

## 1 Welcome

Thank you for viewing our digital exhibition on the A423 Kennington improvements programme.

This exhibition provides information about the programme and gives you the opportunity to provide feedback.

You can provide feedback by filling in the feedback form on the **A423 Kennington Let's Talk page**.

Programme updates can be found on the Oxfordshire County Council website <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kennington>.

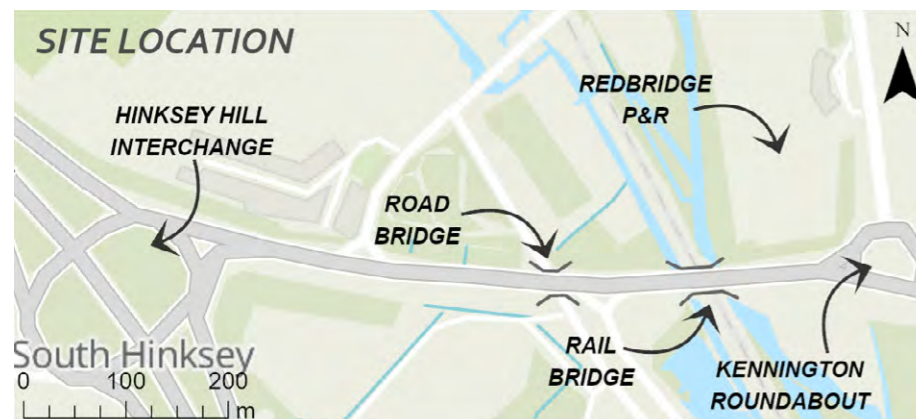
**Closing date for comments is 23:59 on Sunday 23 October 2022.**

### What is the A423 Kennington improvements programme?

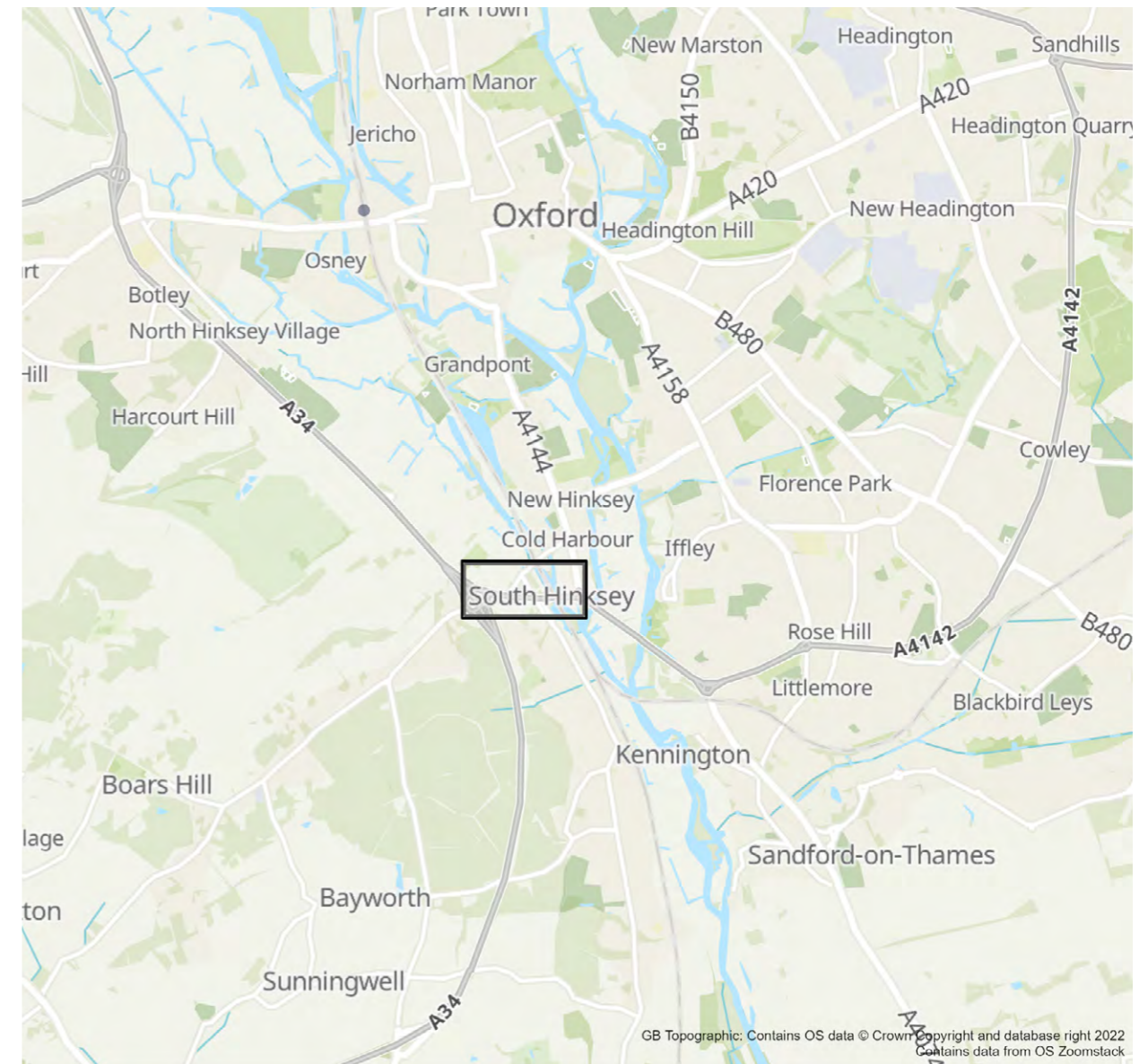
The programme includes improvements to the Kennington stretch of the A423 Southern Bypass between the Hinksey Hill Interchange and Kennington Roundabout.

