

Date: 5th March 2018

HUDDERSFIELD SOUTHERN GATEWAYS – EARLY ENGAGEMENT

Kirklees Council welcomes your views on a plan to improve the following key junctions which serve as “gateways” on the southern approaches to Huddersfield town centre:

- **Longroyd Bridge**
(A62 Manchester Road junction with Longroyd Lane and B6432 St Thomas' Road)
- **Lockwood Bar**
(A616 Lockwood Road / Bridge Street junction with B6108 Meltham Road and Swan Lane)
- **Folly Hall**
(A616 Lockwood Road / Chapel Hill junction with B6432 Colne Road and St Thomas' Road)
- **A62 Queensgate** (Huddersfield Ring Road)
(Including Queen Street and Cross Church Street and Shorehead Roundabout)

Why are the improvements needed?

As you will know, routes to the south of Huddersfield town centre are often severely congested at peak traffic times. Average travel speeds can be both unreliable and slow. If you are a regular user of any of the junctions listed above, you will no doubt be aware of the queuing traffic, delays and limited facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.

What is proposed?

The Huddersfield Southern Gateway scheme is in the early development stage, but we are using the results of previous studies we have done at the junctions to create concept designs. We are currently considering a series of traffic improvements at the locations listed above. The main benefits of the scheme will be to:

- Reduce congestion;
- Reduce travel times;
- Improve air quality;

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- Enhance the public realm;
- Reduce the potential for accidents;
- Improve conditions for cyclists and pedestrians;
- Improve bus reliability; and
- Enable access to land for new housing and economic development.

Who is promoting the scheme?

Early last year, Kirklees Council submitted an Expression of Interest to secure funding to develop the Huddersfield Southern Gateways scheme. The Expression of Interest was accepted and an Outline Business Case is now being prepared.

This multi-million pound scheme is being promoted by Kirklees Council, as Local Highway Authority, but is supported and funded by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. The Council has currently secured funding to investigate how we can improve things, but detailed design will only be undertaken when we have considered feedback from users, businesses, and residents. We are hopeful we can then develop a detailed scheme, secure the full funding from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and start on site as early as 2020.

The funding will not come out of the Council's budget; therefore, this scheme will not have an impact on other Council services.

Your chance to Have Your Say!

We are now seeking opinions and thoughts from you as a local business owner, resident, or regular user of the local transport network to help inform the development of a design.

Given the issues we know about in this area, the following types of measure may help deliver improvements:

- Improved junctions – widening / narrowing, easing kerb lines to allow better access;
- Improved traffic signals – new technology;
- Relocation of existing infrastructure, such as bus stops or pedestrian crossings;
- Introduction of cycle lanes or shared footways;
- Changes to on-street parking arrangements; and / or
- Enhanced landscaping.

Given the funding and timescale constraints, we will not be able to provide a new bypass or major lengths of additional carriageway.

We want to know where you feel the highway can be improved or where particular issues give you concern, so that we can investigate and see if we can take measures to alleviate your concerns.

We are aware that we cannot always reach every member of the community, therefore, if you think others may be interested, please pass this information to local neighbours, friends or community groups and ask them to contact us as well.

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As part of the public engagement process, I should be grateful for your comments on the proposals by email or in writing to:

Email: major.transport@kirklees.gov.uk

Write: FREEPOST Kirklees Council, Major Transport Scheme

Please return your comments or observations by **Friday 23 March 2018**.

Yours faithfully

Joanne Waddington
Economic Resilience Project Officer
Kirklees Council
Investment and Regeneration

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Have Your Say

We need to know what people who live and work in the area think the issues are before we embark on the detailed design of the Huddersfield Southern Gateway scheme.

Please take the time to fill in this questionnaire and return it by 23 March 2018 to:

Email: major.transport@kirklees.gov.uk

Write: FREEPOST Kirklees Council, Major Transport Scheme

1. Do you agree that the Huddersfield Southern Gateway junctions require highway improvements?

Yes	
No	

Please state the reason(s) for your answer:

2. Which best describes your interest on the Huddersfield Southern Gateway Scheme

I am a local resident of the area	
I own a business in the area	
I am a regular user of the road network	
I am an occasional visitor to the area	
Other please specify	

Please provide your post code

Postcode	
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Have Your Say

3. Do you agree or disagree with the proposed aims of the scheme?

Proposal	Agree	Disagree
To reduce congestion		
To reduce travel times		
To improve air quality		
To enhance the public realm		
To reduce the potential for accidents		
To improve conditions for pedestrians		
To improve conditions for cyclists		
To improve bus service reliability		
To facilitate new developments		

If the answer to any of the above is “disagree” or you think we’ve missed something important, please provide details:

Please return your comments by **FRIDAY 23 MARCH 2018** to:
Email: major.transport@kirklees.gov.uk or
Write: **FREEPOST Kirklees Council, Major Transport Scheme**

Huddersfield Southern Gateway Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the Huddersfield Southern Gateway scheme?

