

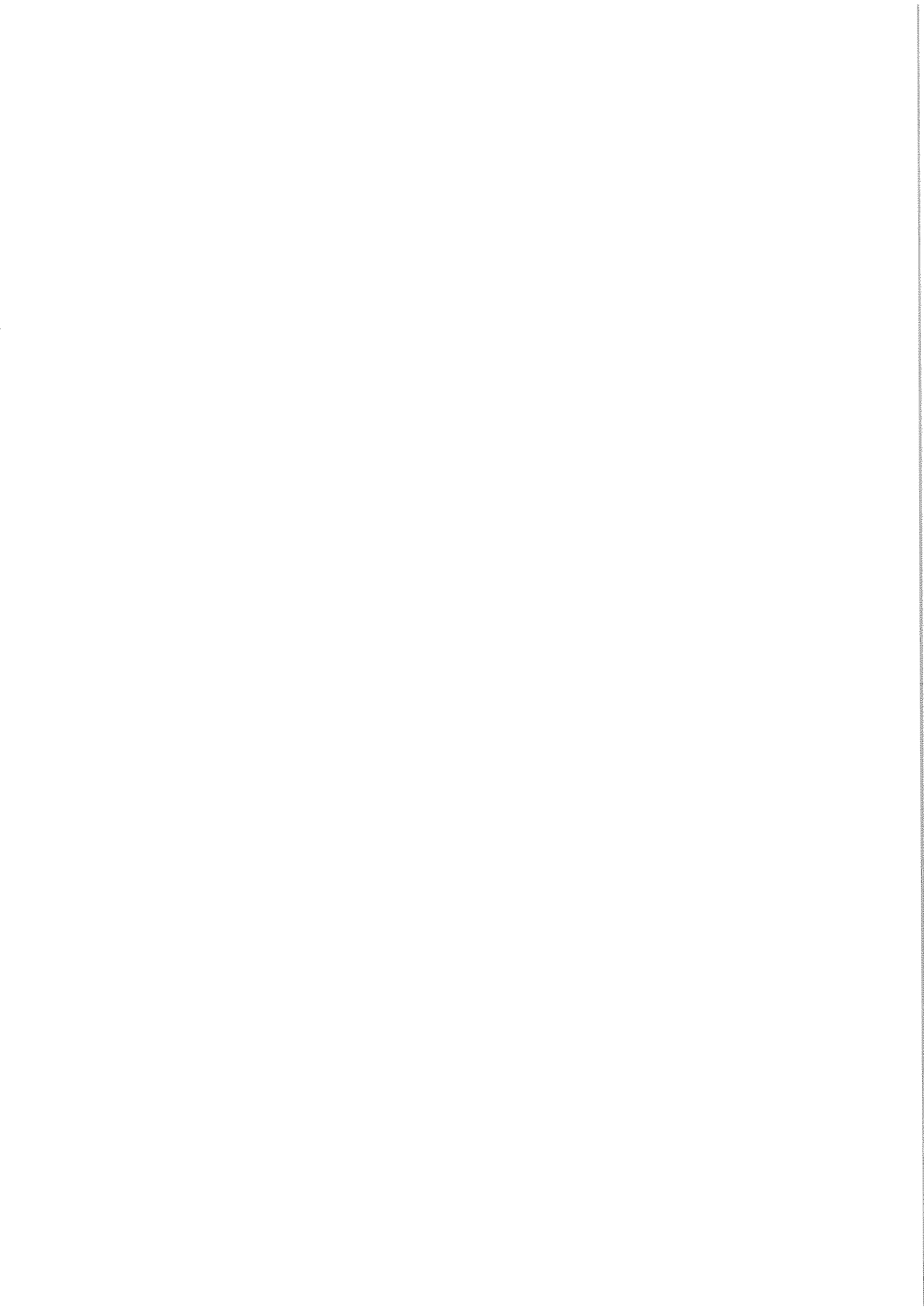
CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

District of South Cambridgeshire

Council Meeting 3rd September 2019

A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet improvements

12. Highways England has issued an update on the next step in the design work. Attached is the correspondence received from Highways England for your information.





Highways England
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford
MK41 7LW

0300 123 5000

12 August 2019

Dear Occupier,

A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet improvements: next steps in design

We are writing to keep you updated on progress and let you know we'll shortly be carrying out a programme of ground investigations and surveys along the route. These are important and will give engineers a clear picture of the type of soils, rock and groundwater along the route of the proposed dual carriageway.