There are two bridges along this stretch of the A423 – the Kennington rail bridge and the Kennington road bridge.

Kennington rail bridge is in poor condition and needs to be replaced. Oxfordshire County Council are proposing to replace the bridge, as well as further improvements to prioritise space for cycling, walking and public transport. The aim is to reduce congestion and encourage active travel.



Site Location



Site Location



## 2 Project background and benefits



Existing Kennington rail bridge (photo taken Summer 2021)



Existing Kennington rail bridge (photo taken Summer 2021)

### Programme background

The A423 is a dual carriageway forming part of the Oxford City Southern Bypass. The road is very busy and carries approximately 53,000 vehicles per day. There are two bridges along this stretch of the A423 – the Kennington rail bridge and the Kennington road bridge.

Kennington rail bridge is in poor condition and has significant long term maintenance issues. Repair works were undertaken between 2016 and 2021. However, due to ongoing deterioration, in July 2019 it was decided that the bridge needed to be replaced.

Replacing the bridge provides an opportunity to make other improvements to keep traffic flowing smoothly and enable active travel. Expanding the programme beyond just repairing the bridge means we can avoid future disruption.

### Programme benefits

The benefits of the programme include:

- prioritisation of road space for buses, walking and cycling
- improved journey times and reduced congestion
- improved journey times to Redbridge Park and Ride
- improved safety for all users
- reduced speed limit to make the road safer
- the new bridge will be able to carry abnormal load vehicles.

