

ROADS

Highways Agency's Future Delivery Programme

Last October's Spending Review had a headline figure of £30 billion investment in road and transport projects. This was greeted with a general sigh of relief by the industry. Now that the dust has settled the small print becomes apparent, not least of which is how the Department of Transport proposed to fulfil its project programme and improve the country's transport infrastructure with a 21% budget cut.

Following the Spending Review, the Department of Transport published its 'Investment in Highway Transport Schemes' which sets out the delivery programme of major schemes on the strategic road network. Here, it becomes apparent that many schemes have delayed start dates or been postponed for future review.

The schemes are split into five categories as follows:

Schemes under construction

These schemes currently under construction will be completed to their current timetable

Schemes to be prepared for start of construction in the current spending review period

14 schemes will be prepared for start of construction by 2015. These include:

- M1 Junctions 28 – 31
- M1 Junctions 32 – 35a
- M1 Junctions 39 – 42
- M25 Junctions 5 – 6/7
- M25 Junctions 23 – 27
- M4 Junctions 19 -20
- M5 Junctions 15 – 17
- M6 Junctions 5 – 8
- M60 Junctions 8 – 12
- M60 Junctions 12 – 15
- M62 Junctions 25 – 30
- A11 Fiveways – Thetford
- A23 Handcross – Warninglid
- A556 Knutsford – Bowdon

Schemes to be prepared for start of construction in future spending review periods

14 schemes are to be developed under the current spending review for potential construction in future spending reviews. No firm dates are given and all will be subject to a revised scheme appraisal to be introduced by the Department in spring 2011. The schemes include:

- M1/M6 Junction 19 improvement
- M25 Junction 30
- M6 Junctions 10a – 13
- A14 Kettering Bypass
- A160/A180 Immington
- A19 Testos
- A19/A1058 Coast Road Junction
- A21 Tonbridge – Pembury
- A27 Chichester Bypass
- A38 Derby Junctions
- A45/A46 Tollbar End
- A453 Widening
- A5-M1 Link Road
- A63 Castle Street

Schemes to be reviewed for start of works in future spending review periods

Four schemes are subject to further review and appraisal concerning design and traffic projections. These include:

- M20 Junction 10a
- M3 Junctions 2 – 4a
- M4 Junctions 3 – 12
- M54 to M6/M6 Toll Road Link

Cancelled schemes

Seven schemes were cancelled and will be removed from the roads programme. These include:

- A1 Leeming to Barton
- A19 Seaton Burn Interchange
- A19 Moor Farm
- A21 Kippings Cross
- A21 Flimwell to Robertsbridge
- A21 Baldstow
- A47 Blofield to North Burlingham