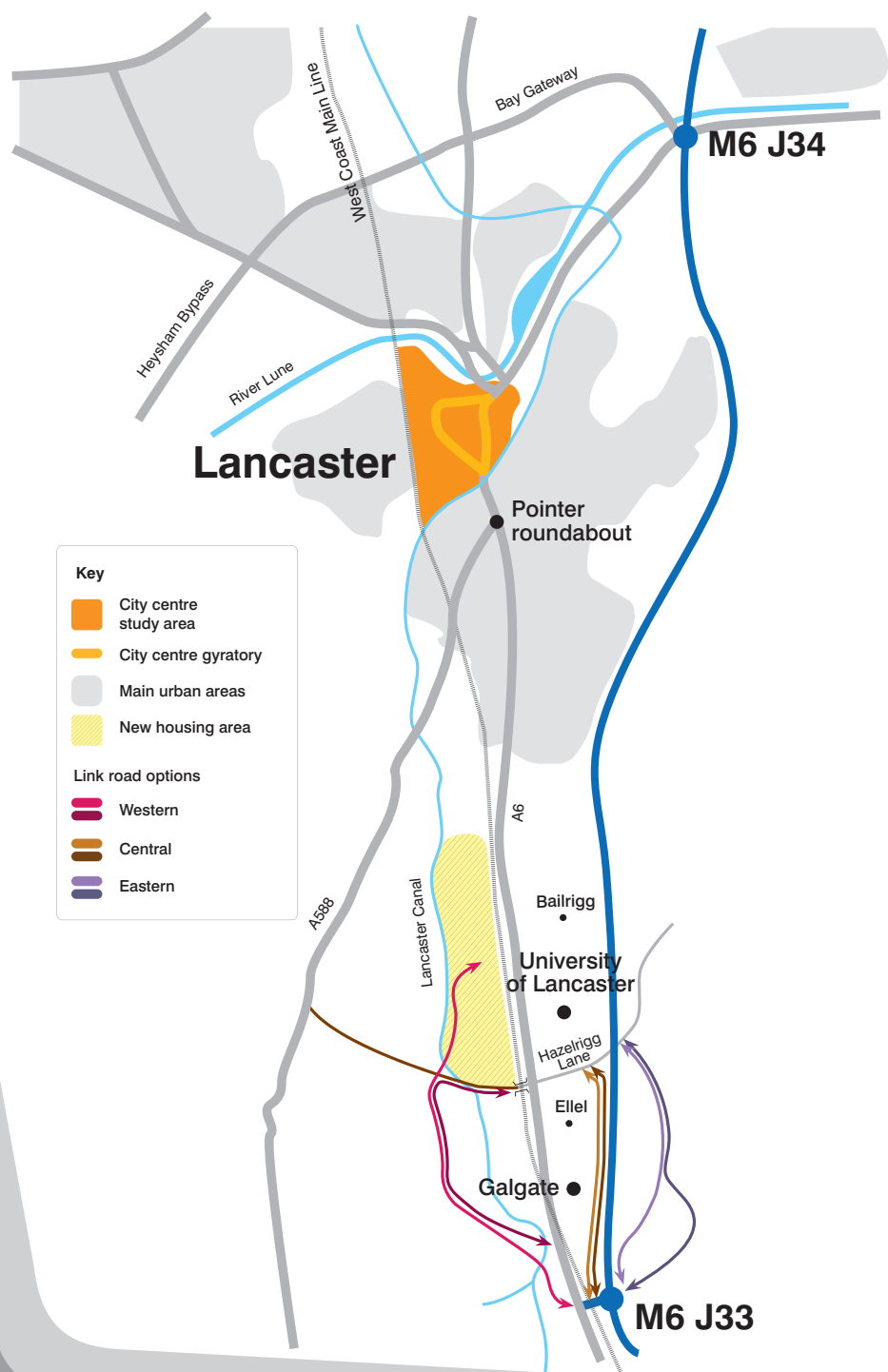


TRANSFORMING LANCASTER TRAVEL

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2020

M6 JUNCTION 33 LINK AND LANCASTER CITY CENTRE MOVEMENT AND PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY



This newsletter is the first of what will become a biannual publication to keep you informed of progress on transport proposals in Lancaster.

