

A5036

Port of Liverpool access

Newsletter 1 – October 2015

Improving access to the Port of Liverpool

We are investigating ways to improve access to the Port of Liverpool and to reduce congestion on the A5036 and in the surrounding area.

This newsletter is intended to keep you informed of the assessment work being undertaken and to let you know what to expect in the coming months. Between now and the opening of the scheme we will issue a number of newsletters explaining what we have learned, what we propose and what this may mean for you. We will also explain how you can have your say.

What are we doing and why?

We aim to:

- reduce congestion on the A5036
- improve journey time reliability for drivers
- meet the needs of future traffic growth from the existing and planned developments in the area

The Port of Liverpool is already the busiest port in the North West and, with the construction of a new deep-sea container berth, it is set to become even busier. That's great news for jobs and the regional economy but this growth depends upon freight being able to access the port.

The A5036 between the port and the M57/M58 Switch Island interchange is already congested. And this situation will only get worse as the area is developed.

We are looking at two options to address this.

1. Upgrade the existing road.
2. Build a new road through the Rimrose Valley linking to the Broom's Cross Road (Thornton to Switch Island Link).

Whichever road based option is chosen, this work is not being undertaken in isolation. Other modes of transport have been improved and further investment is planned to increase the amount of freight moved by rail and even by barge on the Manchester Ship Canal. More information is available at www.liverpoollep.org/core-sectors/superport/access-to-the-port-of-liverpool/



If you need help accessing this or any other Highways England information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

Progress so far

Both route options need to be developed further before any decision is made so we have been conducting surveys to gather local information. This survey data will enable us to better understand existing traffic, environmental and ground conditions and allow us to develop each option.

Traffic surveys started in September. You may have seen the Automated Traffic Counters on the roads in the surrounding area or have been stopped as part of a roadside interview. If you have, thank you for your help. This data will help us to develop a traffic model to assess future traffic flows. It will also help us assess which option has the most economic benefit and the least environmental and noise impact.



We have also started a ground survey because ground conditions have a major influence on construction costs. We already have all the data we need for the A5036 but you may have seen our contractors digging trial holes with drilling rigs in the Rimrose Valley.

All this is just the start of a long programme of work. Our next newsletter will share our findings and tell you how they affect the development of the options.

In April 2015 Highways Agency became Highways England. Highways England is the new government owned company responsible for modernising, maintaining and operating England's motorways and major A roads, which includes roads such as the M57, M58 and A5036 through Merseyside.

Next steps

We will complete the geotechnical and traffic surveys and continue our environmental surveys throughout the winter and into spring. We'll also continue to develop our traffic model to assess the economic value of our options and their impact on traffic.

We will then present our findings at consultation events where you will be able to consider the options in more detail. These events are planned to take place early next year.



We'd then like to hear your views on the options to help determine a preferred scheme.

This work is in addition to the A5036 overnight carriageway resurfacing already scheduled for the next 3 months.

Contact us

For general enquiries about this scheme or to receive electronic versions of this and future leaflets, contact the Highways England project team via our email address: **A5036PortofLiverpool@highwaysengland.co.uk**

Alternatively call the team on **0161 930 5525** or visit our website for more information about the scheme and to register for email alerts whenever changes are made: **www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/a5036-port-of-liverpool-access**

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