

Melton Mowbray Distributor Road – Update 8 (June 2020)

This is our eighth bulletin to update you on progress with the development of the Business Case for the Melton Mowbray Distributor Road (MMDR).

Latest news— June 2020

Since achieving planning permission in May 2019, detailed design of the MMDR has progressed well. Extensive engagement has been carried out with landowners and key stakeholders ensuring that the impact of the road is minimised as far as possible, resulting in a number of minor design changes.

We are now in a position to commence the legal process for obtaining the land required for the MMDR, known as Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO). This includes land needed permanently for the road, together with certain interests or rights required over land for the purposes of construction.

Next Steps

Legal notices for the CPO process have now been issued to landowners. If objections are received a Public Inquiry may be held later this year. Subject to this, it is expected that construction of the road will commence in later 2021 and be completed late 2023. Subject to legal processes, we may also be completing various preparatory work on site starting before this commencement date, such as preparing construction compounds, utility diversions, fencing etc.

LCC have programmed 12 months until confirmation of the orders (the point at which we have permission to buy the land subject to the outcome of consideration of the orders by Secretary of State). This includes the time required for objections, consideration by the Secretary of State, potential public inquiry and judicial review.

LCC is carefully considering any additional measures that may be required due to the coronavirus outbreak, including extension to the objection period and further means of publicising the orders should public buildings such as council offices remain closed.

Background

In September and October 2017 we sought views on a recommended route for a distributor road which will relieve congestion in Melton Mowbray and support plans for housing and employment growth in the town.

The distributor road would run to the north and east of Melton, beginning at the A606 Nottingham Road to the north before re-joining the A606 Burton Road to the south of the town.

The scheme aims to:

- Improve access to potential housing and employment
- Reduce congestion within Melton Mowbray;
- Reduce the number of HGVs travelling through Melton town centre.

A report detailing the final recommended route along with results of the consultation was presented to and subsequently approved by the council's cabinet in December 2017. Please refer to website for further details.

Following this, an Outline Business Case was submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in late December 2017 seeking funding for the scheme. Please refer to website for further details.

Design work, surveys and engagement with landowners continued, allowing the route to be further refined. This has taken into account feedback received during consultation, and has sought to minimize the impact on the environment, local landowners and residents, and ensure that it best supported future development and growth.

Funding

It was announced on 17 May 2018 that **the project has secured £49.5m of Government funding** following a bid to the Department for Transport (DfT) Local Major Schemes Fund.

MMDR Route

The 'Preferred Route' for the north and east section of the MMDR was agreed by the Director of Environment and Transport on 8 May 2018, following consultation with the Lead Member for Environment and Transport. A plan showing this route is opposite, and you can view the press release and a simulated 3D flyover video on the website.

Planning Consent

Planning consent for the Melton Mowbray Distributor Road was granted on 23rd May 2019 subject to a number of conditions.

These include items such as hours of work, ecology, landscaping, materials, flood risk and protection/enhancement of the River Eye Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

These are available to view in full online by visiting the planning portal and searching for the reference below:

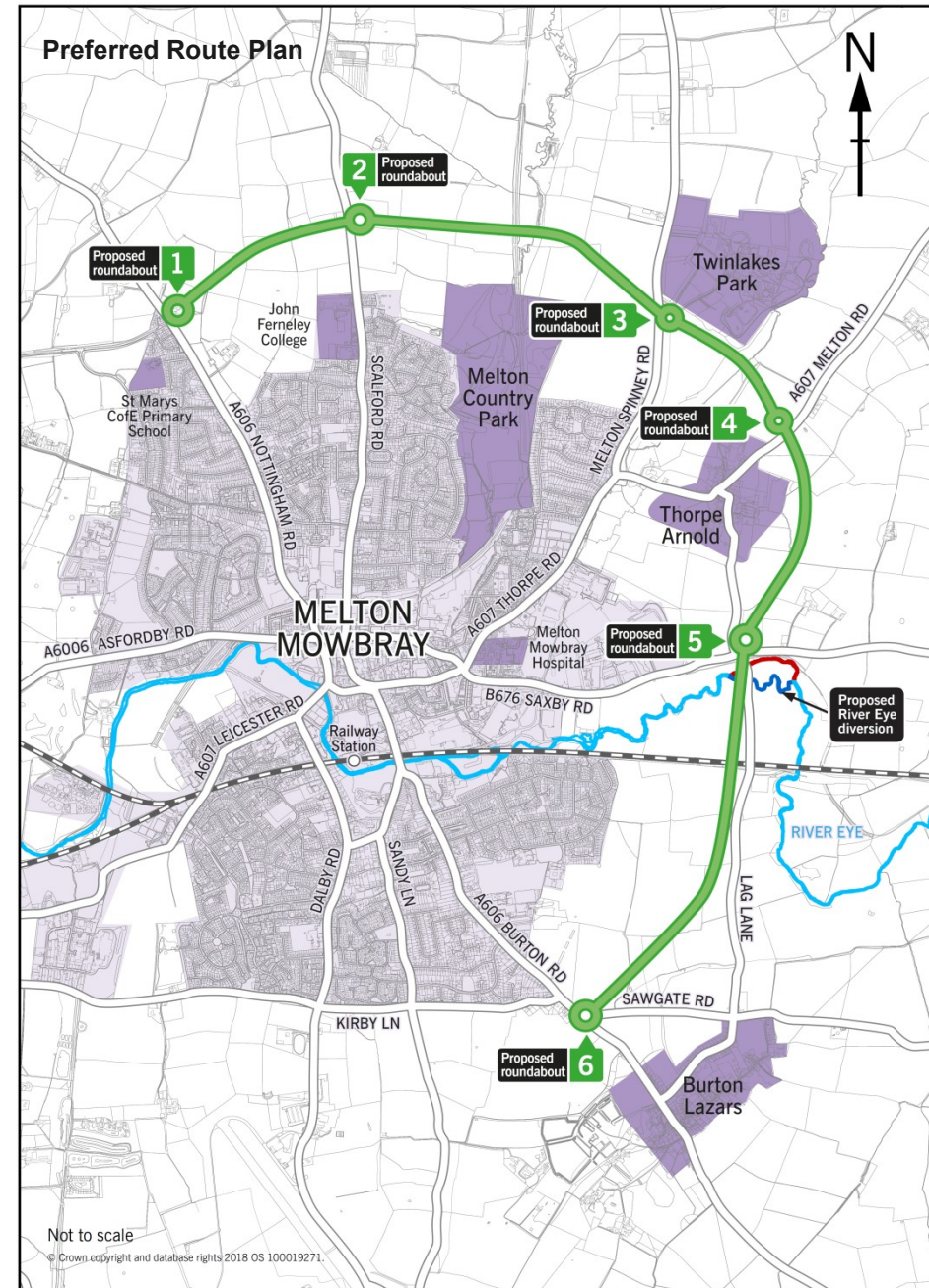
<http://leicestershire.planning-register.co.uk>

Planning reference — **2018/Reg3Ma/0182/LCC**

Contact information

Email: mmdr@leics.gov.uk

If you would like to be removed from the mailing list for this project, please let us know by emailing us on the email above



For further details and updates including links to press releases and simulated 3D flyover please visit:
<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/road-maintenance/melton-mowbray-distributor-road-scheme>