Post Opening Project Evaluation of Major Schemes A2 Bean – Cobham (Phase 2)

Five Years After Opening Study – Key Points



What is the scheme?

Located in the Kent, the A2 Bean - Cobham (Phase 2) scheme aims to improve the A2 trunk road between London and north Kent. Phase 1 involved works to improve the A2 from Bean to Pepperhill, while Phase 2 comprised of works from Pepperhill to Cobham. Phase 2 involved providing additional capacity by constructing a new wider road alongside the original A2, with some widening of the existing road.

What are the main findings from the study?

- Journey times have decreased in both directions on the A2 and across all time periods (AM peak, interpeak and PM peak), with savings as high as three minutes.
- Traffic has increased as much as 18% on the A2 five years after the opening of the scheme.
- The collision rate within the phase 2 scheme has reduced, even taking into account the increased level
 of traffic.
- The impact of the scheme on the environment is **generally as expected** for the majority of indicators assessed.
- The outturn investment costs were approximately 2% more than expected.
- Facilities for non-motorised users have improved along the route, with the installation of footbridges and the provision of off-road walking and cycling facilities.

Does the scheme meet its scheme specific objectives?

Objective	Has the objective been achieved?
Reduce journey time and improve reliability	✓
Improve safety	√
Provide enhanced access to the major regeneration area of Kent Thameside and other regeneration areas in north and east Kent	√
Facilitate access to Ebbsfleet International Rail Station from the road network	✓
Provide safe and appropriate access along the route for non-motorised users	√

How does the scheme support Highways England's current strategic objectives?



Much needed additional capacity has been provided at a key part of the network. Accessibility to regeneration areas has been improved.

Collision rates along the scheme extent have reduced since the scheme opened.

Journey times have reduced since the scheme opened, with journey time reliability also likely to have improved.

The impact of the scheme on the environment has been generally as expected.

Facilities for non-motorised users have been developed along the route. Access to Ebbsfleet International Rail Station has been improved.

If you want more detail about the outcomes of this scheme then please refer to the Five Years After Opening Evaluation Report on the Highways England website.