Number: WG40360

Welsh Government
Consultation Document

A483 Wrexham Bypass Junction 3 to 6 Improvement Scheme

Date of issue: 25 August 2020
Action Required: Responses by 22 November 2020

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.
This document is also available in Welsh.

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Overview	The North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agent, on behalf of the Welsh Government is currently investigating options to improve the A483 Wrexham Bypass Junctions 3 to 6.
How to respond	The Public Consultation includes a set of specific questions to which the Welsh Government would welcome your response by 22 November 2020. You can reply in the following ways: Online: Complete the Response Form on the project website: https://gov.wales/a483-junctions-3-6-improvements Email: Complete the Response Form at the end of this document and email to 'enquiries@nmwtra.org.uk using the subject 'A483 Wrexham Bypass' Post: Complete the Response Form at the end of this document and post to: A483 Wrexham Bypass Scheme Transport, Welsh Government, Government Buildings, Sarn Mynach, Llandudno Junction, LL31 9RZ
Further information and related documents	**Large print, Braille and alternative language versions of this document are available on request.** Project Website: gov.wales/a483-junctions-3-6-overview
Contact details	For further information: Email: ''enquiries@nmwtra.org.uk' using the subject 'A483 Wrexham Bypass' Telephone: 01492 588319
This document is also available in Welsh	

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Welsh Government will be data controller for any personal data you provide as part of your response to the consultation. Welsh Ministers have statutory powers they will rely on to process this personal data which will enable them to make informed decisions about how they exercise their public functions. Any response you send us will be seen in full by Welsh Government staff dealing with the issues which this consultation is about or planning future consultations. Where the Welsh Government undertakes further analysis of consultation responses then this work may be commissioned to be carried out by an accredited third party (e.g. a research organisation or a consultancy company). Any such work will only be undertaken under contract. Welsh Government's standard terms and conditions for such contracts set out strict requirements for the processing and safekeeping of personal data.

In order to show that the consultation was carried out properly, the Welsh Government intends to publish a summary of the responses to this document. We may also publish responses in full. Normally, the name and address (or part of the address) of the person or organisation who sent the response are published with the response. If you do not want your name or address published, please tell us this in writing when you send your response. We will then redact them before publishing.

You should also be aware of our responsibilities under Freedom of Information legislation

If your details are published as part of the consultation response then these published reports will be retained indefinitely. Any of your data held otherwise by Welsh Government will be kept for no more than three years.

Your rights

Under the data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data held about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection.

For further details about the information the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you want to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer:

Welsh Government

Cathays Park

CARDIFF

CF10 3NQ

e-mail: Data.ProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

The contact details for the Information Commissioner's Office are:

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Tel: 01625 545 745 or
0303 123 1113

Website: https://ico.org.uk/

Welcome and Introduction

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welcome

The Welsh Government and the North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agent welcome you to this public consultation. We are holding this public consultation to present our proposed options for improving junctions 3-6 of the A483 and are seeking your feedback on our proposals. The consultation will run until midnight on Sunday 22nd November 2020.

Introduction and brief overview

The A483 forms part of the trunk road network in Wales, managed by the North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agent (NMWTRA) on behalf of Welsh Government.

The A483 provides one of the key connecting routes between North and South Wales, as well as providing access into North Wales and the Midlands. This road is a key route for tourists travelling to popular North Wales destinations and for freight accessing UK, Ireland and mainland Europe. The A483 is located to the West of Wrexham Town Centre and Junction 3-6 are the local connections to this highway network. This section of trunk road carries 58,000 vehicles per day, with junctions 4, 5 and 6 experiencing peak time vehicle congestion, restricting access to and from Wrexham.

Scheme Outline

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welsh Government and Wrexham CBC are concerned by current and future predicted road-based congestion at the junctions on the A483 and the impact this is having on the growth aspirations for both Wrexham and the wider North Wales region.

Recent studies, such as the Wrexham A483 Junctions Economic Impact Report (April 2016), have confirmed that traffic congestion is a constraint to economic growth aspirations in Wrexham.

Further work was undertaken in 2017 to outline the issues affecting the A483 and their main contributory factors. This WelTAG Stage 1 assessment set out objectives in relation to these issues and proposed solutions to achieve the objectives. A long list of options was developed and assessed, which identified the A483 between Junction 3 to 6, and associated junctions, as key areas to improve.

A483 Wrexham Bypass – Junction 3 to 6 is a pinch point scheme included in the Welsh Government – National Transport Finance Plan and the Moving North Wales Forward document. Moving North Wales Forward sets out the Welsh Government's vision for transport in North Wales and seeks to create a reliable and efficient transport network across the region and across the Wales-England border, connecting people and businesses to jobs and services. This scheme is a key measure within this vision and will form an important part of plans to support the success of North Wales in the future.

Why the scheme is needed?

From stakeholder engagement and work carried out in WelTAG Stage 1 and 2, the following key issues were identified in relation to the A483 Wrexham Bypass:

- Local traffic congestion in Wrexham, particularly at Junctions 4 and 5
- Strategic traffic congestion on the A483
- Economic growth and development in Wrexham restricted by congestion on the A483
- Poor active mode travel infrastructure over the A483
- Poor public transport infrastructure in Wrexham

It is our view that if we do nothing, these issues will continue to impact the residents and businesses in Wrexham.

