

A5117 Deeside Park Junctions Improvement Public Information November 2006

The need for improvements

The A5117/A550 between Deeside Park Interchange and the M56 is a national and regional strategic route. It suffers from severe congestion and has a poor accident record. The improvements at the 3 junctions will relieve congestion and improve safety.

New footpaths, cycle-paths and bridleways will also enhance safety and encourage walking, cycling and equestrian activity.

We have taken great care to reduce any adverse effects, caused by the improvements, on the environment by including mounding and landscaping. Where possible, we have also taken the opportunity to enhance local wildlife habitats.

The improvements meet all the Government's objectives on safety, economy, accessibility integration and environment.

Changes to the junctions

Deeside Interchange & A550

The A5117/A550 in this area will be completely rebuilt to the east of the existing road so that through traffic for the A5117 can avoid the Woodbank junction.

From the Deeside Park roundabout the existing

A550 will join the slip road and become a 3-lane link road to Woodbank Junction. Two of these lanes continue onto A550, the remaining lane turning eastwards to become the new slip road to the A5117.

The existing A5117 east of the Woodbank Junction becomes the east bound slip road from A550 to join the new A5117. Traffic travelling south on the A550 will use a new link road and bridge which splits into two slip roads; one to the A550 towards Wales and the other to access Deeside Park roundabout.

Parkgate Roundabout & Dunkirk

The new A5117 will be in a cutting here and a new bridge will carry the existing A540 over the new A5117. The existing roundabout will be altered so that the eastbound entry and exit are removed. The westbound entry and exit become the slip roads to and from the new A5117.

On the north side, a new junction with the A540 and a single carriageway road alongside the A5117 will be controlled by traffic lights. There will be no direct access onto the A5117 westbound from Dunkirk roundabout however the new single carriageway road will allow traffic from Ellesmere Port to join the A5117 at the A540 junction. Traffic travelling east from A540 will join A5117 (north of Dunkirk Roundabout) and the M56 by using this new link and the Dunkirk roundabout.

Access to the Little Chef and petrol station are unaffected. From Parkgate Road the new A5117 will be built to the south of the existing road so

that traffic to and from the M56 does not need to go through Dunkirk roundabout.

Making the improvements

Work will start at the southern end of the scheme and then move gradually up to Dunkirk. We have already set up the site compound and marked out the alignment of the new road.

Top soil will be stripped from the areas where the road is being built and stored on site for re-use.

How will the works affect you?

While we aim to keep disruption to a minimum we do need to protect our workforce and the travelling public. During the construction there will be traffic management and a 40 mph speed limit.

A lot of the work that is required can be carried out in the fields adjacent to the A5117, reducing the need for lane closures. Two lanes will be open in each direction during peak periods. It may be necessary to reduce this to one lane during less busy times. The work started in early October and we expect to finish in autumn 2008.

Working Safely

Our construction sites are well fenced and have signs that warn of the dangers. Please help us to work safely by observing all warnings and keeping children and pets away.

Best practice

At the Highways Agency we are always looking for ways to improve how we work with our contractors, in this case Carillion Construction and their design consultants, Owen Williams.

To ensure that we benefit from their experience and skills, a new form of contract known as

Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) has been introduced. This means that the contractors are appointed during the preparation stages of the project.

As a result of ECI much of the planning was done by both designer and contractor. This provided a more co-ordinated design benefiting from the contractor's previous experience of road building. This ultimately provides a quality scheme that should give best value for money.

Any questions?