As the work may be visible to those living and working in the area, we felt it was important to share more details with the nearest residents to our scheduled work, so that you are aware of our plans and know what is happening and why.

While we analyse feedback from our recent public consultation, this programme is the next step in designing the scheme, and isn't the start of construction. The information will help us design the structures required for the road including bridges and viaducts, embankments and cuttings.

What is happening and where?

We'll be carrying out nearly 400 investigations along the route of the proposed dual carriageway, including almost 100 boreholes, ground water sampling and monitoring, over 200 shallow trial pits and a wide range of unobtrusive geophysical surveys and will continue to liaise with landowners to ensure that we are able to access their land where necessary.

A map showing the broad area where our investigations will take place is included in the enclosed guide which explains the role of ground investigations and surveys and their importance to the project.

We aim to start our ground investigations in late August and finish in December 2019. We also take care to carry out initial archaeological surveys. These will take up to 8 months to complete and are likely to begin in late September 2019.

More details on each different technique being used, and when and where we're working, can be found in the enclosed guide. This is also available to download on our website (www.highwaysengland.co.uk/a428).

If you have a land interest which is impacted by these works, we will have already written to you with more information including the relevant contact details should you have any specific questions.

Working in the community

Our priority is to carry out this work in a way that will have the smallest possible impact on the nearby community and environment.

The majority of our work will be carried out during normal working hours (8am – 6pm), between Monday and Friday. We are not planning to work on weekends. However, should it be necessary, this will be restricted to Saturday (8am – 1pm).

There will be some short-term single-lane closures around the Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet junctions so we can safely access work sites and move equipment. These lane closures will take place at night (8pm – 6am) to minimise disruption to those travelling.

There is also the requirement for some off-peak traffic management to allow work on side roads across the scheme in the day time. Throughout the works we will avoid any full road closures, traffic restrictions around the junctions, and diversions.

There is the potential for some of the drilling equipment to be noisy for those living within a few hundred metres of our work. Please be assured that where we think there will be an impact, we will take necessary measures to mitigate this as much as possible.

If you would like further information about the scheme, more detail can be found on our website www.highwaysengland.co.uk/a428. To receive an email alert when new information is published, click on 'subscribe here'.

Should you have any questions about our ground investigations and surveys, please contact us at info@a428.co.uk

Yours faithfully



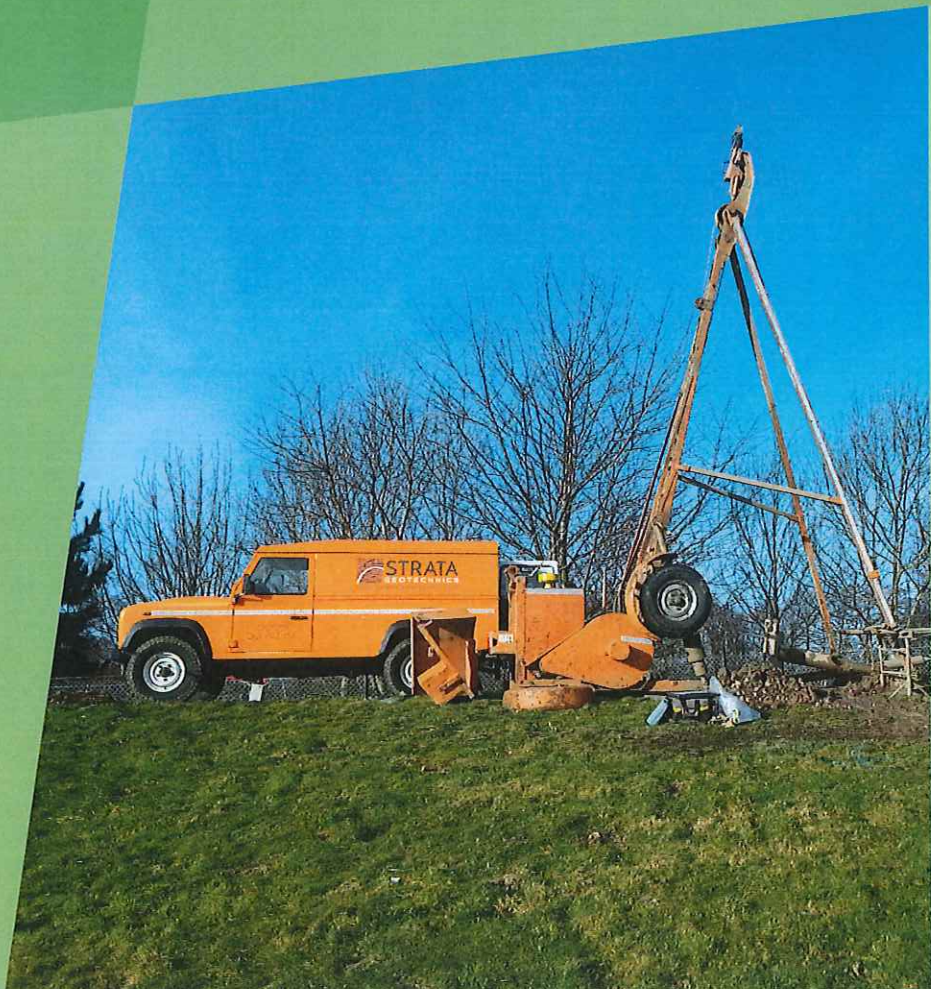
Anne-Marie Rogers
Senior Project Manager for A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet improvements scheme
Email: info@a428.co.uk
Tel: 0300 123 5000