Scheme Objectives

A set of scheme objectives have been developed through work carried out to understand the issues related to the scheme, along with reference to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The final objectives set to address the issues identified include:

1. Support and enable the LDP growth aspirations of Wrexham
2. Maintain the strategic function of the A483/A5 by improving resilience and journey time reliability
3. Improve air quality and noise impact along A483 between Junctions 3 and 6
4. Reduce the high car mode share for journeys starting or ending within the Wrexham CBC area that use the A483 and its junctions
5. Ensure that the A483 is effective in serving local movements
6. Enhance connectivity, accessibility and transport network coherence for journeys that cross the A483
7. Minimise disruption during construction
8. Have no adverse impact on safety (personal injury accidents) and reduce the level of incidents

Environmental Impacts

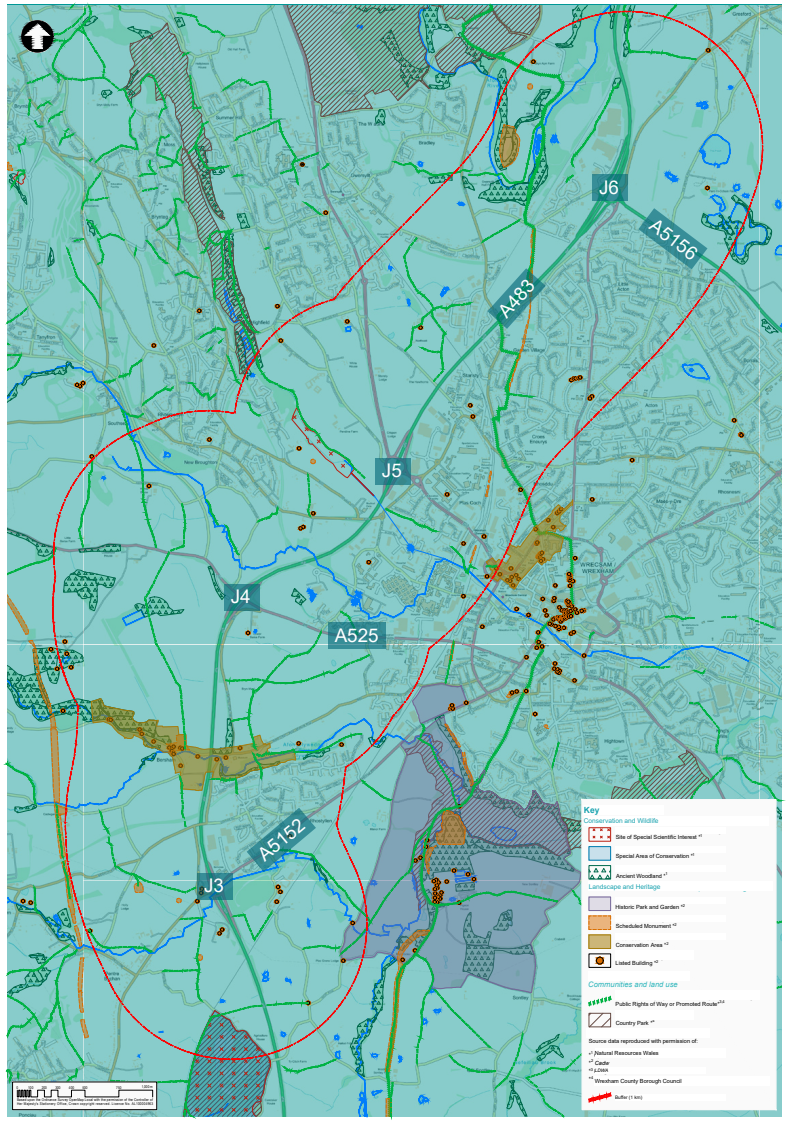
Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Understanding the impact of the proposed scheme on the environment and community is an important part of our work, so that we minimise negative effects and identify opportunities to improve the surroundings where we can.

We have identified the environmental constraints shown in this plan, and carried out a range of environmental studies to give us the information we used to appraise the proposals. We have also consulted statutory and other bodies to obtain information and advice. This work will be reported to consultees, and used to determine what further work would be needed if a scheme is taken forward.

The constraints include:

- Residential areas and public open space near the A483 at Rhostyllen, west of Berse Road and between Junctions 5 and 6 (Stansty Road to A5156 Holt Road);
- Ysbyty Maelor and Yale Hospital;
- Old mineral workings including opencast coal mining at Plas Power Park, collieries, sand gravel and clay pits
- Possible contaminated ground associated with historic industries and railway lines
- Erddig Registered Historic Park and Garden (National Trust property)
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Listed Buildings including Lower Berse Farmhouse, Bersham Ironworks, Bersham Colliery headframe, Croesnewydd Hall
- Statutory protected wildlife sites including Gatewen Marsh SSSI and Stryt Las a'r Hafod SSSI, and Clywedog, Gwenfro, Redbrook and Alyn rivers which feed the River Dee and Bala Lake SAC
- Other local wildlife interest including bats, Great Crested Newts, Badgers, Otters and other species and their habitats
- Land used for agriculture, business and designated for future employment or housing
- Public footpaths for recreation and active travel to work or local facilities



Developing a solution

Through our understanding of the current issues and future challenges, we identified potential options which aim to deliver the scheme objectives. These options were assessed using the Welsh Government's transport appraisal guidance, WelTAG, which ensures public sector funding offers:

