

Gorchmynion Drafft Cyffyrdd 16 ac 16A yr A55 Weminar Dwygyfylchi A55 Junctions 16 and 16A Draft Orders Dwygyfylchi Webinar

AR-LEIN WEMINAR – 5 MAI 2021 7:30YT

ONLINE WEBINAR - 5 MAY 2021 7:30PM

During the webinar, you asked us questions using the on-screen text box. A summary of the questions and answers is available below. Some questions have been grouped.

You can also watch the webinar online at <https://a55engagement.gov.wales/events.html>.

Q.	Is there a computerised video not still photos that travels along the new route getting on and off all the turnings that we can view?
A.	A video can be found on the engagement hub https://a55engagement.gov.wales/exhibition-J16-J16A.html
Q.	If this scheme goes ahead, will the junction at Pen Duffryn be operational before you close the roundabout?
A.	Yes. The removal of the roundabout will be the very last construction operation. At this point the overbridge at J16A and the link road will be operational. However, there will be phasing and restrictions during construction.
Q.	Please can you let us know what the noise barrier in Maes y Llan will look like? Will efforts be made to reduce the visible impact of this barrier on the street?
A.	The final form/design has not been fixed. The design team would like to open a dialogue with the affected residents to find solutions for the noise and visual barriers at Maes Y Llan.
Q.	Will the new iron bridge need to extend over the new road to the end of the footpath. Why does the replacement footbridge not bridge the slip road?
A.	The current arrangement does not allow for a bridge over the slip road. If this was included in the design, it would need to take additional land from the open space to accommodate the ramps.
Q.	Will access to the beach and the national cycle path be as safe as it is now. A suitable gate at the bottom end of the football pitch is also needed. I believe that the existing bridge is to stay for access to the beach? Will the general public have to cross a construction site?
A.	The existing Puffin footbridge is being replaced, with one designed to modern safer design standards. It will incorporate ramps to improve access for all users. Similarly, the crossing across the link road would be provided to meet modern design standards. A note was taken during the webinar to clarify the gate arrangement.
	During construction, the contractor will be required under their contract to ensure that will be safe routes through the site. The existing footbridge bridge will remain until the new one is complete.
Q.	Will the fast off slip from A55 to Pen mini roundabout be designed to slow vehicles down considerably? Drivers tend to look to the right and if no vehicle seen, enter

	the roundabout at speed. Rumble strips would be good or restrict vision on approach.
A.	The junction will be designed to meet design standards. These ensure that drivers have sufficient visibility and time to slow down on the slip roads, before they reach the junction.
Q.	Glan yr Afon Road. This is the only road in our village to suffer a fatality. Although you are widening this road up to the first house, beyond this there are no pavements for approx. 200mts around a double Z bend. This is the exact place we had the fatality. A very dangerous section which already struggles with the present traffic.
A.	A response was provided in the webinar by Andrew Wilkinson, Conwy County Borough Council, as this location is outside of the footprint of the scheme.
Q.	Where did you get your traffic figures from? What evidence do you have about low numbers of traffic along the link road?
A.	The traffic figures are taken from the traffic models produced for the scheme, developed using traffic surveys undertaken in 2016. The forecast traffic figures can be found in the Traffic Forecasting Report (https://gov.wales/a55-junctions-16-and-16a-stage-3-traffic-forecasting-report). Information can also be found in the Environmental Statement. Copies can viewed online at https://gov.wales/a55-junctions-16-and-16a .
Q.	Will there be a gateway feature at junction 16 to enter Dwygyfylchi?
A.	There is an area identified in the Environmental Master Plan for a feature on Glan Yr Afon Road. The final form/design has not been fixed. This will be developed in liaison with Conwy County Borough Council and the Councillors for Dwygyfylchi.
Q.	The mitigation land provided to replace the existing football/playing field is NOT being given to the community as per your paperwork, it's being given to a local developer and farmer...why?
A.	A clarification was provided in the webinar that no land would be compulsorily purchased from one owner to be given to another. Instead, the land which would be provided in exchange for the area of open space lost due to the scheme, would be bought from the adjacent farmer.
Q.	The land offered is nowhere near the quality of the land lost. It's an irregular shape, it's boggy, not sufficient nor suitable.
A.	It is understood that this question relates to the exchange land. The land will be landscaped as part of the scheme. Discussions are ongoing with Conwy County Borough Council with regards to the final design.
Q.	What are the white objects on the grass of the beach next to the off ramp of the bridge? And what is the grey line crossing the rail track it looks like it is at track level?
A.	The flythrough was developed from drone video images. It is possible that an oddities in the flythrough are shadows from the drone video.
Q.	How much of the football will be lost?
A.	As part of the landscaping, an area of rough vegetation would be cleared. The football pitch would then be relocated to the west. Exchange land would be provided on the eastern side of the footpath to replace the corner of the open space lost.