A428

Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet improvements

Ground investigations
and surveys



A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet improvements

We are improving journeys between Milton Keynes and Cambridge with a new 10 mile dual carriageway between the Black Cat roundabout on the A1 and Caxton Gibbet roundabout on the A428.

Together with new and better junctions, the proposed new route will cut some journeys by more than a third at peak times, making journeys safer and more reliable.

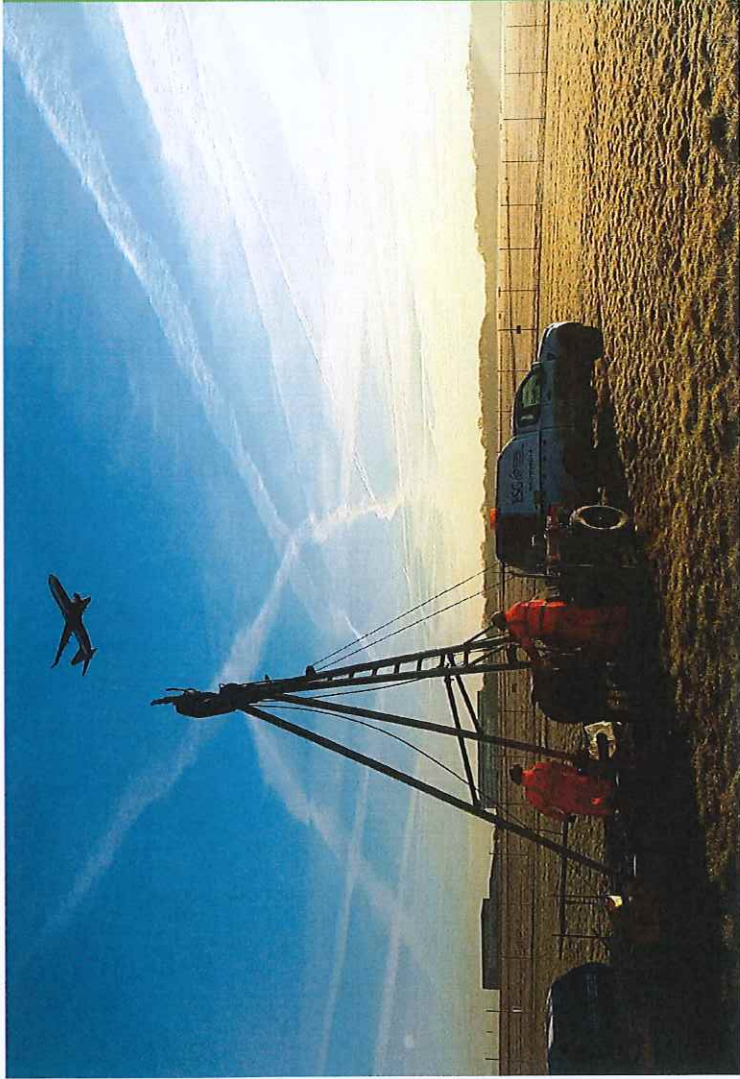
The scheme will help support the future traffic demands of two of the UK's fastest growing places, Cambridge and Milton Keynes. Together with the new A14, it will also form part of a key route to the ports of Felixstowe and Harwich.

Local villages will also benefit as the new road will help reduce rat running and remove the temptation for drivers – of both cars and lorries – to use smaller local roads to try and avoid delays.

