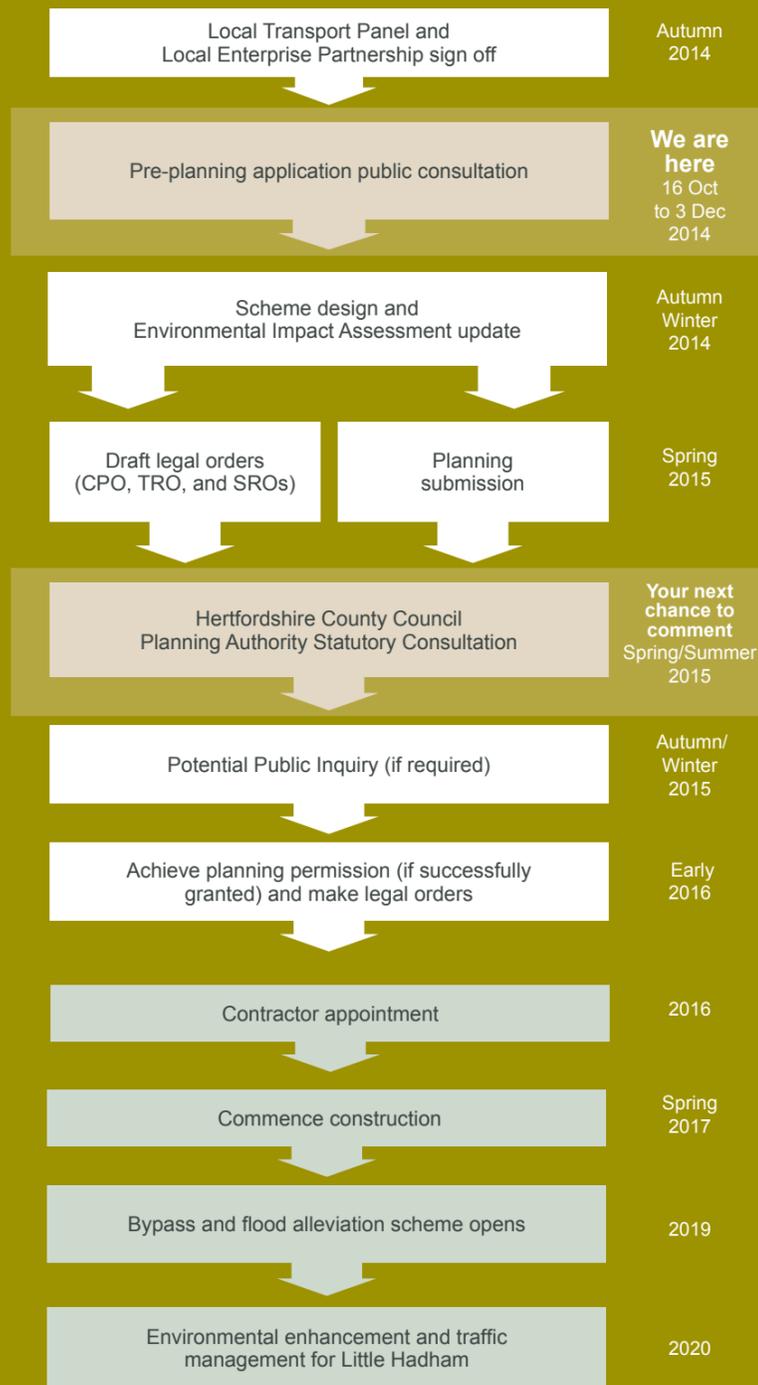


What happens next?



*Subject to:
 1. Successful completion of statutory procedures
 2. Positive economic appraisal
 3. Continued availability of funding

Getting and staying involved

Following the consultation events there will be a six week feedback period. Following this Hertfordshire County Council, the Environment Agency and the design team will review your comments and consider these as part of the refinement of the scheme prior to submitting the planning application in spring 2015.

Your views are important to us so please complete the response form section inside this leaflet and drop it into the box provided at the exhibitions. Otherwise you can post your form using the address provided, or complete the feedback form online at:
www.hertsdirect.org/a120consult

The consultation period will run from 16 October to 3 December 2014.

Please make sure that feedback reaches us by **3 December 2014** so that we have adequate time to consider your comments within our proposals.

