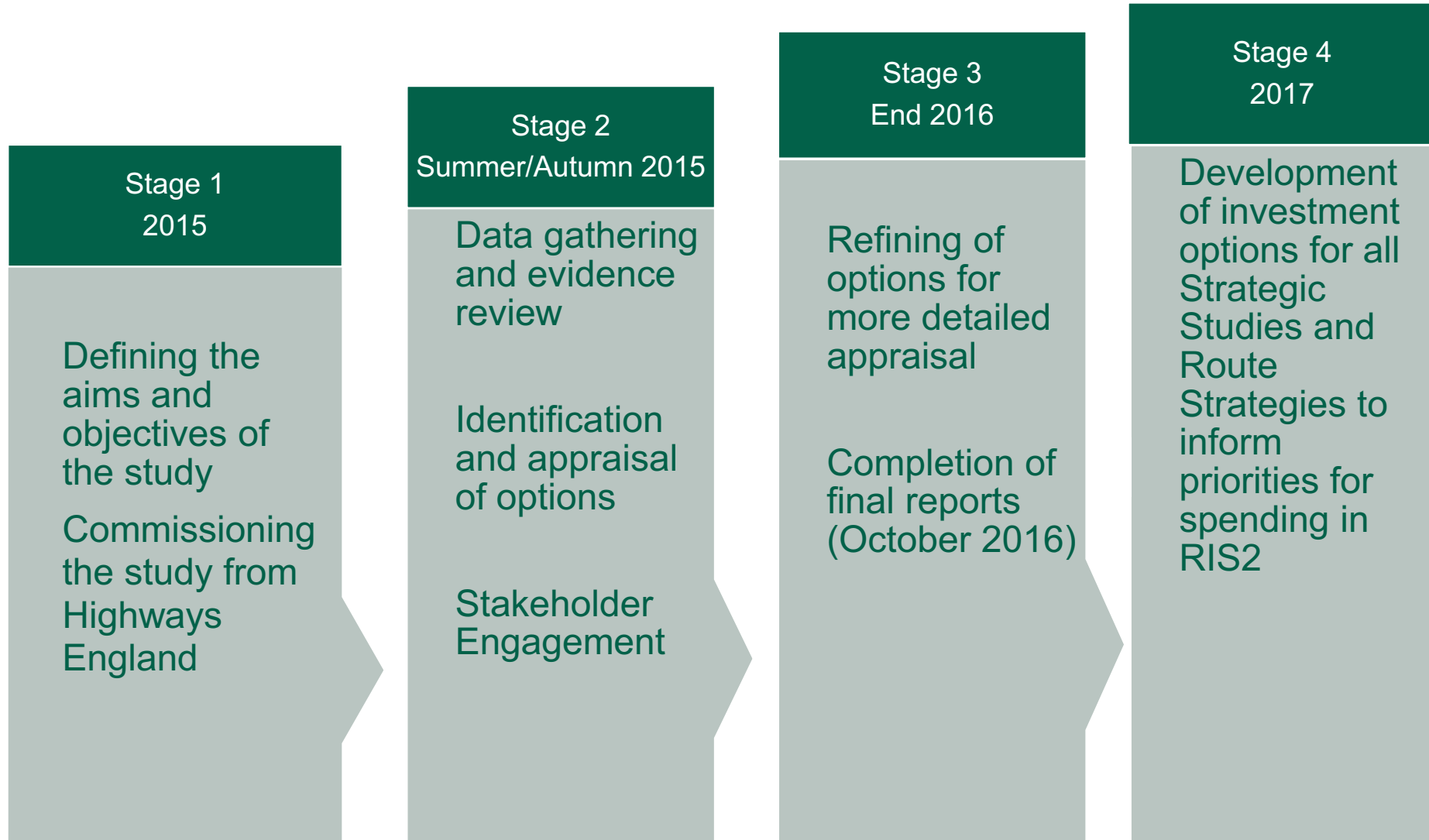


Black Cat Roundabout and the A421





Provisional Timescales





Input from the SRG will be required to inform various stages of the report:

November 2015

Review of the initial report which sets out the strategic case for improving the A1

January 2016

Review to define the transport objectives to solve the problems identified and identify a long-list of options which could meet the transport objectives

October 2016

Review to assess the affordability, value for money and deliverability of short-listed potential options





- ▶ The initial report will be published later this year
- ▶ We'll be in touch with further developments and arrangements for future meetings

Thank you for coming!