At the heart of these plans is the drive to improve journeys and support economic growth in the region, and across the wider UK.

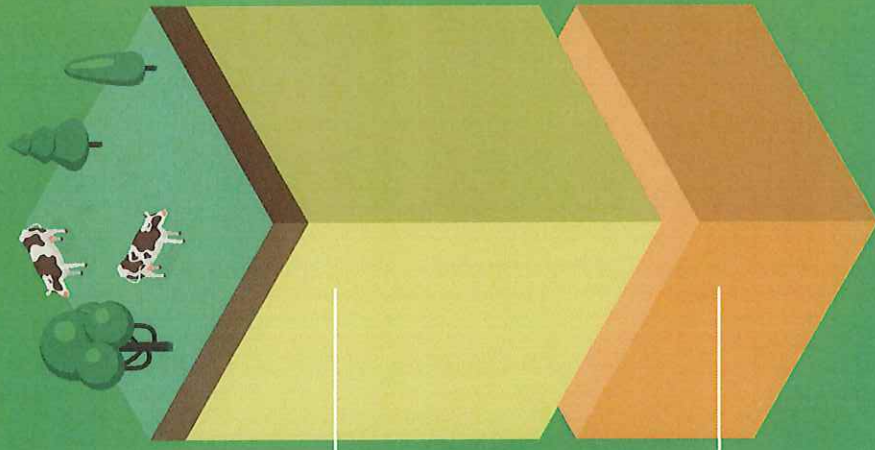
The scheme will include:

- A new three tier junction at Black Cat junction
- New junctions at Cambridge Road and Caxton Gibbet
- New bridges
- Safer routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders
- Better connections into St Neots town centre and train station



Geology across the route

The geology of the route is varied and may include:



Glacial till

Clay with bands of sand

Oxford clay

Stiff clay deposits

The ground beneath our feet

Our programme of ground investigations and surveys will give us a clear picture of the type of soils, rock types and groundwater where we'll be building.

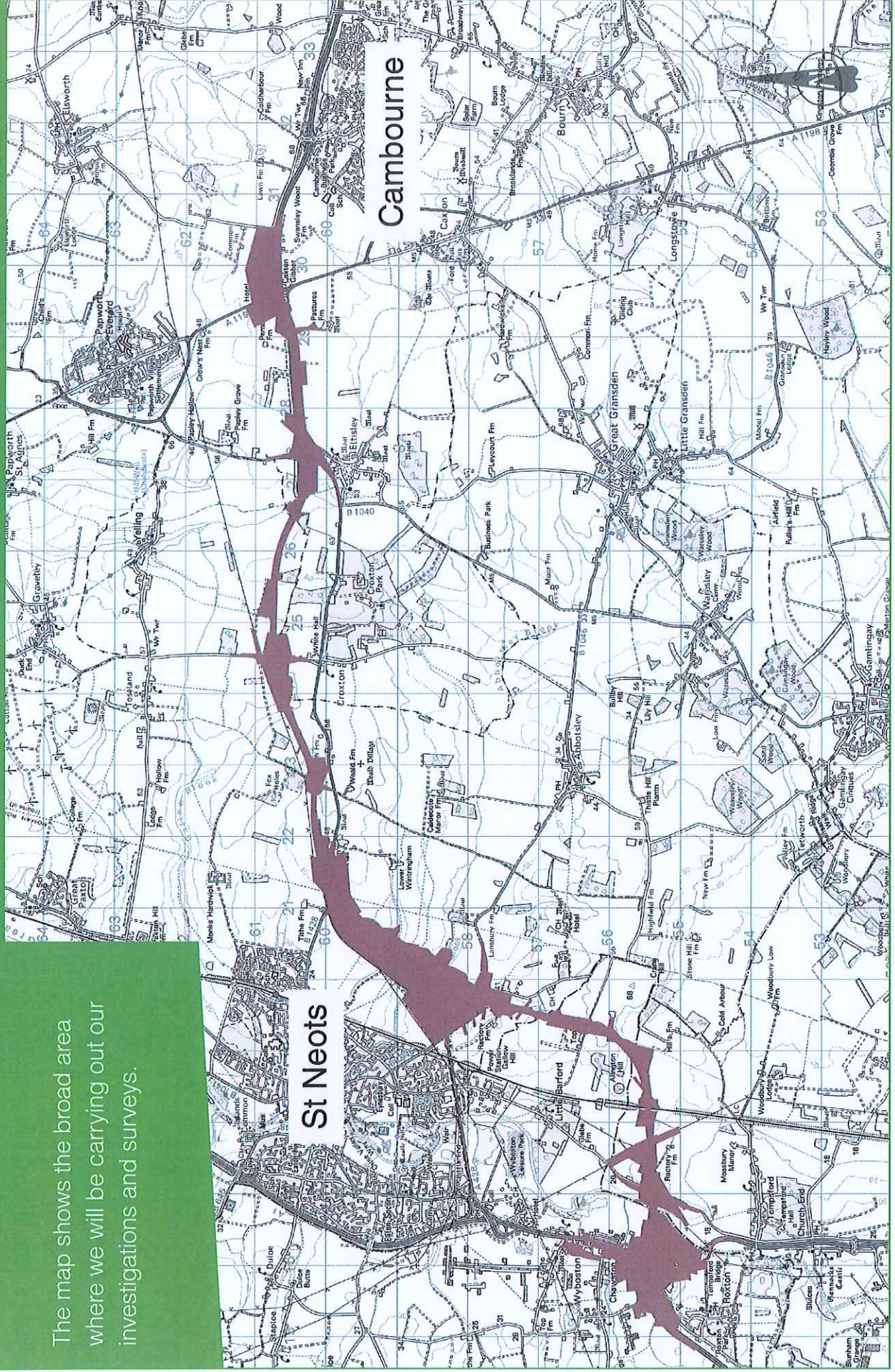
This will help us design everything we're building, as well as plan how to build it safely and in a way that will keep costs down.

