

Welcome to the public consultation exhibition for the Hereford Transport Package.

This is a key project as set out in the Local Transport Plan.

What is the Hereford Transport Package (HTP)?

The Hereford Transport Package includes the Hereford Bypass and a package of other measures as set out below:

A Hereford bypass

A new road to the west of the city. The exact route has not been determined but would include a new river crossing.

The bypass would support the delivery of 6,500 homes and 6,000 jobs, a new university and expansion of the Hereford Enterprise Zone at Rotherwas.

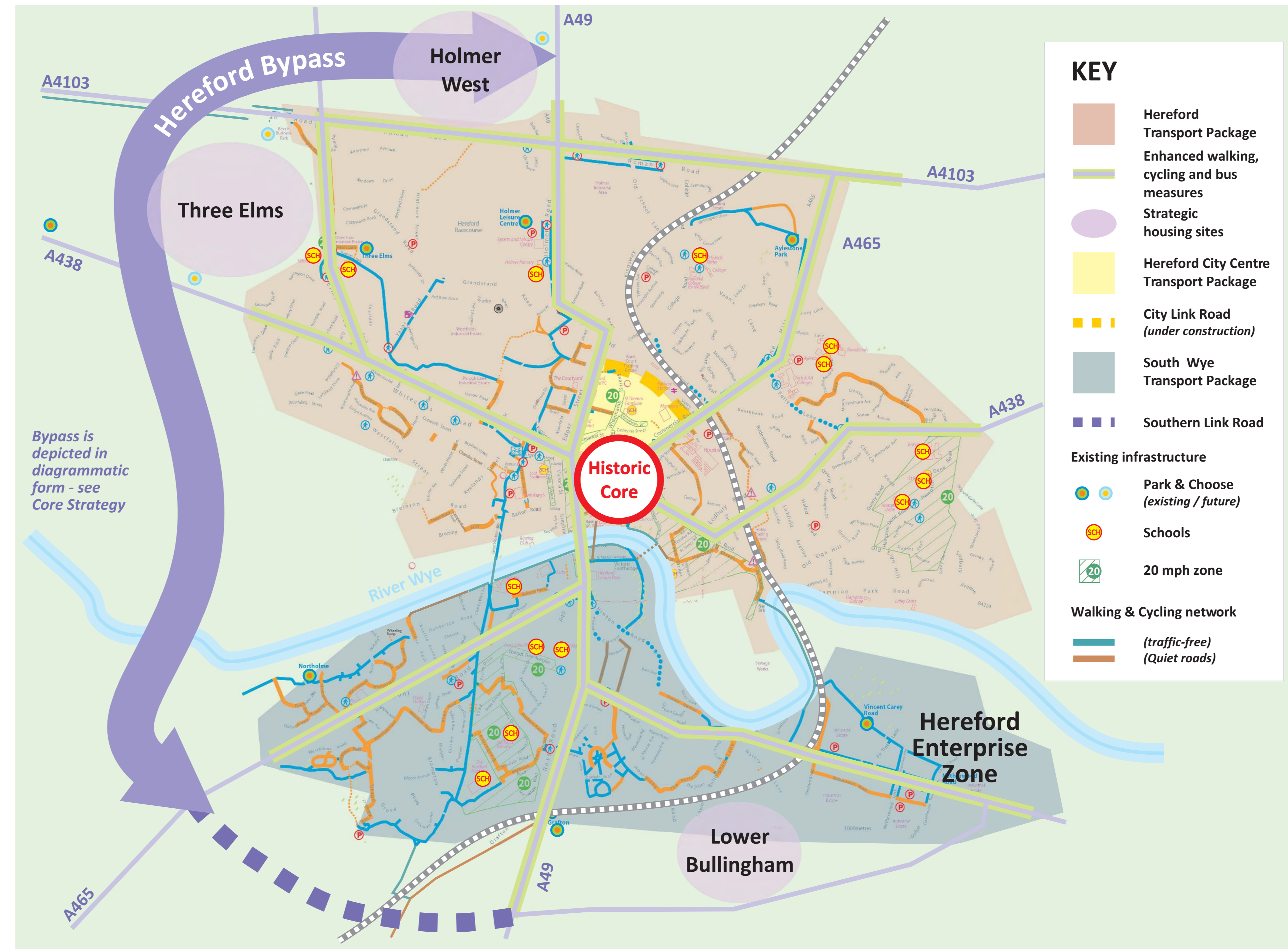
Walking, cycling and bus improvements

Improvements in Hereford to increase walking, cycling and bus use for short distance journeys.

More attractive and healthier public spaces.

The HTP will help us deliver transport conditions to support a healthy and prosperous city by:

- Enabling new jobs and homes
- Supporting the economy of the city centre
- Promoting healthy lifestyles
- Reducing pollution



Why are we consulting?
To help us design the HTP, we would like your thoughts on:

The current transport problems in Hereford

What we should do to solve these problems, particularly:

- The types of walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements you'd like to see and where you think these are needed.
- The issues we need to consider when identifying possible bypass routes to the west of the city. This will include homes, businesses, buildings and wildlife habitats.