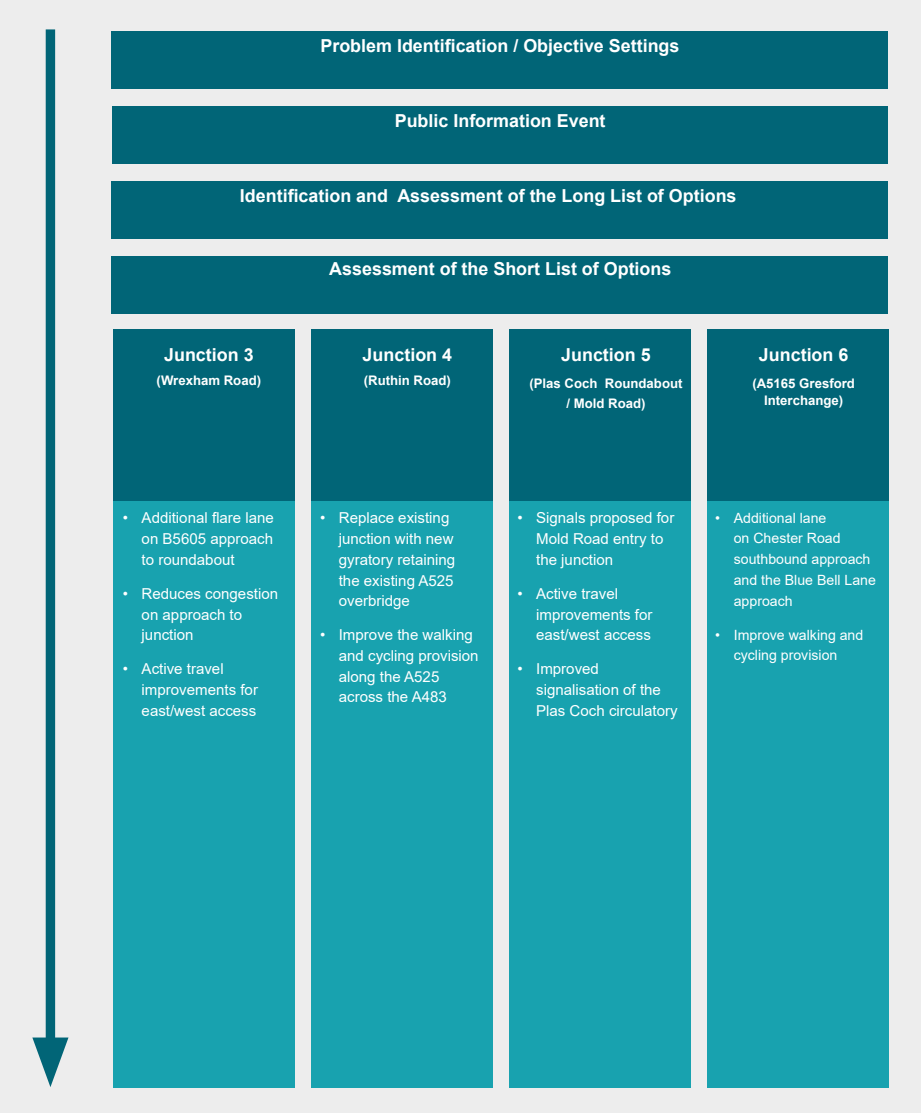
- Good value for money;
- Transport, economic, social and environmental benefits; and
- Maximum benefit with minimal impact.

A total of 56 options were initially identified which covered a variety of themes. Themes of these options included highway improvements at junctions 3-6, carriageway widening of the A483 mainline and other minor upgrades such as improved signage, variable speed limits and additional provision for walkers and cyclists.

Through a process of engineering, transport and environmental appraisal, options were assessed to identify a short list, discounting those options which did not address the scheme objectives. Through further refinement of the short list and consultation with key stakeholders, preferred scheme options were selected which best deliver the scheme objectives. The preferred package of schemes would improve access into Wrexham, improve journey times and provide new active travel links for local residents. The proposals being presented can be constructed and delivered with minimal impact on existing traffic.