In this issue we outline two schemes, a consultation that will take place in October and what you can expect to happen in the coming months.

Lancashire County Council and Lancaster City Council are working together to deliver a range of major transport improvements in the District of Lancaster to enable the city to grow and also to promote sustainable travel options to access the city centre.

The first projects which are part of the wider transport improvements are the M6 Junction 33 Link and the Lancaster City Centre Movement and Public Realm Strategy.

Options for these two projects are illustrated on the drawings and text in the following pages.

THE M6 JUNCTION 33 LINK

The Lancaster Local Plan sets out the need for new housing and identifies an urban extension in south Lancaster. In order for this to come forward and benefit from good transport links a number of major transport infrastructure improvements are required.

For the area to the south of Lancaster University this would provide a link road and road underpass of the West Coast Main Line to access the South Lancaster Strategic Growth Area and could include altering M6 Junction 33.

The aims of the M6 Junction 33 Link are to:

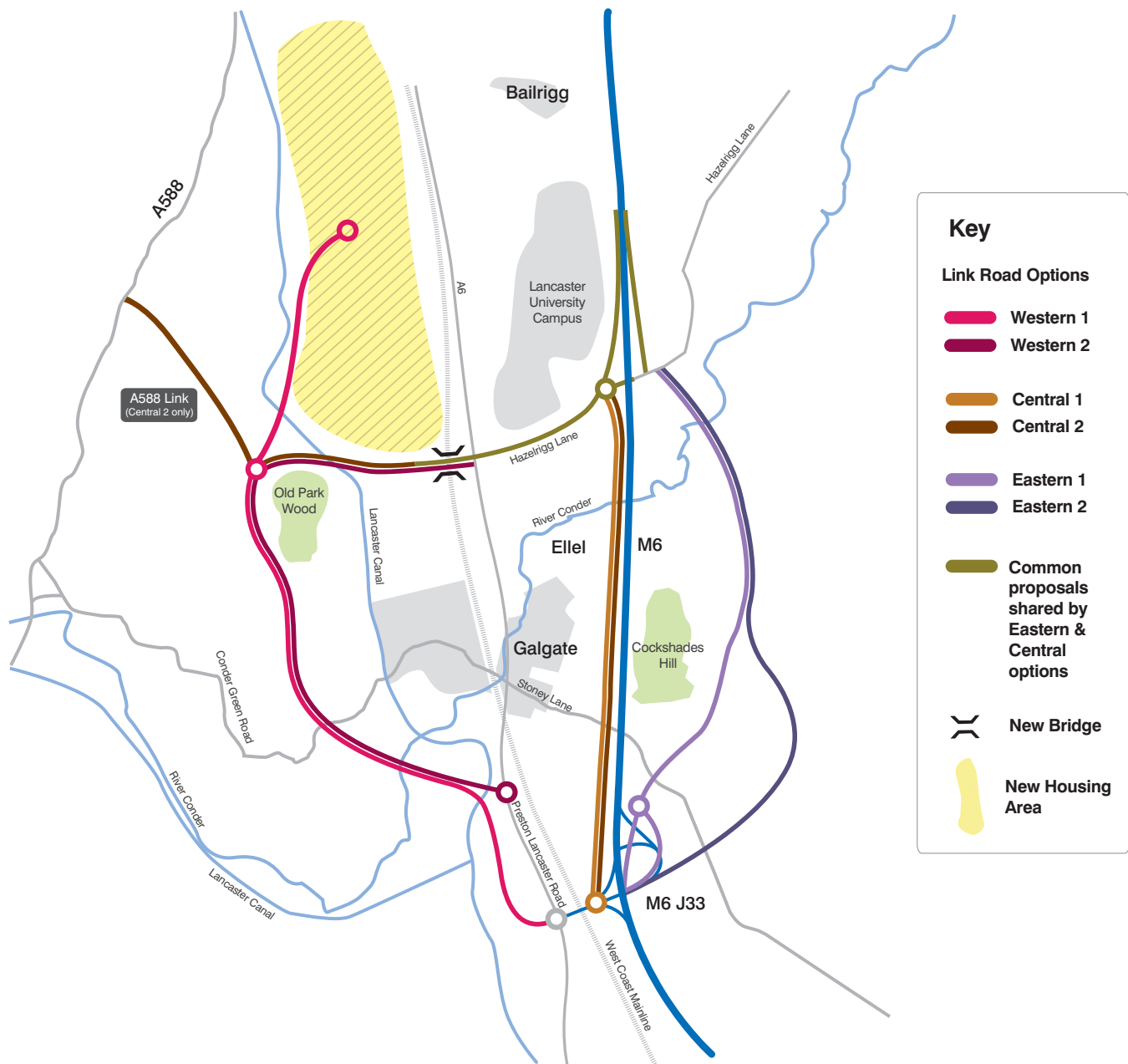
- Connect to new housing areas including South Lancaster Strategic Growth Area

