

FAQs: A19 south scheme – phase 2: Crockey Hill

What is A19 south scheme?

The A19 (south) is one of York's main routes and also one of the busiest, with over 20,000 vehicles using it daily. It has a major junction with the A64 bypass to the south of the city near Fulford, on the way to Selby.

As a result of so many vehicles using this road there are often large queues of traffic particularly during busy times in the evening. This can cause what is known as a 'pinch point' or queues of traffic at the Crockey Hill traffic lights (junction of the A19 and Wheldrake Lane).

This rapidly backs up to the A19/A64 Fulford interchange which causes congestion up the A64 off slip-road onto the dual carriageway and up the A19 Selby Road - sometimes stretching back through the village of Fulford itself.

What is the aim of this scheme?

Phase 1 was carried out in the summer of 2015 and helped to reduce congestion northbound at the busy A19/A64 junction (near the Designer Outlet). It helped to improve public transport journey times and reliability.

However, for traffic going out of York, the problem of traffic queues in the evening remains. Phase 2 will help to ease this build up of congestion at the busy section of road at Crockey Hill reducing the risk of blocking of the A19/A64 junction. In particular it aims to improve public transport journey times and reliability along the A19 near Fulford (Selby Road) and the A64 Fulford interchange (junction).

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When will phase 2 start?

- significant work has already been undertaken to establish the root causes of the southbound queues so that we can help to tackle this
- during May 2017 we're keen to hear your views on these proposals
- all feedback will be taken to a public meeting, chaired by the councillor responsible for transport, before any decisions about the scheme are made final
- subject to this decision, some off road work could start in the autumn of 2017
This may include utility works and work to fell/replace a small number of trees
- we hope to start the main construction works in the new year 2018

The key improvements could include the below - *please see drawing for a visual*

We estimate that journey times in the evening peak period along this 2km stretch of road will be reduced by up to 5 minutes, by:

- widening the A19 southbound road on the approach to the junction with Wheldrake Lane at Crockey Hill. This will introduce an additional outbound lane
- widening the A19 southbound road to the south of Crockey Hill. This will continue the two-lanes through the junction southbound prior to a merge back to a single lane
- improvements to the traffic lights at the A64/A19 junction
- changes to off road pedestrian and cycle routes

How many motorists use this junction?

Over 20,000 vehicles use this road every day (*source: Sept 2016 traffic survey conducted by the council*). The junction at times operates at or above its capacity (of 1,200 vehicles per hour in one direction) and as such there are often queues which can cause sections of the A19 and its junctions to block.

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Will this scheme make this route quicker?

Yes. It's estimated that the works will reduce the average time taken to travel through the Fulford Interchange junction and down the A19 to Crockey Hill by up to five minutes. This is from nearly seven minutes (during the evening busy times), to just over two minutes (on average). The length of southbound queues will be reduced by up to 50 per cent.

How much will the scheme cost? And how is it being funded?

The scheme is being funded entirely from Department for Transport (DfT) pinch point fund and is estimated to cost approximately £1million. We submitted a bid to the DfT in February 2013 for local transport pinch point funding for works on the A19 south, around the Fulford area.

In October 2013, it was announced that we had been successful and were to receive £1.93 million towards the scheme. This was a contribution towards an overall package of works totalling £4.716million. The majority of this cost being concentrated on highway works associated with the planned Germany Beck development by Persimmon Homes.

How can I find out more information?

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