

## A421 M1 Junction 13 to Bedford Construction Information - November 2008

### The Scheme

- The A421 Improvements from M1 Junction 13 to Bedford is one of the schemes included in the Government's Programme of Major Schemes.
- In November 2005 the Highways Agency awarded an "Early Contractor Involvement" contract to design and construct the Scheme to Balfour Beatty with Scott Wilson as their designer.
- Draft Orders were published in March 2007. A Public Inquiry was held from December 2007 to February 2008.
- Following the decision by the Secretaries of State to proceed with the Scheme, Made Orders were published on 31st July 2008.
- Details of the Scheme are shown on the plan. The scheme includes 8 miles (13km) of dual carriageway with associated bridges, junctions and environmental works.

### Working with the local community

- The project team is committed to working with the community to lessen the impact of construction works on residents, road users and the general public.
- Construction activity will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Considerate Constructors Scheme
- The most modern techniques and equipment will be used to ensure noise is kept to a minimum.
- During periods of dry weather dust from the site will be reduced using water sprays.
- Clean, controlled and safe routes for public access through and past the works will be maintained at all times on both public roads and rights of way.
- Through visits to local schools we will:
  - encourage construction site safety awareness
  - offer curriculum support material and take part in appropriate class projects
- Public rights of way will be affected by the works but we aim to keep any inconvenience caused by closures or

diversions to a minimum. Closures will be in place for your safety and that of our workforce.

- Newsletters will be produced at regular intervals to keep you up to date with progress.
- Our Public Liaison Team will be happy to respond to your questions and concerns.

A 24 hour help line will be available from January 2009. If you have questions in the interim please contact the Highways Agency Information Line on 08457 50 40 30.

