



News *update from*



Norfolk County Council

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Highways England roadshows a “golden opportunity” to show strength of public feeling on need for A47 improvements

People who feel strongly about the need for improvements to the A47 in Norfolk are being encouraged to voice their opinions to the organisation responsible for the road at a series of public events in the county next week.

Highways England, the government company charged with operating, maintaining and improving England’s motorways and major A roads including the A47, has announced it will hold four roadshow events in Norfolk. The details of these are:

- Monday, 14 August – King’s Lynn Market Place (outside the Dukes Head), PE30 1JS, 11am – 6pm;
- Tuesday, 15 August – Attleborough Sainsbury’s, High Street, NR17 2EH, 12 – 7pm;
- Wednesday, 16 August – Great Yarmouth Tesco Extra, Pasteur Rd, Southtown, NR310DW, 12 – 7pm;
- Thursday, 17 August – Gorleston Morrisons, Black Reach, NR31 6SA, 12 – 7pm.

As well as featuring an exhibition of plans for upcoming major roadworks in the region, these roadshows will give people in Norfolk the chance to make staff at Highways England aware of their views on the A47.

Martin Wilby is Chairman of Norfolk County Council’s Environment, Development and Transport Committee and Chairman of the A47 Alliance, a campaigning group for improvements to the road that brings together the business community, local authorities, MPs and others.

He said: “These roadshows are a golden opportunity to show Highways England how strongly many of us feel about the need to make the A47 a better, safer, more reliable route.

“Highways England have committed £300 million to improve the A47, which is very welcome. However it’s so important to keep reminding them and the Government of the local demand for these improvements so that work gets under way at the earliest opportunity. We also need them to see the value in making much needed further improvements to the road, with the ultimate aim of getting the whole of the A47 route dualled.”

Highways England held its first Norfolk roadshow event in Dereham last month, with many people turning out to lend their voice to the campaign for getting upgrades to the A47.

The A47 Alliance agreed its priorities for securing further improvements along the route earlier this year. The schemes in Norfolk that have been identified as a priority are dualling the Acle Straight between Acle and Great Yarmouth and dualling the A47 Tilney to East Winch, including the Hardwick flyover, south of King’s Lynn.

The £300 million of improvements to the A47 announced by Highways England comprise six schemes, with work slated to start in 2019/20 financial year. Four of the six schemes will be on sections of the road in Norfolk, these are:

- Dualling the A47 North Tuddenham to Easton;
- Dualling the A47 Blofield to North Burlingham;
- Improving the A47/A11 Thickthorn junction;
- Improving A47 Great Yarmouth junctions including reconstruction of the Vauxhall Roundabout.

Further information on these improvements is expected to be announced by Highways England in the near future.

For more information on the A47 Alliance, visit www.a47alliance.co.uk.

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For political comment

Cllr Martin Wilby (Conservative) Chairman of the Environment, Development and Transport Committee, on 07920 286618 or 01379 741504

Cllr Terry Jermy (Labour) on 01842 630851

Cllr Tim East (Liberal Democrat), on 01603 743241

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