Tests will be carried out at over 400 individual locations along the route.

The majority of work will take place on private property such as farmland and industrial sites. Any work in public areas will look very similar to normal road works, with barriers around a small section of a pavement or road, with a diversion around it for traffic or pedestrians.

Location of ground investigation and surveys

The map shows the broad area where we will be carrying out our investigations and surveys.

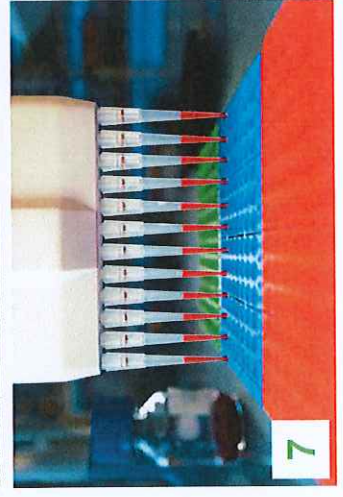


Ground investigation techniques

The main techniques we will use are:

- 1. Cable percussion boreholes**
The most common technique, a 7m tall frame lowers drilling tools between 10 - 30m deep.
- 2. Rotary core boreholes**
A mobile rig with an 8m tall mast uses a rotating drill to bore through hard soils and rocks up to 100m deep.
- 3. Dynamic sampling**
A small, tracked drilling rig with a 3m high mast pushes steel tubes into soft soil to take samples up to 10m deep.
- 5. Geophysical surveying**
These tests are carried out using trolley mounted or handheld equipment which detect changes in the magnetic field. This generates a picture of obstructions, or changes, in the ground below.
These can include:
 - buried services (such as gas pipes)
 - archaeological features
 - unknown features such as underground cavities.

- 4. Trial pits**
An excavator digs trenches that can be up to 4.5m deep to help identify the ground conditions and to provide soil samples for testing.
- 6. Ground water monitoring**
The monitoring of ground water levels.
- 7. Laboratory testing**
A range of tests and detailed analysis of samples in our lab provide information to help design how and what we build. They help us understand the properties of the soils including how strong they are and how much they may shrink or expand.





Working in the community

Our priority is to carry out this programme of work in a way that will have the smallest possible impact on the nearby community and environment.

The majority of our work will be carried out during normal working hours (8am-6pm), between Monday and Friday.

More detail on where and when we're working, and what we're doing can be found on our website:

highwaysengland.co.uk/a428

You will also be able to find more detailed information on each technique we'll be using, and the progress of our work so far.

Contact us

📞 0300 123 5000

✉️ info@a428.co.uk

🌐 highwaysengland.co.uk/a428

If you need help accessing this or any other Highways England information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

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For an accessible version of this publication please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

If you have any enquiries about this publication email info@highwaysengland.co.uk or call **0300 123 5000***. Please quote the Highways England publications code **PR60/19**.

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