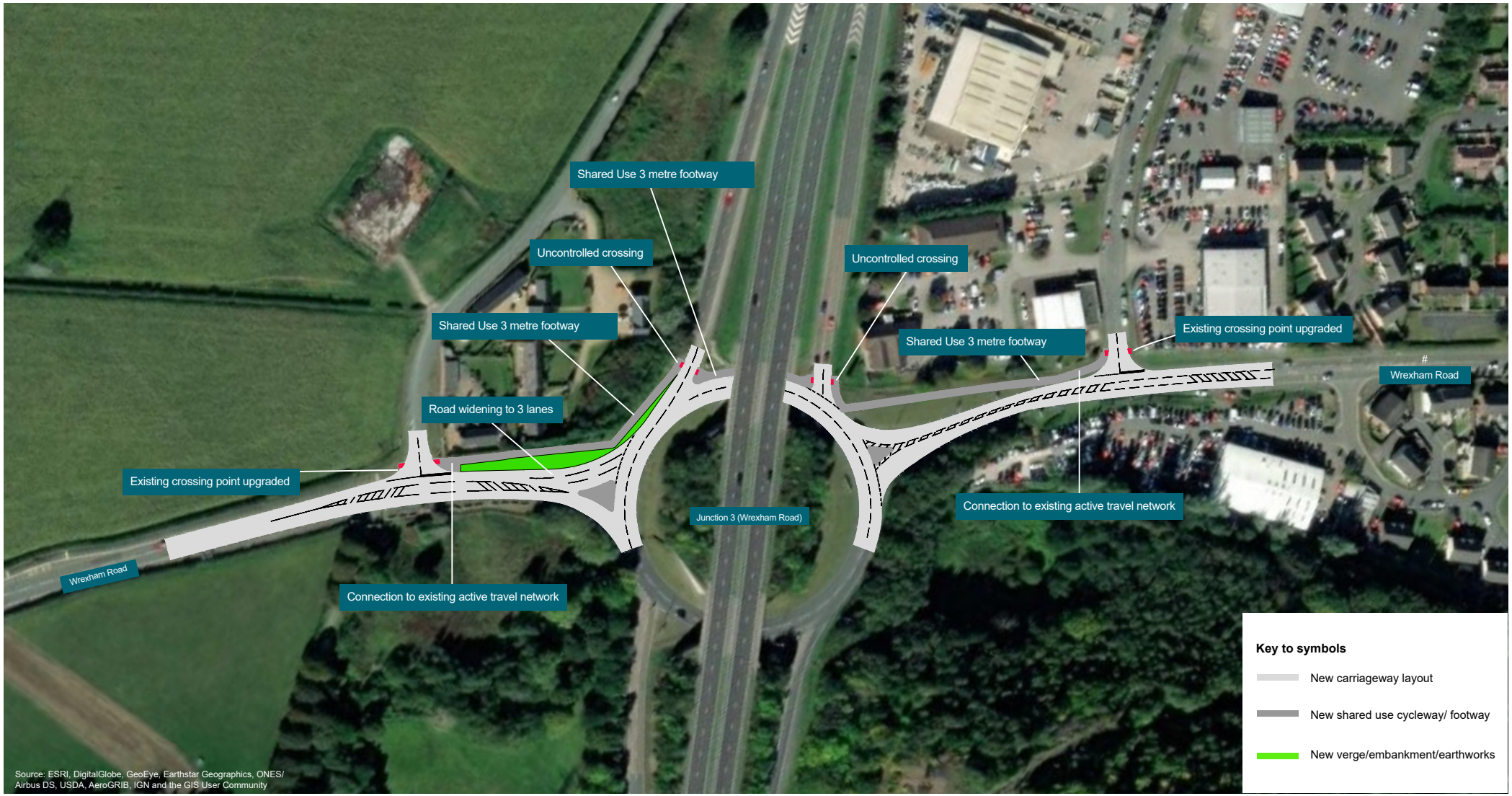
Using this assessment, the following options have been identified:

- Junction 3 (Wrexham Road): Minor highway improvements with active travel improvements
- Junction 4 (Ruthin Road): Major highway improvements with active travel improvements
- Junction 5 (Plas Coch Roundabout / Mold Road): Active travel improvements
- Junction 6 (A5156 / Gresford Interchange): Minor highway improvements with active travel improvements

