

EIR 100700 – Appendix 1

Highways England/Liverpool LEP engagement 2018/2019

Item 1.

Thu 08/08/2019 12:19

[name redacted]@liverpoollep.org
[name redacted]@liverpoollep.org

Dear [name redacted],

I wrote to you on 18 July providing an update on Highways England's current delivery plan for schemes in the North West.

It has since been pointed out that one of the statements for the A5036 Port of Liverpool scheme was factually incorrect. It was stated within the letter that "we faced a legal challenge regarding our preferred route choice for the **A5036 Port of Liverpool access scheme**. This was lodged in November 2017 and heard by the court in October 2018. **The court ruled in favour of the preferred route option but naturally the challenge has impacted on the 2019 construction date.**" This last sentence was incorrect. The court held that Highways England did not act unlawfully in not consulting upon the tunnel option during the consultation exercise. The court did not express any views of the preferred route option. The A5036 Port of Liverpool Access Scheme was the subject of an unsuccessful challenge by Judicial Review and has been delayed as a consequence.

Please accept my sincere apologies for this error.

Yours Faithfully,

Tim Gamon

Regional Delivery Director – North West

Regional Investment Programme

3 Piccadilly Place | Manchester | M1 3BN

Web: <http://www.highways.gov.uk> Mobile: [number redacted]

Item 2.

Thu 18/07/2019 12:17

[name redacted]@liverpoollep.org
[name redacted]@liverpoollep.org

Dear [name redacted],

Please find attached a letter regarding Highways England's Regional Delivery Plan for 2019-2020.

If you have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards

Tim Gamon

Regional Delivery Director – North West

Regional Investment Programme

3 Piccadilly Place | Manchester | M1 3BN

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Tim Gamon
Highways England
3 Piccadilly Place
Manchester
M1 2BN

17/07/2019

Dear [name redacted],

I am writing to update you on Highways England's current delivery plan for schemes in the north west.

As you will be aware, the government's five-year Road Investment Strategy (RIS1), which launched in 2015, set out ambitious targets for improving the road network and supporting the local economy.

Since 2015, we have invested over £1.5bn in the north west's road projects and completed three new major schemes. Tens of thousands of drivers are now benefitting from quicker and more reliable journeys between Crewe and Rochdale every day, thanks to around 50 miles of extra lanes and new technology to tackle congestion on the M6, M60 and M62. Our new A556 link road between the M56 and M6 is also providing faster journeys on the key route between Manchester and the Midlands, and has taken traffic away from local communities in Cheshire.

This work will continue in the future, enabling motorists across the region to drive on better, safer roads, and to achieve more reliable journey times.

Our aim is that no one should be harmed when travelling or working on the strategic road network. While we can't eliminate all risk on our road network or in the things that we do, we can recognise it, assess it correctly, and ensure that people are as far as possible protected from it.

We are focused on finding and implementing the best innovation and new technology which can help save lives and enable more efficient ways of using roads. That includes more use of digital technologies to manage the capacity and availability of the network and enhance communication with vehicles and their users. We have already started to use advanced technologies for the design and construction of new road schemes. This will help us gain more certainty over the budgets for road schemes, improve the safety of our workers and minimise disruption.

To ensure we are providing the least impact on communities, the environment, motorists and providing economic benefits, we have agreed with the Department for Transport that six north west schemes listed in the original RIS1 portfolio will begin after March 2020, in RIS2 (2020-2025). This is subject to the government's road programme and will be announced later this year.

Schemes this will affect in your area is the **A5036 Port of Liverpool access scheme, M6 J22 junction improvement, M6 J21a-26 smart motorway and M56 J11a**

The remainder in the region are:

Mottram Moor and the A57(T) link roads element of the Trans-Pennine Upgrade.

As you will be aware, we faced a legal challenge regarding our preferred route choice for the **A5036 Port of Liverpool access scheme**. This was lodged in November 2017 and heard by the court in October 2018. The court ruled in favour of the preferred route option but naturally the challenge has impacted on the 2019 construction date. We now expect to start work in late 2022 or early 2023.

We are fully committed to working alongside our partners and local community to ensure we have a solution which benefits everyone.

Traffic will only increase on the existing road and wider network beyond the Port of Liverpool. The bypass proposal we are looking to take forward will not only address congestion in these areas but improve the quality of life for those living along the existing road. It will also provide more reliable journeys and improved links to the region whilst future proofing the network.

The bypass will also enable the regions aspirations for economic growth. The improved road network will benefit proposals for new housing and commercial developments as well as servicing Liverpool2.

Earlier this year, you may be aware we announced the rescheduling of the north west smart motorway programme to ensure disruption was kept to a minimum for our customers. This means work will start on the **M6 J21a-26** between in 2021, moved from a March 2020 start date to avoid roadworks and diversion clashes.

We want to make **M6 junction 22** better and believe that further work is needed to make sure our solution is the right one. As such, we are doing some additional investigation to improve our proposal and will provide more details on our plans in due course.

Following analysis of the current **M56 J11a** scheme, we have paused this scheme whilst we review it.

Recent improvements to the roundabout at junction 12 for the Mersey Gateway Bridge alongside safety improvements at junction 11 have helped improve congestion and traffic flow.

We are currently investigating replacing the existing A533 Expressway bridge which will help improve safety, journey experience and ensure its future proof for years to come.

We are dedicated to working alongside our partners and local community to help shape the future of the network, making sure we deliver value for money. We will keep you up to date on the progress of the project moving forward.

In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding **A5036 Port of Liverpool access scheme or M56 J11a**, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you have any questions regarding **M6 J22 or M6 J21a-26**, please contact Smart Motorway Programme regional sponsor Mike Bull via email mike.bull@highwaysengland.co.uk

Yours faithfully



Tim Gamon
Regional Delivery Director
Highways England
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