There are a number of reasons why we need the Hereford Transport Package.

Delays for long-distance journeys

- Heavy congestion and unreliable journey times arising from low speeds
- A single river crossing struggling to cope with current traffic levels
- Extensive queuing on the network
- High numbers of short distance car journeys
- Large numbers of heavy goods vehicles using the key roads

Barriers to growth

- Difficulty in attracting new businesses and jobs
- Difficulty in retaining existing businesses
- Unable to build new homes
- Discouraging young people leaving the area

Poor local and regional connections

- Long distance freight travelling through the city
- Limitation to growth of Hereford Enterprise Zone at Rotherwas
- Poor connections to Wales and the Midlands
- Economic impact of unreliable journey times

Health and the environment

- Poor air quality and emissions due to high levels of congestion and heavy goods vehicles
- Barriers to safe walking, cycling and bus use
- Traffic noise and vibration from heavy goods vehicles
- Busy roads are difficult to cross
- Damage to our historic environment
- Increasing levels of obesity due to unhealthy travel habits such as short distance car use

Safety

- Accidents and breakdowns
- Busy roads are difficult to cross
- Traffic and congestion is intimidating to walkers and cyclists



The HTP will enable:

- Congestion to be reduced and journey times to be improved
- Improvements in local and regional connections
- Improvements in health and the environment
- Improvements in safety and reductions in operational costs
- Local growth



Reducing congestion and improving journey times by:

- Providing an additional river crossing
- Reducing congestion on the A49 and other key roads in the city
- Encouraging walking, cycling and bus use for shorter journeys

Improving local and regional connections by:

- Allowing traffic to bypass Hereford and improve connections to Wales and the Midlands – particularly for heavy goods vehicles
- Improving access to the Hereford Enterprise Zone at Rotherwas
- Bringing wider economic benefits for businesses and employment through better and more reliable journey times



Improving health and the environment by:

- Improving walking, cycling, bus and public space infrastructure
- Improving air quality and emissions in the city by reducing congestion and the number of heavy goods vehicles
- Encouraging more walking, cycling and bus use, improving health and reducing impact on the environment

Improving safety and reducing operational costs by:

- Improvements to road safety on the city network
- Reducing maintenance costs of the A49
- Decreasing operational costs to businesses due to improved journey times and efficiency

Enabling local growth by:

- Helping deliver 6,500 new homes and 6,000 new jobs in Hereford
- Allowing the expansion of the Hereford Enterprise Zone at Rotherwas

A new road to the west of the city including a new river crossing.

What have we done so far?

We have undertaken a number of studies which identified the *Core Strategy* bypass corridor. We are progressing the appraisal of route options within this corridor.

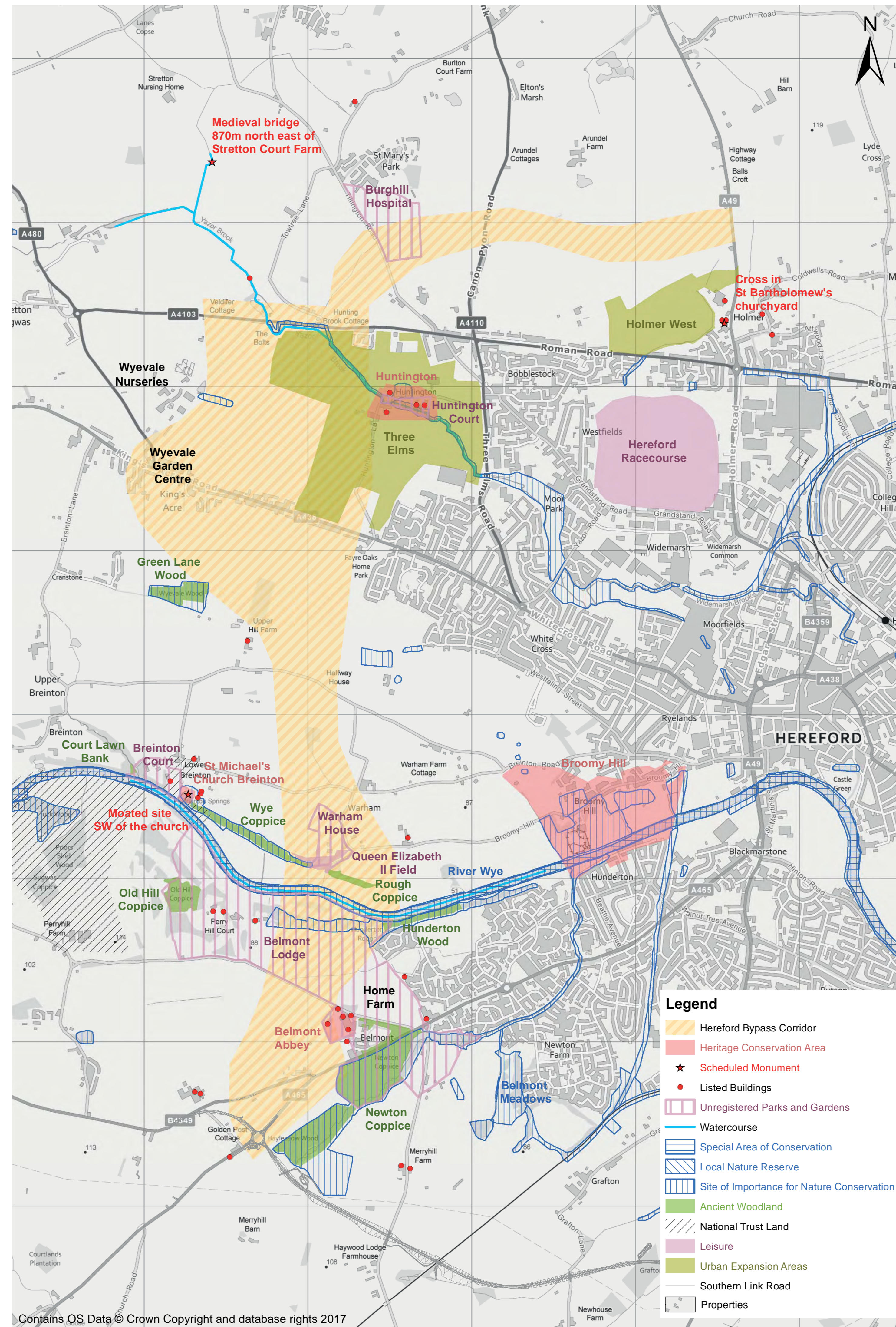
We have carried out investigations of a number of issues and identified constraints within the corridor to help establish possible bypass routes including:

- Mapping existing homes and businesses
- Undertaking initial engineering studies
- Surveying traffic, bus, rail, pedestrian and cycle movements
- Carrying out household and school travel surveys

We have also identified:

- Wildlife habitats
- Buildings/areas of historical importance
- Public rights of way
- Major parks and conservation areas

The plan opposite shows some of these issues.



What happens next?

Over the next two years we will be undertaking further technical work to assess possible bypass routes. These will include (but not be limited to):

- Surveying residential and business locations
- Traffic modelling and forecasting
- Building surveys (including historical)
- Topographical surveys
- Ecological surveys
- Archaeological assessments
- Environmental assessments
- Further consultations with the public and key stakeholders

This work will enable us to select possible bypass route options for further investigation.



Please help us identify any further issues

A bypass alone would not deliver all of the HTP objectives. As well as developing a bypass, we will identify a package of walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements.

Here are examples of possible improvements:

- Safer and better cycling routes (such as new dedicated cycle lanes, cycle friendly junctions, reduced speed limits and traffic-free routes)
- Safer and better walking routes (such as wider footways, improved pedestrian crossing facilities, reduced speed limits and traffic-free routes)
- A more attractive urban environment (such as boulevard-style streets, shared space and the planting of trees to create green corridors)
- Junction treatments (for example improved shared space and raised tables to slow traffic)
- Improvements to bus stops, bus services and facilities (such as real time information displays, shelters and seating)



Please help us identify any further suggested improvements

Several stages of consultation will be undertaken as the Hereford Transport Package progresses.

Your feedback is very important to us

Attend our exhibition at the Courtyard from Tuesday 4 April – Thursday 6 April, between 11am-7pm.

The exhibition will be available to view from Tuesday 11 April – Friday 19 May (during opening hours) in the lobby at Hereford Library. The exhibition will be manned every Wednesday from 2pm-4pm until the consultation ends.

You can let us have your views in a number of ways:



Fill in the consultation survey today or online at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HerefordConsultation

If you would like a hard copy of the survey to be sent to you please contact us via the following:


 Email us at: HerefordConsultation@balfourbeatty.com

 Write to us at: **Hereford Consultation, Balfour Beatty Living Places, Unit 3, Thorn Business Park, Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JT**

 Call us on: **01432 261800**

The deadline for feedback is **Monday 22 May 2017**

Hereford Transport Package timeline

- 1 **2016:** Undertook engineering, environmental research, identified issues and started traffic surveys.
- 2 **Early 2017:** Phase 1 Public Consultation to introduce the Hereford Transport Package and get public feedback.  **We are here**
- 3 **2017-2018:** Engineering, environmental surveys, further traffic surveys, development and assessment of bypass routes. Identify and assess walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements.
- 4 **Late 2017:** Phase 2 Public Consultation to present the possible bypass routes and walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements.
- 5 **2018:** Further technical survey and design work. Preferred bypass route development and assessment. Development and assessment of walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements
- 6 **Mid 2018:** Phase 3 Public Consultation to present the proposed bypass route and walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements.
- 7 **Late 2018:** Preferred bypass route confirmed.
- 8 **2019:** Prepare and submit planning application for bypass and walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements.
- 9 **2019:** Approvals given and construction commences.
- 10 **From 2022:** Phased opening.

Further information

 www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HerefordConsultation