

September 2006

Milton Road/Cowley Road Junction Improvements

A briefing note from the Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery Team

The A14/A10 junction improvements have now finished and the interchange has seen a major improvement in traffic flow. Drivers coming from the Milton Road area are still experiencing some delays, however, so we are working on phasing the traffic light timings so that these delays are minimised.

The next phase of the project will see improvements taking place to the Cowley Road/Milton Road junction, which will be starting in mid to late September 2006.

This area is often heavily congested during peak times, as there is currently only one junction from Milton Road to serve several busy roads in the Cowley Road area. With extra housing planned for the area known as the Cambridge northern fringe east, which is the land between the A14, Milton Road and the railway line, improvements need to be made now to ensure this important area is kept moving, both now and in the future.

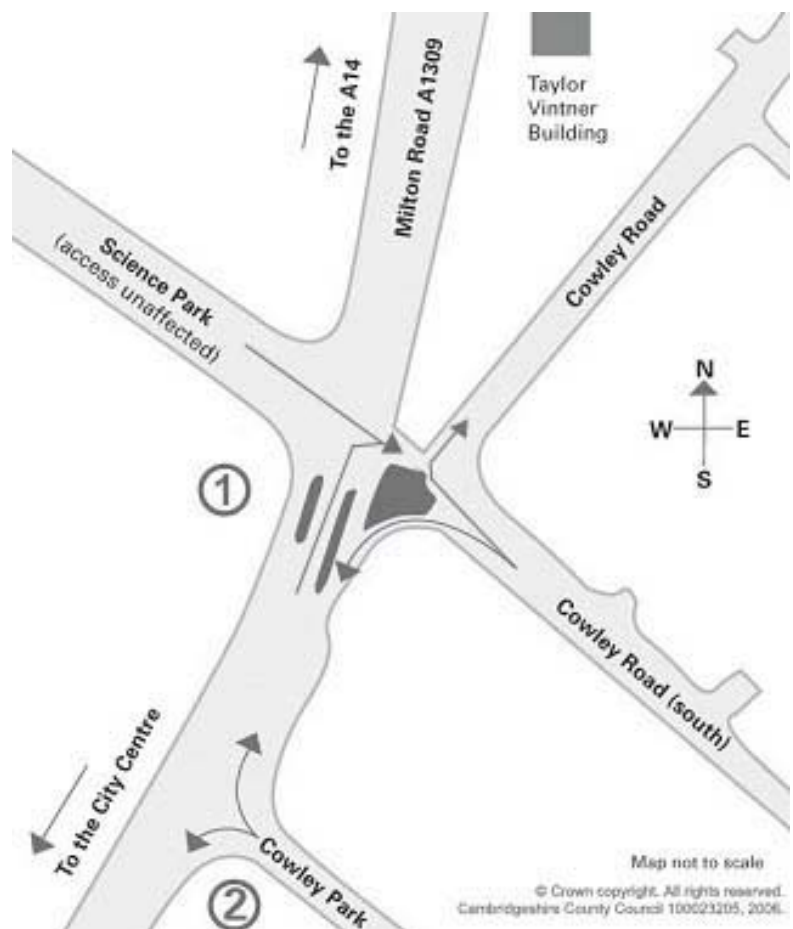
In this briefing note you can find out more about the project and what will be happening next.

What will be happening?

The improvements to the Milton Road/Cowley Road junction include:

- ① Opening up the Cowley Road (south)/Milton Road junction and installing traffic signals, allowing:
 - Traffic from the City Centre to turn right into Cowley Road (South).
 - Traffic from Cowley Road (South) to turn left towards the City Centre.