Q.	The eastbound slip road off the new junction, on leaving this junction you immediately hit a 30mph zone. As the traffic on the A55 has already speeded up because of the removal of the roundabout this could become a major problem for both the A55 traffic and vehicles wishing to join from the slip road. Consideration should be made extending the 30mph zone to the west side of the new junction.
A.	The 30mph zone on the approach to the tunnel would be extended towards J16A, so by the time that westbound traffic joins at J16A the traffic speeds on the A55 would have already reduced.
Q.	A55 noise affects parts of the village not in the immediate vicinity of A55, what noise mitigation can these other parts of the village expect?
	Properties both immediately adjacent to the scheme and at a further distance would benefit from the noise bunds and planting running along the south side of the link road.
Q.	Is there an opportunity here to create substantial woodland (rather than just a thin line of trees) along the A55 on the stretch up to jct 16a - given there is no earth embankment planned for this section? This would have benefit for carbon capture, biodiversity as well as visual screening and noise mitigation.
A.	The landscaping is simplified on the flythroughs and is an artists impression only. It therefore may be denser in many locations than shown. The planting will be finalised at detailed design after the Public Local Inquiry. This will aim to maximise the environmental benefits provided by the scheme, within the constraints of the available land.
Q.	So you are saying the way into Dwygyfylchi from the junction will be widened until the first house is reached, what happens then as the road into the village is very narrow?
A.	This issue was covered earlier in the Q&A by Andrew Wilkinson, Conwy County Borough Council. This length of the road is outside of the footprint of the scheme.
Q.	Is the slip road into the village at junction 16a to be longer than currently? It can be quite dangerous now due to short length.
A.	Yes, the slip roads will be longer as they will be designed to meet modern design standards.
Q.	What about the bus services?
	Once the scheme is complete, the scheme would create the opportunity for enhancements to be made to the bus routes, with additional bus stops on the link road and shorter eastbound journeys to Conway (as buses would not need to double back at the roundabout). No bus stops would be lost. However, it is acknowledged that the bus services would be affected during construction.
Q.	What will happen to access to the village whilst work is going on? Can you provide some more details about how the works will be undertaken with a view to roadworks, contraflows etc and the anticipated impact on the village and the sychnant pass being used as an informal diversion?
	During construction, the intention is that two lane running would be retained on the A55 other than in isolated locations works might be required for safety reasons, for example when the

	<p>overbridge bridge beams at J16A are being lifted into place. There is no additional reason for Synchronant pass to be used as a diversion route.</p> <p>Traffic access will be maintained throughout the construction at Junction 16. The roundabout at Junction 16 will be the last element to be removed.</p>
Q.	<p>Will the residents of Maes Y Llan be approached regarding the sound barriers or should each of the residents approach Ramboll!?</p> <p>How will you contact residents to discuss barrier preferences and when is this likely to happen?</p>
A.	<p>If you have any concerns, you are welcome to approach us. The people that we would approach individually are those who live in the properties that directly front onto the proposed works at Maes Y Llan.</p> <p>It is envisaged that these residents will be contacted by the Public Liaison Officer and/or the project team before the beginning of June.</p>
Q.	<p>How will you mitigate the noise levels on the flyover which is high over the A55?</p>
	<p>The main noise is due to vehicles on the A55 rather than vehicles on the slip roads or using the overbridge. The scheme incorporates raised embankments and planting at Junction 16A, which will shield the community from the noise coming from mainline traffic. The planting will also help shield the community from the views of the link road.</p>
Q.	<p>Will we see a design of the new footbridge - material etc?</p>
A.	<p>The design for the replacement footbridge will not been finalised until after the Public Local Inquiry. However, the project team would continue to liaise with Conwy County Borough Council, Penmaenmawr Town Council and Dwygyfylchi Councillors throughout the design process.</p>
Q.	<p>What will the pedestrian Crossing be from Maes-y-Llan to the footbridge?? (Pelican or what?)</p> <p>Are they proper pedestrian crossings with light, not just zebra crossings?</p>
A.	<p>It is currently anticipated that the crossing will be signal controlled with lights; designed to meet current standards.</p>
Q.	<p>Will the A55 on this stretch and new roads be constructed with noise reducing surfacing?</p>
A.	<p>The improved sections of the A55 will be constructed with low noise surfacing. The final surface of the side roads that are affected by the works, (including Glan Yr Afon Road, Link Road, Conway Road and Ysgurborwen Road) will be agreed with Conwy County Borough Council.</p>
Q.	<p>Joining the A55 just before the tunnel towards Conwy, there does not seem to be much distance before the tunnel</p>
A.	<p>The 30mph zone on the approach to the tunnel would be extended towards J16A, so by the time that westbound traffic joins at J16A the traffic speeds on the A55 would have already reduced. This will mean that the approach to the tunnel and headland is safer.</p>
Q.	<p>What traffic orders will be put in place during construction to limit disruption & improve safety in the village, with increased traffic on the narrow roads up to the Sychnant Pass, as drivers inevitably use these roads as a rat run,</p>

