

Our ref: CRS 746,375  
Your ref:

Second Floor  
Woodlands  
Manton Lane  
Bedford MK41 7LW

Direct Line:

Via email

5 January 2017

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST  
A1 EAST OF ENGLAND STRATEGIC STUDY – PROPOSED ROUTE**

Thank you for your email of 18 December asking to know what the proposed route is for Package A. I am writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information.

Highways England has been asked to carry out the A1 East of England Strategic Study on behalf of the Department for Transport. The requirement for this study was set out in the first Road Investment Strategy (RIS), published in December 2014, which announced a programme of new strategic studies which explore options to address some of the large and complex challenges facing the strategic road network. The results of these high-level studies will inform the development of the next RIS, which will commence in April 2020.

The aim of the study is to consider whether there is a case for bringing consistency to the southern section of the route, from the junction with the M25 in the south to Peterborough in the north. In particular, it will look at the case for improving the non-motorway section linking the two parts of the A1(M) to motorway standard.

The study will then consider the options for improving the road network which can support growth including changing the alignment of the road, could reduce the environmental impact of the existing route and benefit local communities. For the better options, this will include the preparation of strategic outline business cases which can be considered in developing future Road Investment Strategies.

The work reported in the stage 3 report published on 28 November, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a1-east-of-england-strategic-study-stage-3-report> outlines the high level case for improvements to the A1 between the M25 and Peterborough.

The route options shown on page 32 of the stage 3 report have been generated solely to produce an indication of likely estimated costs, benefits and environmental effects of an improved alignment between the M25 and Peterborough, the output of which will be used to determine whether there is a case to further investigate a requirement for consistent route. They are not proposed routes.

Further analysis to examine the case for action for the A1 in East of England will be carried out before a firm conclusion is reached.

If a suitable scheme/route(s) are identified, a public consultation will take place in the normal way and affected interested parties will be invited to comment. It is currently too early to say when we might hold a public consultation however, we will publish any information on our website, <http://roads.highways.gov.uk/> as and when the information is available.

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request you may ask for an internal review. Our internal review process is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/highways-england/about/complaints-procedure>

If you require a print copy, please phone the Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or email [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk). You should contact me if you wish to complain.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote reference number 746,375 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Business Management Team Leader  
Operations (East)  
Email: