

# NATIONS, REGIONS, GROUPS & FORUMS

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## EAST MIDLANDS

### LINCOLNSHIRE GROUP

#### Lincolnshire County Council Highways: plan for the next five years

The Group's second highways webinar was run in collaboration with Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Lincoln University. Speaker Sam Edwards, Head of Highways Infrastructure, Lincolnshire County Council, began his presentation with an outline of the Highways Department's structure and responsibilities, explaining that his section deals with all the major road projects across the county for roads that were under the council's stewardship. The major roads in Lincolnshire are split into two main categories: Strategic Route Network roads, which are managed by National Highways; and Primary Route Networks, which are managed by the council but funded separately.

The speaker then outlined some projects in more details. In addition to the Lincoln Eastern Bypass, there have been four significant schemes aimed at improving traffic flow through the city to maximise the benefit of the bypass.

Peppermint Junction at Holbeach was a major accident blackspot and area of congestion that had resulted in many HGVs cutting through the centre of Holbeach to avoid it. A new roundabout was constructed to improve traffic flow and provide access on to the A17 for a new food enterprise park.

Holdingham Roundabout at Sleaford has been a longstanding traffic bottleneck with very poor lane discipline. The project involves widening the carriageway, improving lane markings and installing traffic signals.

The Spalding Western Relief Road project comprises five phases due to funding constraints and will start in January. A new roundabout will be constructed near Enterprise Way. This is a very complex scheme with a lot of utility and land purchase hurdles to deal with, as well as poor ground conditions.

Grantham Southern Relief Road involves the construction of a road to link the A52 to a



new junction on the A1 to avoid the need for traffic to travel through Grantham.

North Hykeham Relief Road will complete the Lincoln Ring Road and will be a dual carriageway running from a much enlarged roundabout on Newark Road to join up with the Eastern Bypass at Waddington.

We went on to learn about some further projects that were part of application for the government's 'levelling up' funding, centred on Boston and Spalding with the outcome being awaited. Separately, £50,000 of funding to be matched by the council had been received to carry out a feasibility study on the benefits of dualling the A17 around Heckington and provide some additional overtaking lanes further along.

The process for getting a project from concept to construction was also outlined,

▲ The webinar finished with a Q&A session

giving an overview of the timescale and costs. A basic case takes about 18 months and involves spending some £1 million to 1.5 million, with no guarantee of success.

The webinar finished with a Q&A session. The group would like to thank Sam Edwards for his excellent presentation, and Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce and Lincoln University for their support with this event.

A recording is available at: <https://vimeo.com/612672732/9a5fd9f016>

The next Group event will take place at the University of Lincoln Business School on 23rd February. Keep an eye out online for details.