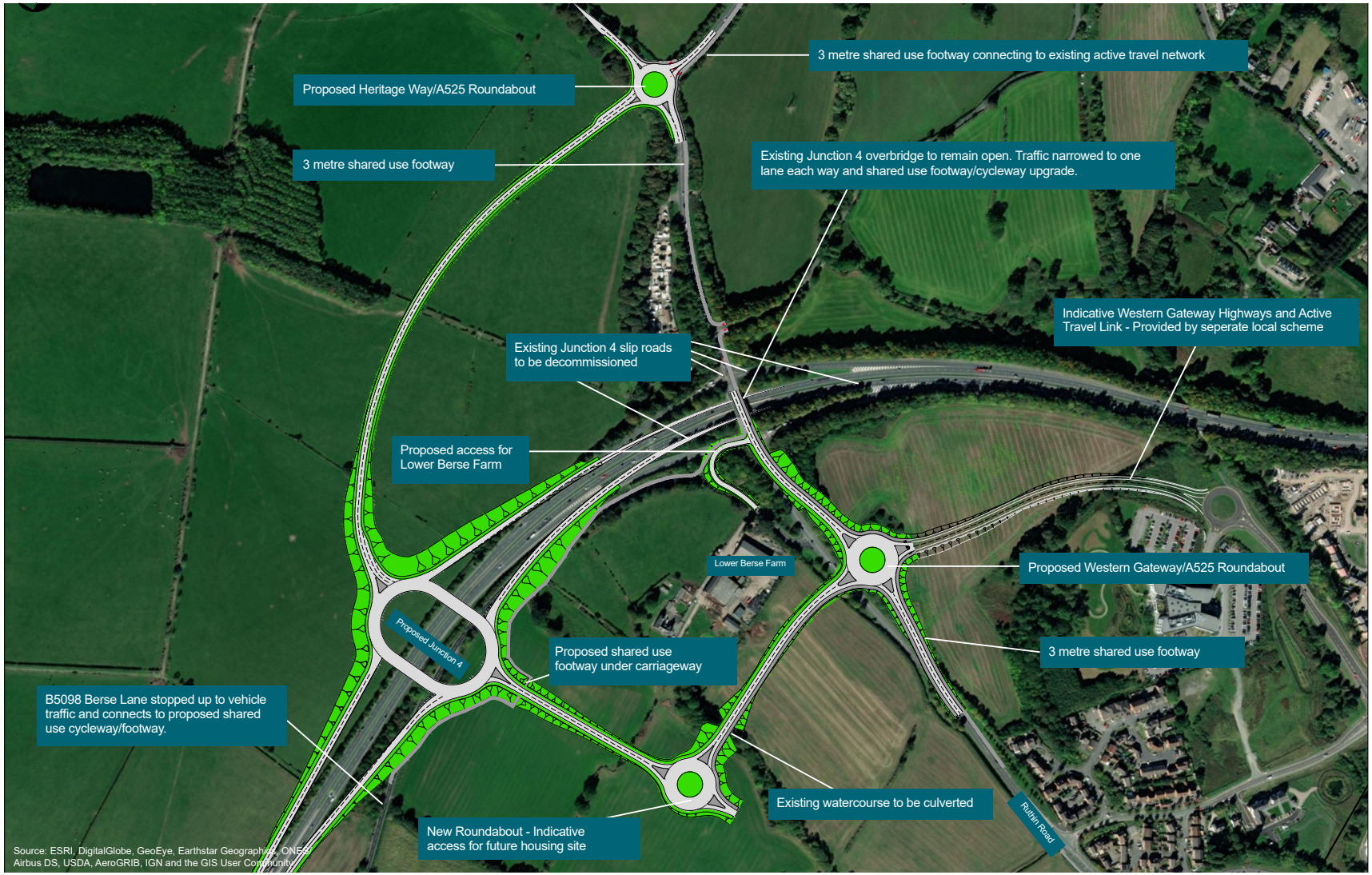


Proposed Scheme for Junction 3 (Wrexham Road)

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Proposed Scheme for Junction 4 (Ruthin Road)

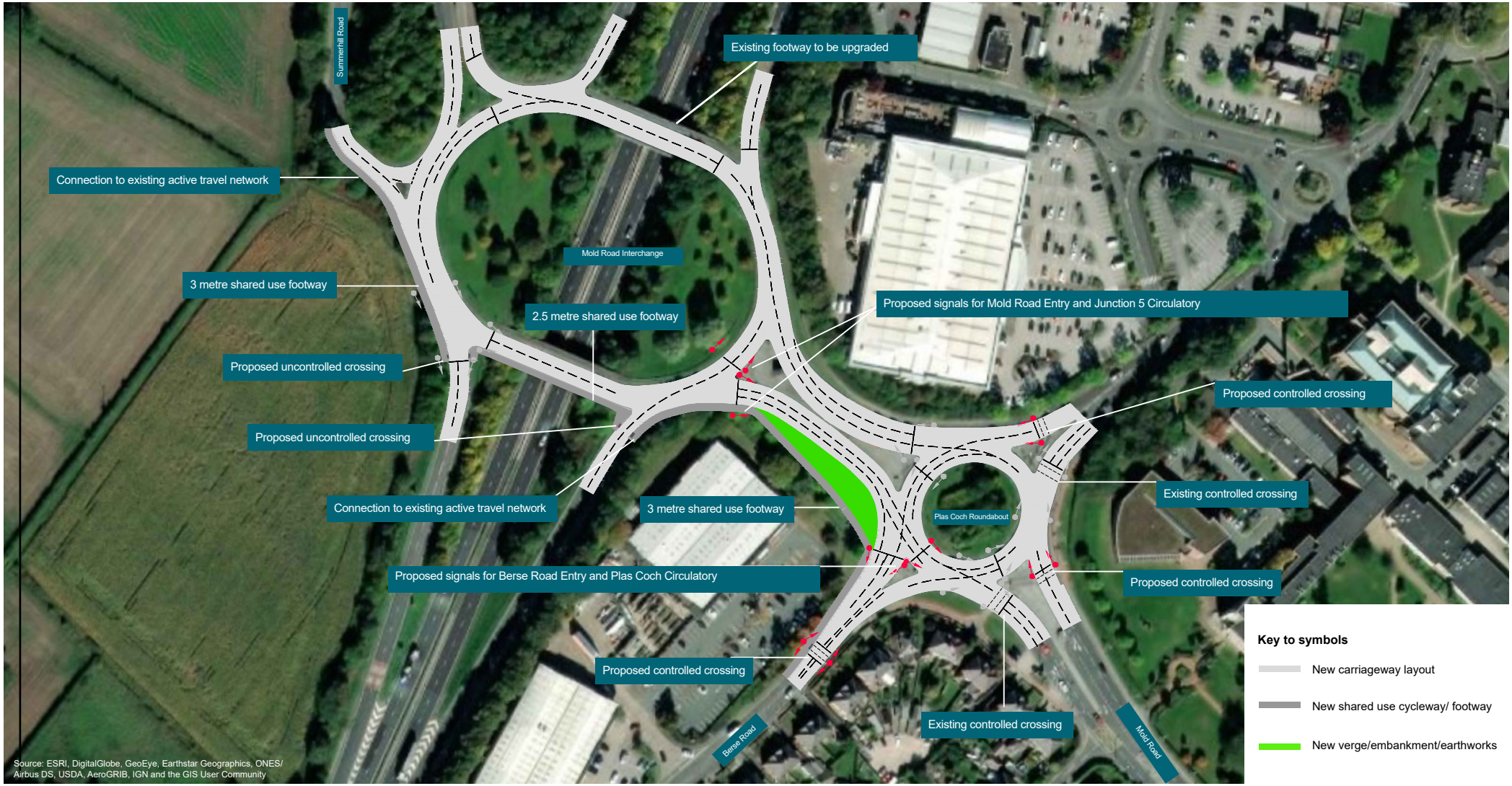


Key to symbols

- New carriageway layout
- New shared use cycleway/ footway
- New verge/embankment/earthworks