The Huddersfield Southern Gateways (HSG) project is an emerging package of transport infrastructure improvements, targeted at facilitating growth and encouraging investment to the south of Huddersfield.

2. Where is the scheme?

This scheme is concerned with the southern approaches to Huddersfield town centre, with an initial focus on the following locations:

- Longroyd Bridge
(A62 Manchester Road junction with Longroyd Lane and B6432 St Thomas' Road)
- Lockwood Bar
(A616 Lockwood Road / Bridge Street junction with B6108 Meltham Road and Swan Lane)
- Folly Hall
(A616 Lockwood Road / Chapel Hill junction with B6432 Colne Road and St Thomas' Road)
- A62 Queensgate
(Including Queen Street and Cross Church Street and Shorehead Roundabout)

3. Why do we need to do something?

The Council has a statutory duty under the Traffic Management Act to consider options that improve traffic flow. The existing road network is often unable to accommodate traffic demand at peak times, which can lead to significant delays and congestion. Compound the current issues with the projected natural growth and future development needs and it becomes evident that interventions are necessary to help existing traffic and allow for future growth.

4. What will it involve?

At this stage, there has been no decision made on any details of the scheme, although given the constraints in the area and the land available, there is limited scope for major alterations e.g. a bypass or major road widening. Given the known challenges in the area and the impact that congestion is having on journey times etc. it is possible that the scheme could include the following measures:

- Improved junctions – widening / narrowing, easing kerb lines to allow better access;
- Improved traffic signals – new technology;
- Relocation of existing infrastructure, such as bus stops or pedestrian crossings;
- Introduction of cycle lanes or shared footways;
- Changes to on-street parking arrangements; and / or
- Enhanced landscaping.

5. What will this achieve?

The principal aims of the scheme will be to:

- Reduce congestion;
- Reduce travel times;
- Improve air quality;
- Enhance the public realm;
- Reduce the potential for accidents;
- Improve conditions for cyclists and pedestrians;
- Improve bus reliability; and
- Enable access to land for new housing and economic development.

6. Who is paying for the scheme? Where is the money coming from?

The project is to be funded by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA). Kirklees Council has to submit a business case to the WYCA for their approval for the scheme to proceed. If successful, we will receive the funding allocated to the scheme through the West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund.

We WILL NOT be using Council Tax or other Council revenue streams, therefore funding this scheme will not impact on other Council services.

7. What is the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA)?

The Combined Authority was formed in April 2014 to be the driving force for economic growth across the West Yorkshire and the City of York Council area. The West Yorkshire Combined Authority brings together key decision-making powers into a single body. To find out more visit: www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk.

8. Can the money be spent on any other projects?

The Huddersfield Southern Gateway scheme has funding provisionally earmarked from the West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund and therefore the funding will not be able to be spent on any other proposals or scheme. If WYCA do not accept the scheme's business case, then the scheme cannot go ahead and the money earmarked for this project will be allocated elsewhere in the region; not necessarily in Kirklees.

9. When will you have the detailed design?

Following the consultation, feedback received will be considered and options for improvement will be appraised in accordance with guidelines approved by the Department for Transport (DfT). The current intention is to hold a public exhibition in early autumn 2018 to publicise a proposed scheme. The public exhibition is to seek further input into the preferred scheme and to illustrate the quantified benefits it will deliver, and give residents another opportunity to comment on the design before it is finalised.

10. When will you start work on the improvements?

If we get approval, it is anticipated that work could commence on site as early as 2019 with all works being completed by 2020.

11. Will my comments be considered?

The Council has secured initial funding to develop the business case and undertake transport modelling. Your comments will help inform a scheme which aims to address not only the underlying highway issues but also the needs of local residents, business owners, and commuters. By having your say and sharing your views we will be able to ensure that the priorities and thoughts you have on your area are reflected in any scheme design.

12. Who can take part? Can I tell other people to take part?

We welcome the opinions and feedback of anyone. Whether you travel by public transport, walk, drive or cycle, are a business owner or just travel through the area, your views and insight is valuable to us to shape our scheme. Please share the link www.kirklees.gov.uk/majorschemes with anyone you think would be interested in taking part. If you intend to submit a joint response on behalf of a group/organisation, please share the link with your colleagues so they can have the opportunity to provide an individual response.

13. When can I take part?

The consultation is running until **FRIDAY 23 MARCH 2018**.

14. How can I take part?

Please post a copy of the questionnaire to: Freepost Kirklees Council, Major Transport Scheme or email: major.transport@kirklees.gov.uk.

15. When will we find out the results? What will you do with the results? Will you keep me updated on progress?

After the consultation period closes on **23th March 2018**, responses will collated and analysed. A consultation summary report will be prepared and posted on the council's website at www.kirklees.gov.uk/majorscheme and <http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/involve/>. This should be available by May 2018.