

MRN: Army & Navy Sustainable Transport Package

"The Army and Navy is a major junction in the heart of Chelmsford. Not only should its redevelopment improve car journey times, but the sustainable travel improvements for walking, cycling and buses are crucial to helping Chelmsford residents travel safely by alternative means."

"I hope the Government will recognise the importance of this infrastructure and ensure that it eventually receives the funding it needs to go ahead."

Marie Goldman MP
Member of Parliament for Chelmsford

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Delivering Government Missions

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- The map displays the Chelmsford area with various transportation and development features. A legend in the top-left corner defines the symbols: green lines for Bus Routes, orange dots for Development Sites within 5km Buffer, light orange dots for Development Sites Beyond 5km Buffer, a dashed line for the 5km Scheme Buffer, a solid grey line for the Strategic Road Network, and a solid black line for Other Roads. The map shows a dense network of roads, including major routes like the A12, A130, A132, A137, A144, and A1060. Bus routes are indicated by green lines with numbers. Development sites are marked with orange dots, with several located within the 5km buffer and others further out. A scale bar at the bottom left indicates distances up to 5 km, and a north arrow is in the top right corner.

The scheme is within 5km of plans for **12,000 new homes**. The package of measures support planned housing growth in the city and beyond, including to the North East and East of Chelmsford.

Deliverability in this Parliament	✓	Public consultations on the scheme received overall positive feedback
	✓	Final BC submitted in Autumn 2024
	✓	Planning application approved in November 2024
	✓	Construction scheduled for 2027 and is expected to be completed by 2029
Estimated Cost		£81m
Next Steps		Subject to funding, construction is scheduled for 2027

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The Case for change

The junction is over capacity during the morning and evening peak times, and the situation is expected to worsen unless action is taken. To begin to solve these problems, the routes through the junction need to encourage safer, greener and healthier ways of travel, especially for shorter journeys where walking or cycling should be encouraged. This transport package has followed the demolition of a junction flyover on safety grounds to improve the connectivity and transport opportunities as a result. The Army and Navy Sustainable Transport Package is an opportunity to improve sustainable modes immediately and in the long-term provide a means for Chelmsford to grow. The package includes substantial walking and cycling infrastructure and infrastructure which improves capacity and links to Chelmsford's Park & Ride network.

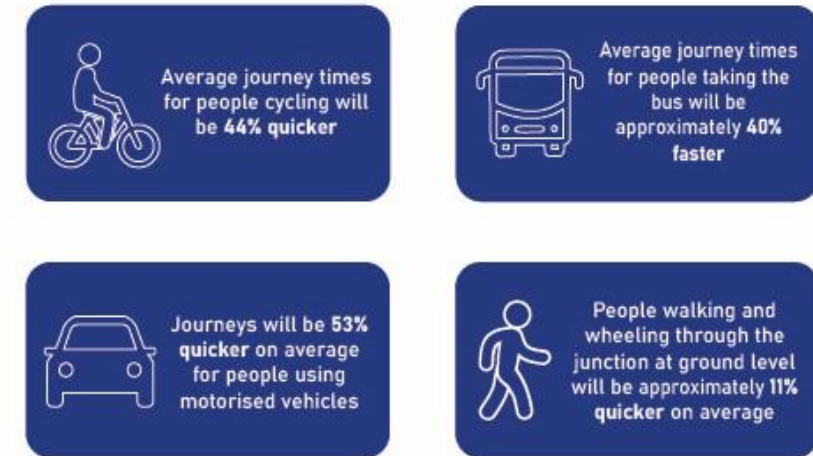
Why now and what happens if we don't deliver?

By doing nothing, the severe congestion and traffic delay experienced at the Army & Navy junction will be exacerbated as the city continues to grow. People will be less likely to change their mode of travel to active modes or public transport, worsening this congestion. Economic growth will be stifled and re-routing of traffic via less appropriate roads will increase stress on the wider transport network, impacting local communities and making it harder for people to choose walking, wheeling and cycling. There will be increased cost and delay for employees seeking to access jobs and for residents seeking to access essential services such as the hospital, education and shopping.

Importance to the Transport East region

Transport East's Connectivity Study has carried out a comprehensive assessment of the importance of schemes in the Strategic Investment Plan to the goals of the Transport East Strategy. This study quantified the importance of different corridors against a range of strategic metrics linked to the Strategy.

The Army and Navy Package mostly affects local journeys around Chelmsford, one of the highest demand corridors in our regional modelling, as well as connections between Chelmsford and the Southend area. Public Transport and active modes have a high share of demand in the Chelmsford corridor, despite slower journey times. The roundabout improvements, and associated Park & Ride enhancements, will further improve the attractiveness of bus and active modes, making travel more sustainable. The junction has a higher-than-average proportion of low-income users with a diverse range of reasons for travel, with 50% of short trips made by low- and medium-income households.



Alignment to Transport East Aims

Scheme aligns with Transport East pathway of **Connecting growing towns and cities**. And specifically supports the goals **Improve connections within towns & cities, supporting sustainable access** and to **'Deliver faster, more reliable connections between growing places**.