Staying in touch

If you require an alternative format or wish to contact us directly you can:

Call: **0300 123 4040**

Email: A120bypass@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Writing: **Highways Major Projects Group, Hertfordshire County Council, 19c St Alban's Road East, Hatfield, AL10 0NG**

Thank you for taking an interest in the scheme. We look forward to hearing from you.

A120

Bypass (Little Hadham) & Flood Alleviation Scheme



Public Consultation Leaflet and Response Form



For more information see
www.hertsdirect.org/a120bypass



Hertfordshire County Council is currently progressing plans for a bypass of Little Hadham to relieve congestion and improve environmental conditions in the village. The bypass scheme also includes flood alleviation measures which will be delivered by the Environment Agency in collaboration with the County Council.

We want to gather your views and consider these as part of the refinement of the scheme prior to submitting the planning application in spring 2015. There will be a chance to comment again to the Planning Authority when the planning application has been submitted. Please see the back page of this leaflet for details of how to provide your comments.

Landscape and visual impact assessment

The design of the proposed route has been developed with the engineers to reduce the potential impact on landscape character and views where possible. This has been achieved through the avoidance of most mature trees, developing visually sensitive bridge designs and identifying areas where new native planting may screen views of the proposed road. Extensive site walkovers have been undertaken and photomontages have been prepared from key locations to accurately identify and present the scale of potential visual impact.

Ecology and nature conservation

Extensive ecological surveys are being carried out including habitats, bats, badgers, reptiles, amphibians, hedgerows, hazel dormouse, breeding birds, otter and water vole. Great Crested Newts have been found east of the scheme and ponds and terrestrial habitat are provided in the design. Extensive badger activity has been observed and further surveys will take place to ensure that appropriate mitigation is provided so as not to sever territories with the road. Consultation with the landscape architect will ensure that appropriate habitat replacement and enhancement will be included in the scheme.

Noise assessment

At properties close to the existing A120 reductions in traffic noise up to 10dB(A) are predicted, where they face the existing road. This is due to the forecast reduction in numbers of vehicles on the existing A120.

At properties along Albury Road increases in road traffic noise of up to 4dB(A) are predicted where they face the proposed bypass. Noise bunds and noise barriers are being designed to mitigate this effect. The proposed measures are predicted to mitigate impacts so that increases in traffic noise would be up to 2dB(A) along Albury Road.

The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, a National Guidance Document considers a noise change of up to 2.9dB(A) in the long term to be negligible.

How will the flood alleviation scheme work?

Flood storage helps to reduce the risk of flooding by collecting water and releasing it gradually when a storm has passed. The rate at which water is released is controlled by the size of the outlet pipe through the flood storage bank. Outlet pipes are usually sized to prevent the river overtopping its banks below the flood storage area. However, if there was so much water that the flood storage area did not have the capacity to hold anymore, then the excess water would pass over a spillway and back into the river. This could result in flooding below the flood storage area in such extreme events.

In everyday conditions, the river would behave naturally, with a small flow, as it does now.

Traffic

Approximately 70% of traffic will be removed from Little Hadham village with the bypass. This is based on predicted traffic in 2019 when the total average daily traffic is predicted to be around 18,500 vehicles moving through the junction at The Ash. With the bypass this reduces to around 5,700 vehicles.

Upwick Road to be raised above level of flood storage area.

Albury Road
A bridge will be used to realign Albury Road over the bypass. No access will be provided onto the new A120.

Flood alleviation scheme

The blue outline shows the extents of flood storage in rare events of 1 in 100 (1%) annual probability. In more frequent events the extent of flood storage would be reduced from that shown here.

Key

- Public rights of way
- - - - New public rights of way diversions
- Watercourse
- - - - Culverted (pipelined) watercourse
- - - - Noise fence
- Fill slopes
- Cut slopes
- Environmental bunds
- Existing woodland
- Mitigation planting
- Temporary works area
- Drainage ponds
- Flood storage areas
- Scheduled monument
- Listed buildings

Public rights of way

The scheme has an effect on Public Rights of Way. Discussions have taken place with Hertfordshire County Council Rights of Way team and the proposed permanent diversions are shown on the plan.



Illustrative viewpoint at year 1



Illustrative viewpoint at year 1



Illustrative viewpoint at year 1