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STAGE 3 SCHEME ASSESSMENT

The Stage 3 scheme assessment process for the preferred route is currently underway.

The objective is to ensure that the assessment is sufficient to identify clearly the advantages and disadvantages, in environmental, engineering, economic and traffic terms of the preferred route.

A particular requirement at this stage is an assessment of the significant environmental effects of the project in accordance with The Roads (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 which came into operation on 16th May 2017. This transposes the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by 2014/52/EU, into Northern Ireland legislation.



Stage 3 Assessment Report

The Stage 3 Scheme Assessment Report (SAR) is a key document in the delivery programme as described by the Department's Policy and Procedure Guidelines (RSPPG) E030 Major Road Improvement Schemes – Inception to Construction and the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) TD 37/93 Scheme Assessment Reporting.

The primary focus of this report is to describe the engineering aspects of the Proposed Scheme that inform the Draft Vesting Order, Direction Order and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

This SAR shall present the engineering, environmental, traffic and economic assessment of the Preferred Route. Amongst many things, the process shall:

- include detailed development and assessment of scheme in consultation with key stakeholders;
- identify the main environmental impacts and how these would be reduced as far as is practically feasible; and
- establish land take required to accommodate the scheme.

The proportionate appraisal for the scheme shall also be cognisant of the WebTAG – Transport Analysis Guidance requirements for this stage of the assessment process.