A.	Although there will be traffic management on the A55, it is anticipated that the speed limit would be 50mph. This would provide for a smoother flow of traffic. We are not therefore expecting that mainline traffic would want to divert over the Sychnant Pass.
Q.	To be clear, will there be an exit eastbound from the A55 on to junction 16a and the over bridge into Dwygyfylchi, and also an entrance going eastbound from the over bridge on to the A55 from junction 16a?
A.	The overbridge arrangement at Junction 16A would provide both slip roads on and off the A55 at Dwygyfylchi in both the east and westbound direction (four way movement).
Q.	What will be the classification of the link road and will development be restricted
A.	The link road would be adopted by Conwy County Borough Council once construction has been completed. They would then be responsible for the maintenance of the road. Planning policy falls under the remit of Conwy County Borough Council. You can find further information on their website: https://www.conwy.gov.uk/en/Resident/Planning-Building-Control-and-Conservation/Planning-Building-Control-Conservation.aspx
Q.	Are you retaining the cattle grid on Glan yr Afon road Are cattle grids going to be installed on all access routes to A55?
A.	A replacement cattle grid is included in the design at Glan Yr Afon Road. There are ongoing discussions with regards to the provision of another cattle grid on Ysgurborwen Road, just prior to where it joins the link road.
Q.	When you say landscaping the opposite side of the footpath adjacent to the football, what will actually be done at that site?
A.	The Environmental Master Plans show an outline of the proposed landscaping on the opposite side of the footpath to the football pitch. The final design would be developed in liaison with Conwy County Borough Council, the Dwygyfylchi Councillors and the landowners concerned.
Q.	Will any work being done close to the Maes y Llan houses be done at night?
	It is not anticipated that any works will be carried out, in the vicinity of Maes y Llan, outside of normal working hours.
Q.	You must be joking re the £0MPH
A.	We are sorry but we do not understand this question. Please contact us directly to clarify what you are asking.
Q.	What size will the trees be? Semi mature or fully mature? Saplings would take a number of years to provide any noise mitigation.
A.	The scheme will include areas of tree and shrub planting for screening of views and to provide some visual amenity. For general planting areas the trees and shrubs will be small whips and feathered trees that will stand a better chance of survival than larger nursery stock due to the coastal conditions. These trees and shrubs will take some time to establish and mature. In some locations such as at the entrances and gateways to the towns, larger trees will be planted for immediate effect. The trees and shrub planting are very unlikely to reduce noise levels and therefore are not used to provide noise mitigation.

Q.	Could the stretch between jct 16 and 16a be 50 mph? This would reduce noise and provide a gradual speed reduction into the 30mph zone.
A.	We assume that this question refers to the A55 and not the link road. There is no proposal to reduce the speed limit on the A55 between junctions 16 and 16A.
Q.	I understand that land purchase is required to be minimal but it would be good to maximise tree planting (bearing in mind optimal planting density for tree health) rather than minimal tree density.
	The landscaping is simplified on the flythroughs and is an artists impression only. It therefore may be denser in many locations than shown. The planting will be finalised at detailed design after the Public Local Inquiry. This will aim to maximise the environmental benefits provided by the scheme, within the constraints of the available land.
Q.	Shouldn't we be looking at electrifying public transport and therefore encouraging its use to reduce our carbon footprint?
A.	We agree that this is a really important issue. However, it is part of a wider Welsh Government policy, that does not fall within this scheme.
Q.	Can you please share answers to any questions not answered after the end of the webinar? Not all of us are on Facebook!
A.	The Q&A will be available from the engagement hub website https://a55engagement.gov.wales/events.html It will also be shared with the Penmaenmawr Town Council and Councillors for Dwygyfylchi.
Q.	NOT Answered MY Question!!
A.	Our apologies for not being able to answer everyone's questions. Responses to all of the questions can be found in this Q&A, which will be available from the engagement hub website.