- Improve M6 Junction 33
- Reduce traffic on the A6 and in Galgate to improve air quality

Lancashire County Council undertook surveys to look at potential route options to achieve these aims. The surveys looked at environmental constraints (biodiversity, landscape, heritage, water and ground conditions, climate change, human health, air quality, and noise), engineering constraints and modelling of traffic, noise and air quality.

There are six possible options to improve highway access in south Lancaster illustrated below.

LINK ROAD OPTIONS



PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY

The Lancaster City Centre Movement and Public Realm Strategy highlights the main problem areas: the access into the city; ease of movement; quality of place; safety and public health and economic benefit.

These subjects were used to develop aims and objectives for an appraisal framework that outlines eight different options for movement in the city centre.

Implementing one of the eight measures will represent a once in a generation opportunity to begin the process of reimagining a city centre for the future, one that places sustainability at the heart of the Lancaster.

This is also an opportune moment to think about the type of city centre we want for Lancaster. As residents and visitors to the area are fully aware, travel and transport options within the city centre are far from ideal due to an already constrained road network and the absence of direct sustainable transport routing through the city. A significant increase in housing within close proximity to the city centre will undoubtedly place increased pressure on an already congested network.

The aim of the strategy is to outline possible interventions that will:

- Prioritise sustainable travel
- Remove unnecessary vehicles from the city centre including the gyratory
- Improve air quality
- Improve access to retail, heritage and cultural assets by foot



PUBLIC CONSULTATION

A consultation will take place between 26 October and 4 December 2020. All interested parties will be able to comment. Background reports, the options and key drawings will be available to view.

During the consultation you can make comments by following the instructions on the Transforming Lancaster Travel website: www.lancashire.gov.uk/Transforming-Lancaster-Travel

Before the consultation starts we will publish a **Statement of Community Consultation**, describing how we propose to manage public contact for the Junction 33 Link Road, on the Transforming Lancaster Travel website.

NEXT STEPS

The comments from the consultation, the findings of preliminary surveys and engineering assessments will inform the preferred options. Results will be available on the website later in the year.

Lancashire County Council's Cabinet will make a final decision on the preferred options in February 2021.

Newsletter issue 2 will present a summary of the main issues raised and the Council's decision.

CONTACT

For general enquiries about the projects, to receive future leaflets, or to opt-out of communications, contact the project team.

Email: TLT@lancashire.gov.uk
Telephone: 01772 535479
Twitter/Facebook: @lancashirecc

Or visit our website for more information about the scheme and to register for email alerts whenever changes are made.

www.lancashire.gov.uk/Transforming-Lancaster-Travel

If you need help accessing the consultation information please call 01772 535479 and we will help you.