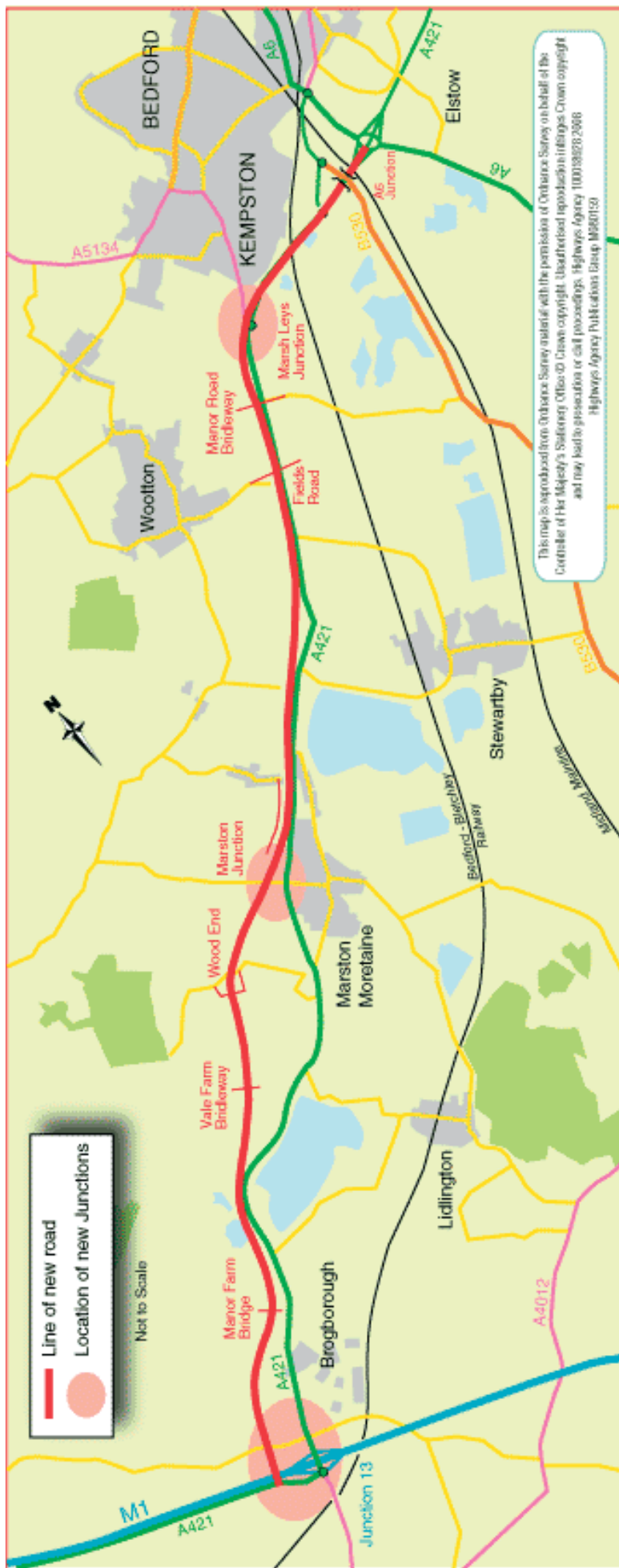
### Protecting the Environment

Ecological and archaeological surveys have already taken place along the line of the new A421. Before actual construction can start full archaeological investigations will be undertaken. During construction ecologists and archaeologists will continue to monitor site activities. This will ensure we minimise the effects of the works on both natural and cultural heritages.

There are a number of water courses along the A421. These will be monitored and measures put in place to prevent any contamination due to the works.

We will plant about 250,000 new trees and shrubs which, as they mature, will help to blend the new road into the surroundings. As many of these trees as possible will be sourced from the Marston Forest.





## The Works

Site works started on 28th October 2008 and will include the following:

Site Clearance	130 hectares
Fencing	31,000 lin. m
New Footpaths & Bridleways	5,040 lin. m
Hedgerow planting	7600 lin. m
Woodland / Shrub planting (including 250,000 trees)	420,000 sq. m
Amenity Grassland / Wildflower	250,000 sq. m
Earthworks moved on site	1,450,000 cubic m
Earthworks imported to site	730,000 cubic m
Carriageway Surfacing	394,000 sq. m
Concrete Central Reserve Barrier	12,200 lin. m
Concrete for Structures	17,000 cubic m
Steel Reinforcement	3,400 tonnes
Structural Steel	1,020 tonnes

It is anticipated that the works will be completed by end of 2010.

## Keeping you up to date

- Regular updates will be published via the Highways Agency website ([www.highways.gov.uk](http://www.highways.gov.uk) and search for A421).
- Traffic management changes will also be available on the website.
- Newsletters will be regularly produced for local areas. These will provide Scheme updates, and contact information.
- Letter / leaflet drops will be made in specific areas informing residents of works which may affect them.
- Local press and radio will be used to advise of any major traffic management changes or works likely to cause delays.

**You are invited to attend an exhibition where we and our consultants and contractors will be there to answer your questions.**

**Marston Moretaine Pavilion,  
Bedford Road,  
Marston Moretaine, Beds MK43 0ND**

**Friday 7 November 2008  
2.00pm to 8.00pm**

**Saturday 8 November 2008  
10.00am to 4.00pm**

For real time traffic information:

**08700 660 115**

[www.highways.gov.uk/trafficinfo](http://www.highways.gov.uk/trafficinfo)

24 hours a day, 365 days a year

(Calls from BT landlines to 0870 numbers will cost no more than 8p per minute; mobile calls usually cost more)

For general Highways Agency information:

**08457 50 40 30**

email: [ha\\_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ha_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk)

24 hours a day, 365 days a year

(Calls from BT landlines to 0845 numbers will cost no more than 4p per minute; mobile calls usually cost more)

## Safe driving at roadworks

*Remember that tiredness can kill. Take regular breaks from driving.*



**During 2006 two workers were killed and 19 seriously injured in the course of their work on Highways Agency roads.**

For the safety of all road users and roadworkers, when you are approaching roadworks: • Keep within the speed limit – it is there for your safety. • Get into the correct lane in good time – don't keep switching. • Concentrate on the road ahead, not the roadworks. • Be alert for works' traffic leaving or entering roadworks. • Keep a safe distance – there could be queues in front. • Observe all signs – they are there to help you.