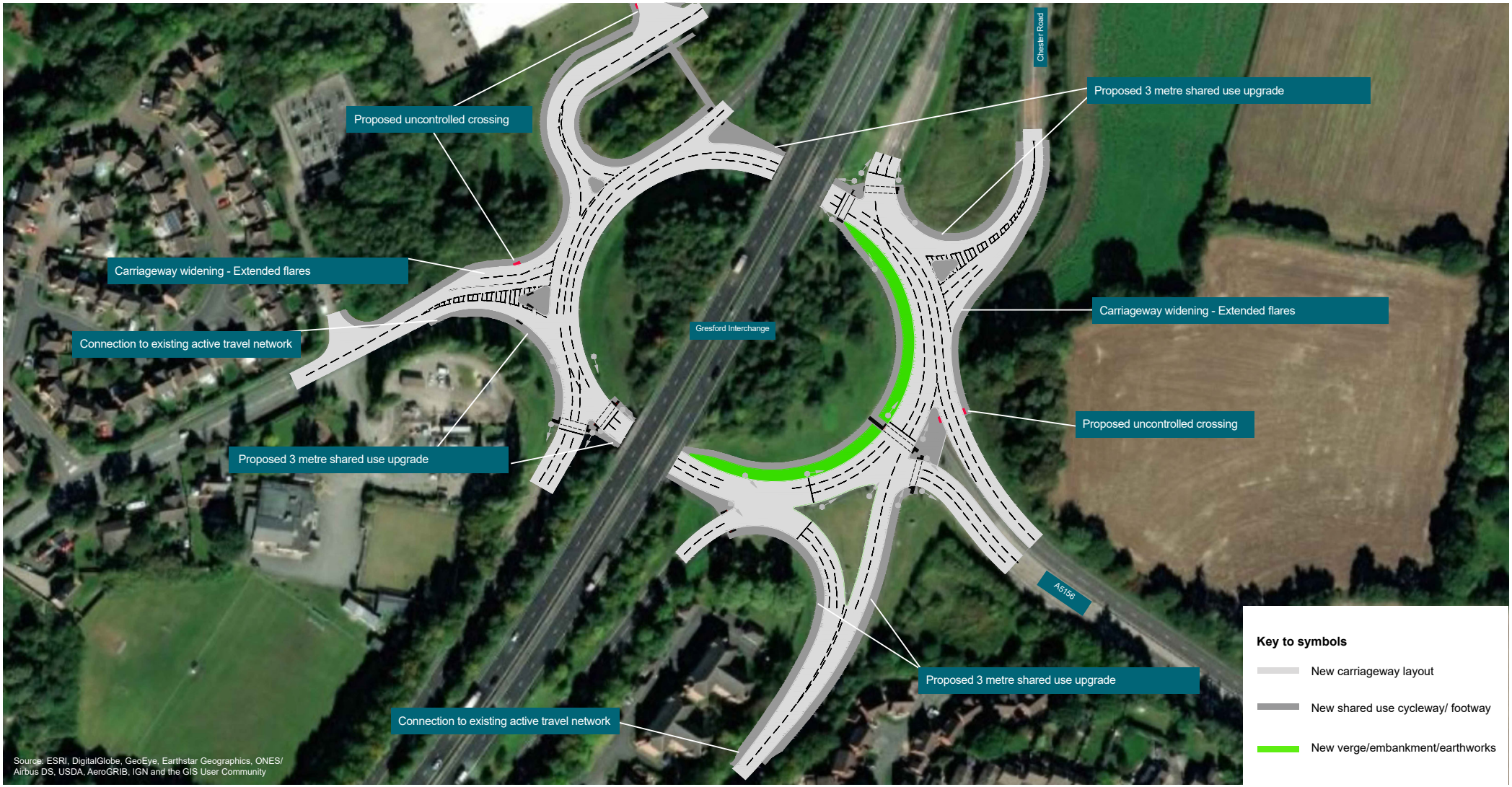
Proposed Scheme for Junction 5 (Plas Coch Roundabout / Mold Road)

