

Have your say on plans to improve the A428 in Cambridgeshire

Seven week consultation launches on Monday

Proposals for a project to improve motorists' journeys on the A428 between Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire go on show on Monday (6 March 2017).

The project will see a complete redesign of the A1/A428/A421 Black Cat roundabout, near Wyboston in Bedfordshire, to include a motorway-style junction and the construction of a new dual carriageway from the new junction to Caxton Gibbet roundabout in Cambridgeshire.

The improvements will reduce congestion, improve safety and boost the economy and is part of the Government's record £15 billion investment in England's motorways and major A roads.



Caption: The Black Cat roundabout and single carriageway section of the A428 - improvements are set to start by March 2020

Highways England programme leader Richard Hofton said:

“The A428 is an important road linking St Neots and Cambridge. Dualling this vital road will mean it will be quicker and safer for people to get to where they want to be. The improvements will also help boost the economy and unlock housing.

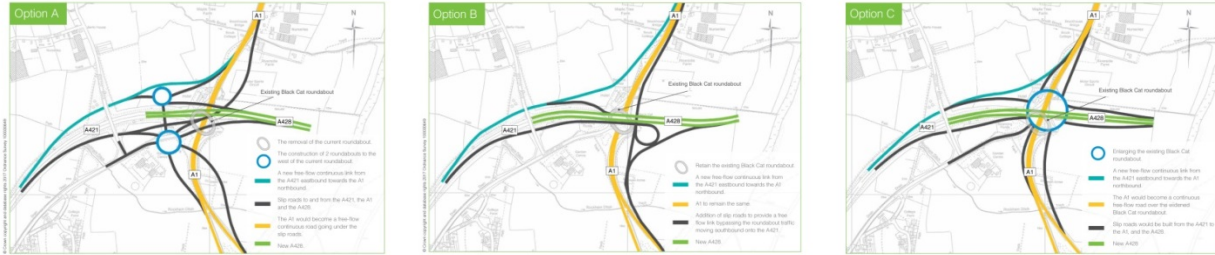
“There are important choices to be made and we are keen to get as many views as we can, so I encourage anyone who would like to find out more to check out the consultation materials online and come and see us at one of our public exhibitions.”

A Highways England consultation seeking public views on the proposals starts on Monday 6 March and will run until 23 April 2017.

Three options for the new dual carriageway route were shortlisted to be put forward to consultation:

- Orange route – a new road from the new Black Cat junction to the A428 near Cambridge Road in St Neots, including a new Cambridge Road junction, and to the northeast of the existing A428, a new road from Cambridge Road to Caxton Gibbet, with a new Caxton Gibbet junction.
- Purple route – a new road to the south of the existing A428 from the new Black Cat junction, north of Abbotsley to Caxton Gibbet, including a new Caxton Gibbet junction.
- Pink route – a new road to the south of the existing A428 from the new Black Cat junction, south of Abbotsley to Caxton Gibbet, including a new Caxton Gibbet junction.





Caption: Maps showing the different options up for consultation on the A428 and at the Black Cat roundabout

The consultation also includes three options for improving the Black Cat roundabout:

- Option A – removal of the existing roundabout, construction of two roundabouts to the west of the current roundabout, slip roads for drivers to get from the A421 to the A1, and from the A1 to the A421. The A1 would become a free-flow continuous road going under the slip roads.
- Option B – keeping the existing Black Cat roundabout and adding a new free-flow continuous link from the A421 eastbound towards the A1 northbound. The A1 would remain the same but the addition of slip roads would provide a free-flow link bypassing the roundabout for traffic moving southbound onto the A421.
- Option C – enlarging the existing Black Cat roundabout, the A1 would become a continuous free-flow road under the widened Black Cat roundabout and slip roads would be built between the A421 and the A1.

People are invited to attend one of the six public exhibitions to find out more and take part. The public exhibitions will be held as follows:

Location	Date	Time	Address
Wyboston Lakes	Tuesday 21 March	2pm – 8pm	Oakley Suite, Training Centre, Great North Road, Wyboston, Bedfordshire, MK44 3AL

Cambourne Hub	Thursday 23 March	2pm – 8pm	Cambourne Community Centre, High Street, Cambourne, Cambridgeshire, CB23 6GW
Abbotsley Village Hall	Saturday 25 March	10am – 4pm	High Street, Abbotsley, Cambridgeshire, PE19 6UJ
St Neots Priory Centre	Monday 27 March	2pm – 8pm	Priory Lane, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, PE19 2BH
Stuart Memorial Hall	Friday 31 March	2pm – 8pm	Church Street, Tempsford, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2AN
Newton Primary school	Saturday 1 April	10am-4pm	Caxton End, Eltisley, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, PE19 6TL

All responses to the A428 consultation will help Highways England take the best possible improvements forward.

For more information about our proposals and the public exhibitions, and to provide your views (from Monday 6 March 2017), please visit

<http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/a428-black-cat-to-caxton-gibbet/>

Ends

NOTES TO EDITORS

A selection of high resolution images is available to download here:

<https://1drv.ms/f/s!AoeN9MzdoO48iE-GtkA2G5Y0mCuu>

1. Highways England is the wholly government-owned company responsible for modernising, maintaining and operating England's motorways and major A roads.
2. **Real-time traffic information** for England's motorways and major A roads is available:
 - From the **web** at www.highways.gov.uk/traffic or from a **phone or mobile device** at m.highways.gov.uk
 - By **phone** from the Highways England Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000 at any time. (Calls to 03 numbers are charged at no more than a national call to an 01 or 02 number and are included in all discount schemes and call allowances. This applies to all landlines, mobiles and payphones. Call costs will vary depending on your landline or mobile supplier.) **Make sure it's safe and legal before you call. Before using any mobile, find a safe place to park. Never stop on the hard shoulder of a motorway except in an emergency.**
 - **On Apple and Android mobile devices** via the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#).
 - From **Twitter** – there are eight feeds with live traffic information provided by region. For information on roads in the East of England follow us at [@Highways EAST](#) or for the full index visit www.highways.gov.uk/twitter.

Issued by Highways England.

For further information please contact SE&Epressoffice@highwaysengland.co.uk, 0300 470 4860. Media enquiries out of hours should be made to Highways England's National Press Office (24hrs) on 0844 693 1448.