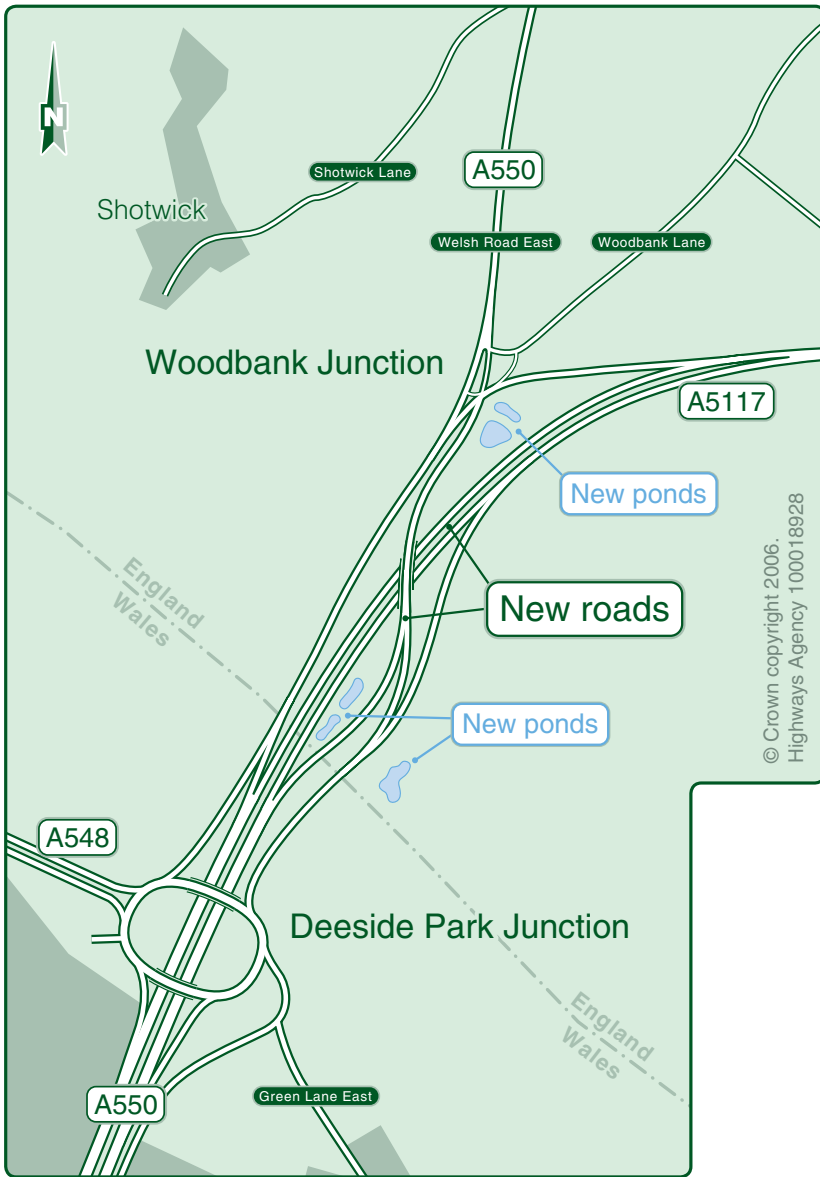
If you would like to know more about these improvements we are happy to answer any questions you may have. We have a Site Liaison Officer, Mandy Stott who can be contacted on telephone number 01244 603085 or by email at: stottm@cheshire.gov.uk

You can also visit Carillion's Site Office at:

Carillion Construction
A5117 Deeside Junction Improvements
Oakwood Farm
Parkgate Road
Chester CH1 6EY

or you can also find out more by writing to:

Highways Agency
Major Projects Division
Room 710
City Tower
Piccadilly Plaza
Manchester M1 4BE
Telephone: 0161 930 5815
Email:
a5117a500deesideparkjct@highways.gsi.gov.uk





For real time traffic information:

08700 660 115

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

24 hours a day, 365 days a year

(Calls from BT landlines to 0845 numbers will cost no more than 3p per minute; mobile calls usually cost more)

Safe driving at roadworks

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



During 2005, five workers were killed and 12 seriously injured in the course of their work on Highways Agency roads. This was the worst year since 1999.

For the safety of all road users and roadworkers, drivers approaching roadworks are advised to:

- 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