

What is the 'West of Cheltenham Transport Improvement Scheme'? (WCTIS)

The West Cheltenham Transport Improvement Scheme (WCTIS) will include improvements from M5 junction 11 to the junction of (A40/B4633), TGI Fridays. These improvements are split in to four phases, and a summary of the phases is detailed below:

Phases 1 and 2

- M5 J11 to Arle Court eastbound carriageway widening (towards Cheltenham)
- Provision of an additional circulatory lane around the roundabout
- Corresponding additional lanes to the A40 on the approaches and exits to and from the junction
- New bus lane on the B4063 approach from Staverton, also improving facilities for cyclists
- Bus Lane modifications to improve journey times for public transport
- Widening the Hatherley Lane arm to the south side of the roundabout
- Park and Ride Entrance/Exit westbound (towards Gloucester) from Arle Court Roundabout
- Proposal to improve cyclist access at specific junctions, such as Fiddlers Green Lane
- Investigating other cycling improvements as part of this phase

Phases 3 and 4 Arle Court Roundabout to Benhall Roundabout

- Arle Court to Telsar Way eastbound carriageway improvements (towards Cheltenham town centre)
- Improving access for cyclists between Arle Court roundabout and Benhall roundabout
- Telsar Way to Benhall Roundabout eastbound carriageway widening
- Telsar Way widening to Hubble Road
- Benhall Roundabout remodelling including eastbound widening
- Cycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements from Arle Court to Cheltenham Railway Station

***Note that the cycling and pedestrian proposals are detailed on the West Cheltenham Walking and Cycling Improvements display boards (WCWCI).**

Summary

- Phases 1- 4 combined, consists of approximately 3.7km of highway improvements, plus the walking and cycling proposals.

When will the work start and when will it be finished by?

Phases 1 and 2 will start on-site in Spring 2020, with Phases 3 and 4 and WCWCI to follow on immediately afterwards (subject to approval).

Who are the GFirst LEP?

Set up by central Government in 2011 to work with local businesses, local voluntary organisations and local authorities, the role of GFirst LEP (Gloucestershire First Local Enterprise Partnership) is to drive sustainable economic growth in the county, and by doing so, create jobs and business opportunities. GFirst LEP is run by a voluntary board of senior executives and elected representatives, from business and local authorities. The team are based in the Growth Hub at the University of Gloucestershire, GFirst LEP also supports several business sector groups that provide opportunities for business to “talk to government” directly.

Why are the improvements necessary?

The improvements are necessary to fulfil the commitment of the GFirst LEP in supporting the region and enabling developments.

The main purpose of the scheme is to fulfill the following objectives:

- Improve access to public transport and make cycling and walking more attractive *refer to the WCWCI details
- Reduce peak period congestion for routes to/from Cheltenham, specifically along the A40;
- Improve the efficiency of the existing junctions, and aim to reduce delays for all traffic;
- To help accelerate the delivery of planned growth and improve access to existing and potential employment areas