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

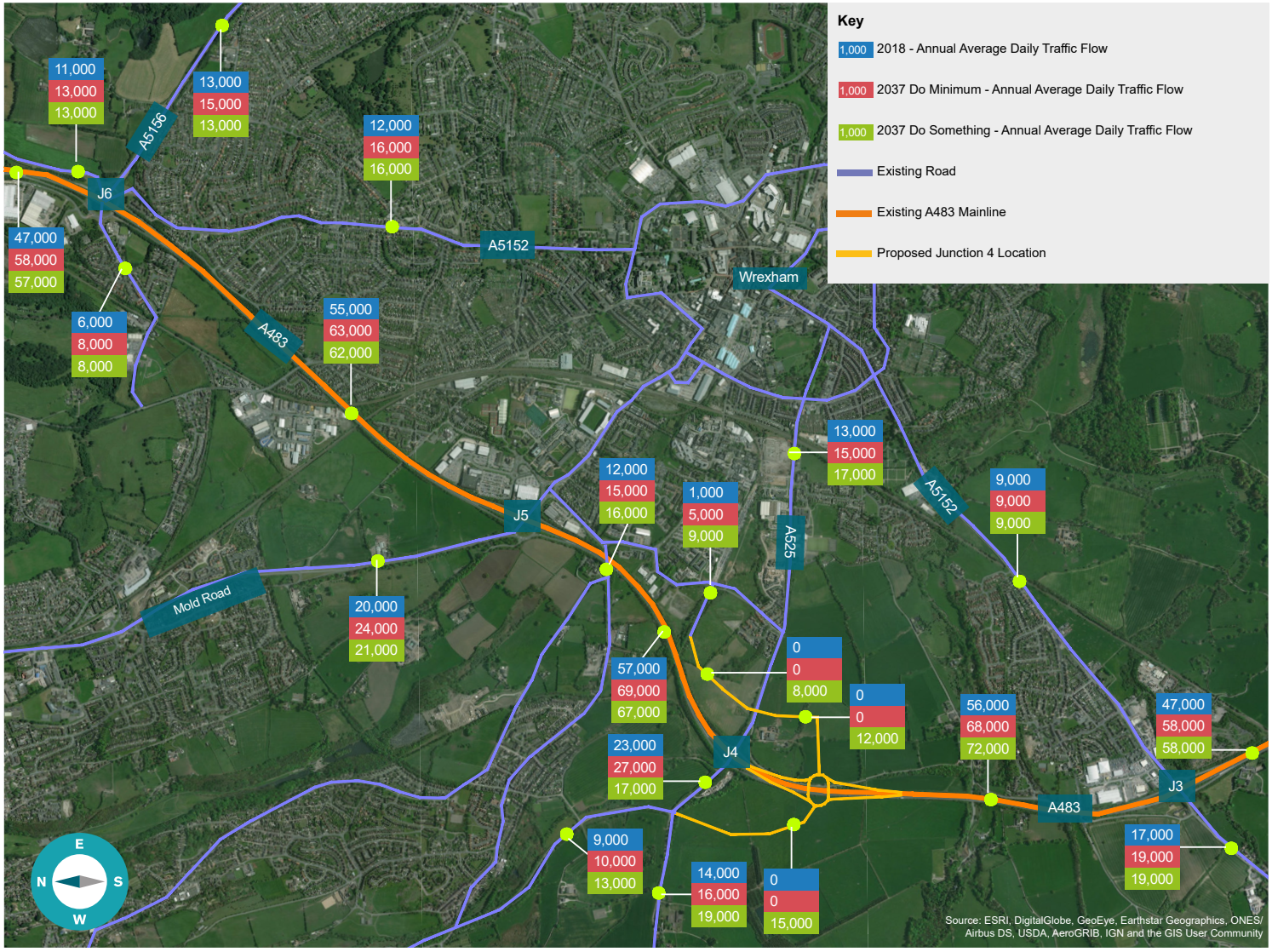


Proposed scheme for Junction 6 (A5156 / Gresford Interchange)

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Traffic Flows



Traffic Flow Information

- All traffic flows shown were extracted from a validated traffic model and are for both directions combined.
- Figures in blue represent the modelled average daily traffic flows in 2018. Figures in red represent the predicted average daily traffic flows in 2037 where no highway improvements are made. Figures in green represent the predicted average daily traffic flows in 2037, 15 years after opening. This includes a new junction 4 roundabout and minor improvements at junctions 3, 5 and 6.
- The increase in the traffic flows for figures in red and green is based on general traffic growth and the proposed developments that would generate traffic.
- If the existing signalised junction 4 is closed and a new roundabout constructed to the south, then this junction will operate more efficiently than the existing junction.
- Road users who have previously used junction 5 would now be able to use junction 4 as this will be free flowing and less congested.

How can I comment?

We want to hear what you think about our proposals. We can then consider your views and comments in shaping the final designs. There are several ways you can comment:

- Complete the response form online at: gov.wales/a483-junctions-3-6-overview
- Email the North and Mid-Wales Trunk Road Agent : **enquiries@nmwtra.org.uk** – please include 'A483 Wrexham Bypass Scheme' in the subject line
- In writing to: A483 Wrexham Bypass Scheme, Transport, Welsh Government, Government Buildings, Sarn Mynach, Llandudno Junction, LL31 9RZ
- Request a paper copy of the response form by phoning 01492588319

Please submit your response by **Sunday 22 November 2020**.

