

### M58 Link Road (A5197) – ‘You Said, We Will’

Between June and July 2021 we carried out public engagement on our proposals to submit a supplementary planning application to create a new highway junction and bridge structure at the junction of Billinge Road to facilitate the M58 Link Road.

We wanted to raise awareness and give local residents and businesses the opportunity to have their say on the proposals prior to a formal planning application submission.

On the 28 July 2021 residents and businesses were invited to attend a virtual engagement session offering the opportunity to raise any comments and concerns.

Now the engagement period has closed, we have reviewed all correspondence and comments received and collated our responses.

You Said	We Will
You raised concerns over additional noise generated by passing traffic.	<p>A detailed noise and air quality assessment is currently being undertaken by our design consultant and will be submitted as part of the forthcoming planning application.</p> <p>As part of the noise and air quality assessment, we will be investigating if any mitigation measures such as environment (acoustic) barriers are required.</p>
You asked what mitigation measures could be used to reduce the noise impacts and what these would look like. E.g. green vegetation screening or fencing.	<p>Our design consultant is developing the noise and air quality assessment which will inform the required mitigation measures, such as environmental barriers.</p> <p>Environmental barriers (often referred to as noise barriers) are likely to take the form of a solid fence panel, as opposed to a planted, green solution. Other options to reduce noise impacts such as low noise road surfacing are being evaluated. The final specification and visual aesthetics are subject to detailed design.</p>
You asked what security and privacy is being made for resident.	<p>The primary purpose of environmental barriers is to reduce the noise impact of the road for adjacent properties, however these will also provide some visual screening from the road. A balanced approach between function and form will be adopted.</p>
You told us there are lots of children on the Foundry Lane estate and asked what safety measures are to be introduced.	<p>The Foundry Lane estate currently features a mandatory 20mph speed limit to promote low vehicle speeds within the residential area.</p> <p>The environmental barriers will provide a solid barrier between the new link road and estate to prevent pedestrians from running straight into the new highway.</p>

	<p>The new Billinge Road junction will have safe routes across the road as part of the traffic light sequencing.</p> <p>Designated crossing points along the whole of the link road will be provided at specific locations as per planning reference A/17/84615.</p>
<p>You asked whether the approval of the new distribution centre at junction 25 of the M6 will affect the viability / deliverability of the M58 Link Road.</p>	<p>All planning applications are subject to their own transport assessments and assessed to consider their impacts.</p> <p>The M58 Link Road remains a corporate priority of the Local Authority to enhance east to west connectivity with the aim of alleviating transport congestion on the A577 corridor.</p>
<p>You asked how long it will take to construct the link road.</p>	<p>The M58 Link Road has a forecast construction programme duration of 18 months. The construction phasing plan which will determine the build programme will be agreed with the yet to be appointed construction contractor.</p>
<p>You asked during construction will access to the Foundry Lane estate be maintained?</p>	<p>Access and egress of the Foundry Lane estate will be maintained during construction. There may be periods where traffic movements have to be controlled using temporary traffic management to maintain highway safety.</p> <p>We will endeavour to keep disruption to a minimum, with effective and regular communications to residents and businesses.</p>
<p>You asked will the mini roundabout at Enfield Street remain and will its proximity to the new junction cause traffic delays.</p>	<p>Traffic modelling has been used to inform the new junction design to provide sufficient highway capacity.</p> <p>The new proposed traffic signalised, highway junction at Billinge Road will be constructed to the south of the existing railway bridge, moving the junction away from the Enfield Street mini roundabout.</p> <p>It is proposed to retain the mini roundabout at Enfield Street and the existing two-way traffic flow to maintain connectivity.</p>
<p>You asked whether there would be two lanes of traffic for motorists wishing to exit Foundry Lane onto the link road.</p>	<p>Traffic exiting the residential estate road will not be signal controlled and vehicles will approach the junction in one lane.</p> <p>A two lane approach on the residential street (Foundry Lane) would create a large junction mouth making it more difficult for pedestrians and cyclists to cross the side road. A balanced approach has been adopted to cater for the needs of all highway users.</p>

	<p>it is the intention to provide “Keep Clear” markings on the new link road to prevent blocking of the junction.</p>
<p>You asked if there would be disruption to residents’ utility services during construction, such as gas and water supply.</p>	<p>As with many construction projects, utility services under the ground may require diversion or protection. We will be working with all utility companies during design development and throughout the construction period to minimise disruption. Supplies to residents should not be affected and any disruption would be communicated and planned for in advance.</p>
<p>You asked about the plans for the former Pemberton Colliery site</p>	<p>Northstone, a third party developer, has a planning proposal to deliver up to 268 residential dwellings on the currently vacant plot, to the north of the proposed link road.</p> <p>Wigan Council is working with the developer regarding delivery of the link road. It is likely that the link road will be fully constructed and operational before the whole of the housing development is completed.</p>
<p>You asked about delivery timescales for the link road.</p>	<p>We are currently working with our consultants (Balfour Beatty and Atkins) to develop the design suitable for a planning application submission for the new Billinge Road junction. Subject to planning approval, land acquisition and third party agreements, we are currently aiming to commence construction from 2023.</p>
<p>You asked would a car park be considered on the former Pemberton Colliery site for train station users.</p>	<p>The former Pemberton Colliery site is in third party ownership, which is currently subject to a planning application for up to 268 residential dwellings and associated landscaping. There is no proposal to incorporate a train station car park.</p> <p>It is not proposed to introduce parking restrictions within the residential area to deter train station parking at this stage. If parking is displaced into the residential estate following construction of the link road, the effects would be assessed by our Network Management Team and additional measures could be considered.</p>
<p>You asked if there will be vehicle barriers adjacent to Laverick Grove</p>	<p>A vehicle restraint systems (VRS), often referred to as a crash barrier, is not proposed at this location.</p> <p>The link road will have a mandatory speed limit of 30mph road for its entire length and has been designed in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB).</p> <p>VRS is often used on high speed roads or where there are level differences, when a road runs adjacent to an embankment or water course.</p>

	<p>Throughout scheme development the design is subject to a Road Safety Audit process which aims to identify aspects of engineering interventions that could give rise to road safety problems and to suggest modifications that could improve road safety. The requirement for VRS has not been identified at this location.</p>
<p>You asked is there landscaping proposals associated with the scheme.</p>	<p>The planning application will be supported with a landscaping strategy to mitigate the impact on the surrounding area.</p>
<p>You asked if an additional entrance will be created in the Foundry Lane estate.</p>	<p>The Foundry Lane estate is currently served by one access at its junction with Billinge Road.</p> <p>Following construction of the link road, access and egress of the Foundry Lane estate will be via the newly created access link to the west of Laverick Grove, as per the consented scheme.</p> <p>There are no proposals to create a, additional, secondary access within the Foundry Lane estate.</p>