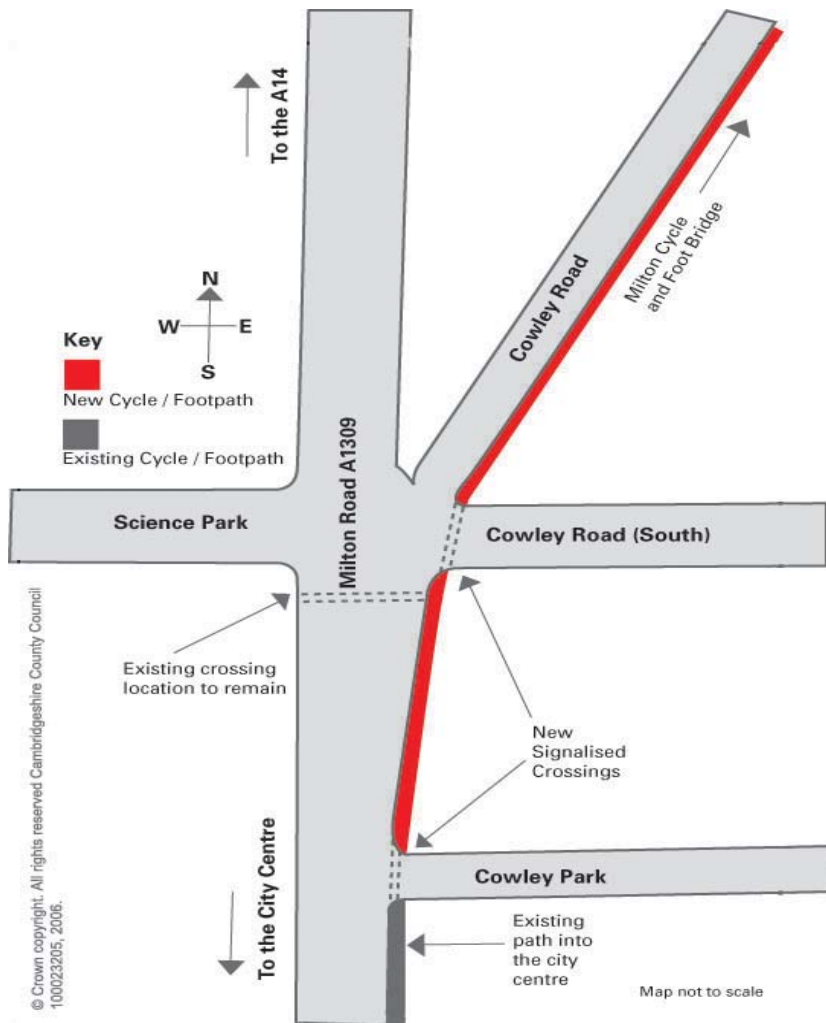
- ② Opening up the junction of Cowley Park/Milton Road and installing traffic signals, allowing:
 - Traffic to turn into and out of Cowley Park in both directions.



Cowley Road/Milton Road foot and cycle path changes

To accommodate the new layout, the segregated foot and cycle path will remain on the eastern side of Cowley Road but will cross at a new junction with traffic lights at Milton Road/Cowley Road.

A new section of segregated path will run south, crossing the Cowley Park entrance at the new crossing lights, and will link to the existing path into the city centre.



What is the programme?

The scheme will take approximately nine months to complete:

- Mid to late September 2006 Works start on site
- June 2007 Works finish on site

How will we minimise disruption?

This scheme will improve the junction in the long term and will bring many benefits to drivers who use the area on a regular basis.

However, this is a major scheme on one of the County's busiest junctions. To minimise disruption, the work will be taking place overnight and at weekends, where possible.

We are also using an innovative traffic restraint system, to avoid the delays that the traditional cones can bring, as motorists slow down to look at what is going on. Instead of cones, we will be using a vehicle restraint barrier, topped by six-foot hoarding boards that will encompass the site.

The area will remain open to pedestrians and cyclists at all times, but the access routes for these users will have to change regularly as work progresses. To keep people up to date, we are putting an information board up near the site, which will show the access routes that people can use.

How are we going to let people know what is going on?

A newsletter will be delivered to all businesses and residents in the area, while flyers will be available at petrol stations, shops and major employers in the area to give information on the scheme and contact details for finding out more information.

Press releases will be issued as the scheme progresses and the Project Team will contact local Parish Councils and the local media to discuss the scheme and how we plan to manage the traffic during construction.

How much will the project cost?

The improvements will cost approximately £3 million, which will be paid for by Central Government's Department of Communities and Local Government (formerly known as the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister).

Who is building the scheme?

The project is managed by the Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery Team, based in the Office of Environment & Community Services at Cambridgeshire County Council.

The scheme is being built by Jacksons Civil Engineering, who have a strong record of successfully delivering large-scale projects.

Finding out more

If you would like any more information on the project, you can go to the project's web pages at:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/miltoncowley

Or you can contact the Project Team:

Project Manager and Lead Officer

Alistair Frost
01223 717585
alistair.frost@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Communications Manager

Hannah Gregory
01223 718362
hannah.gregory@cambridgeshire.gov.uk