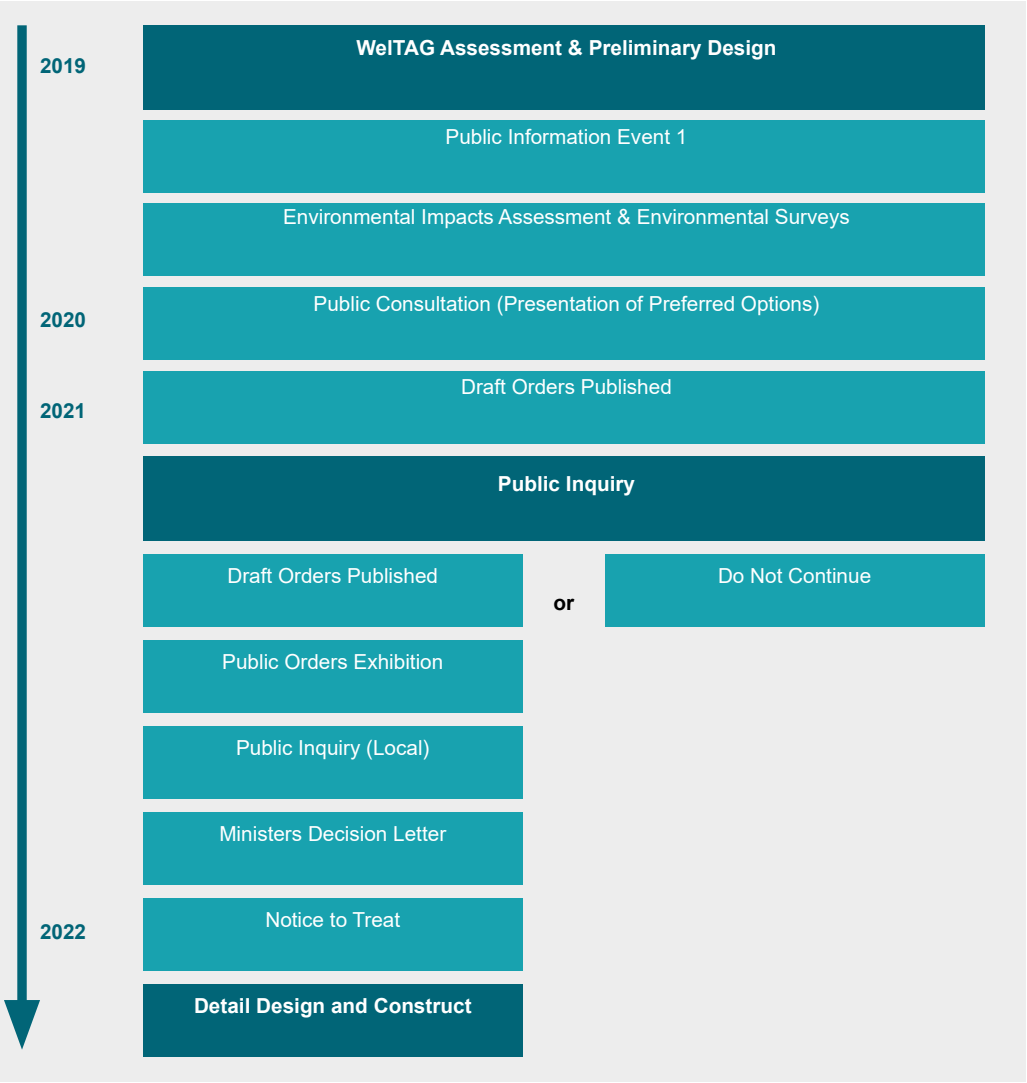
Next Steps

We will review all comments and suggestions once the consultation feedback window is closed. These will be analysed and considered as part of the design process. We will also produce a report to summarise the feedback responses.

The diagram shows our programme of work, we are currently at the Public Consultation stage.

Updates on the scheme's progress will be provided on the Welsh Government's project website:

gov.wales/a483-junctions-3-6-overview



How can I find out more?

We are holding public consultation events where you can view information about the proposed scheme. You can meet our Project Team who will answer any questions you may have. Welsh speakers will also be available at these events.

The events will follow the latest Welsh Government guidance on COVID-19. Please check the project website prior to attending the event in case the event is postponed.

When/Where	Ramada Plaza Hotel, Ellice Way, Wrexham LL13 7YH
Event 1	Wednesday 23 September 2020, 10 AM – 8PM
Event 2	Thursday 24 September 2020, 10 AM – 8PM

How can I comment?

We want to hear what you think about our proposed scheme. We can then consider your views and comments in shaping the final design. There are several ways you can comment:

- Complete the response form on the project website: gov.wales/a483-junctions-3-6-overview
- Request a paper copy of the response form by calling: 01492 588319
- Attend one of our Consultation Events where paper copies of the response form will be available
- Email the North and Mid-Wales Trunk Road Agent : enquiries@nmwtra.org.uk using the subject ‘A483 Wrexham Bypass’
- Discussion of the Public Consultation information using Microsoft Teams can also be requested. Email ‘enquiries@nwmtra.org.uk’ using the subject ‘A483 Wrexham Bypass – Microsoft Teams Discussion’
- Write to: A483 Wrexham Bypass Scheme, Transport, Welsh Government, Government Buildings, Sarn Mynach, Llandudno Junction, LL31 9RZ

To help shape our final design, please submit your response by 22 November 2020.

Next Steps

We will review all comments and suggestions once the consultation feedback window is closed. These will be analysed and considered as part of the design process. We will also produce a report to summarise the feedback responses.

Updates on the scheme’s progress will be provided on the project website: gov.wales/a483-junctions-3-6-overview

Response Form

Part 1: The proposed scheme

Q1. Do you have any comments on the preferred scheme for A483 Junction 3 (Wrexham Road)?

Q2. Do you have any comments on the preferred scheme for A483 Junction 4 (Ruthin Road)?

Q3. Do you have any comments on the preferred scheme for A483 Junction 5 (Plas Coch Roundabout / Mold Road)?

Q4. Do you have any comments on the preferred scheme for A483 Junction 6 (A5156 / Gresford Interchange)?

Q5. Do you have any comments relating to the overall pedestrian and cyclist facilities incorporated as part of the scheme plans?

Q6. What are your views on the existing active travel facilities in the area?

Q7. Would the proposals impact upon/change your regular route of travel?

Q8. Do you have any further comments that you would like to make about the proposed scheme?

Response Form

Part 2: About you

This section is optional but will allow us to understand who has taken part in this consultation.

What is your postcode? _____

Are you an affected landholder? Yes / No

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation? Yes / No

If yes, which organisation?_____