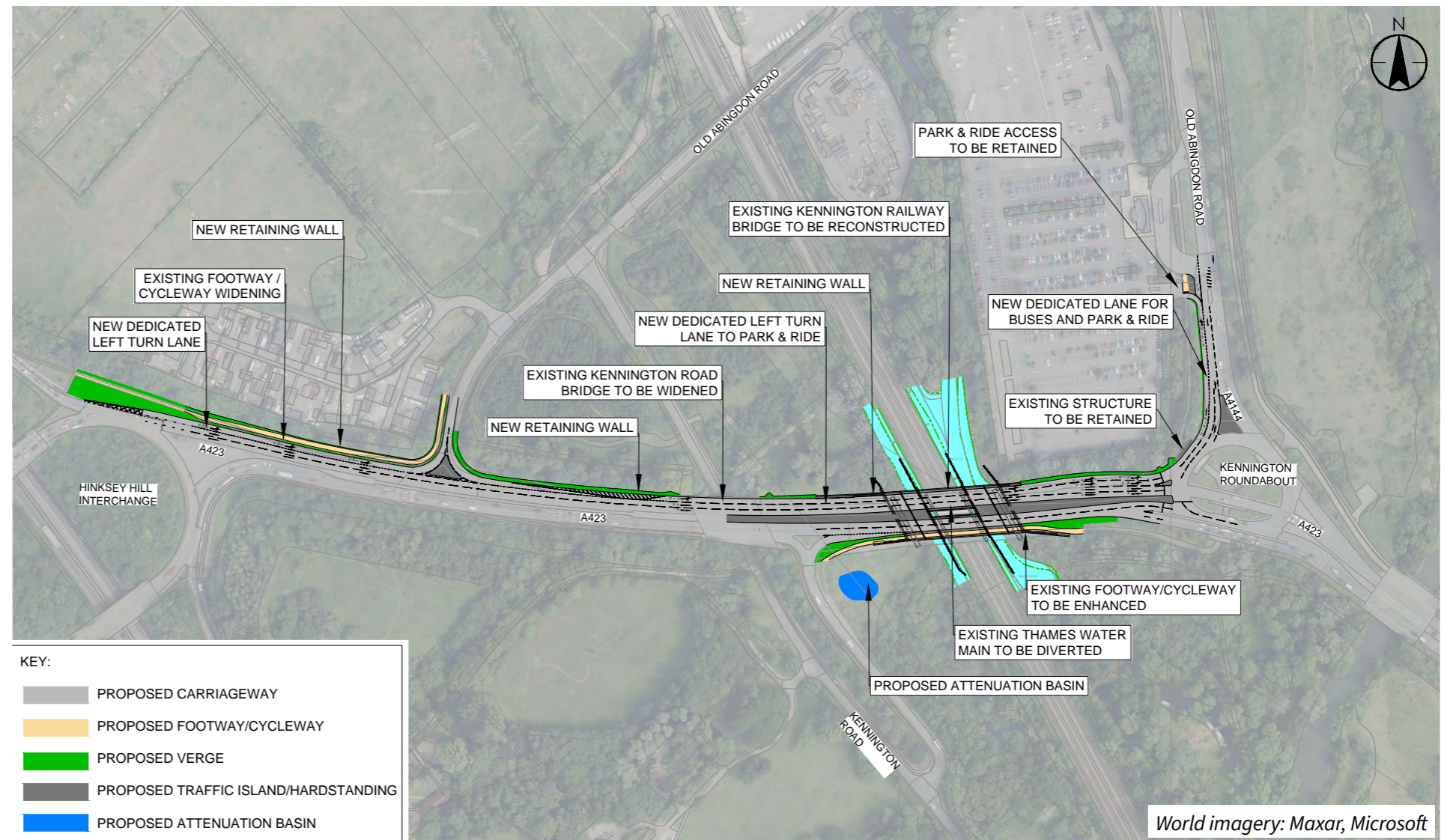


## 3 What is proposed?

### Overview

The A423 Kennington improvements programme will:

- replace the Kennington rail bridge
- provide a new eastbound lane with a left turn lane to Old Abingdon Road and a dedicated lane for buses and users of Redbridge Park and Ride
- widen and better separate some of the existing pathways along this stretch of the A423
- include sustainable drainage features to manage surface water runoff and reduce flooding to local watercourses
- include a new 50mph speed limit
- provide space for work to the Hinksey Stream on either side of the railway line to facilitate the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme.



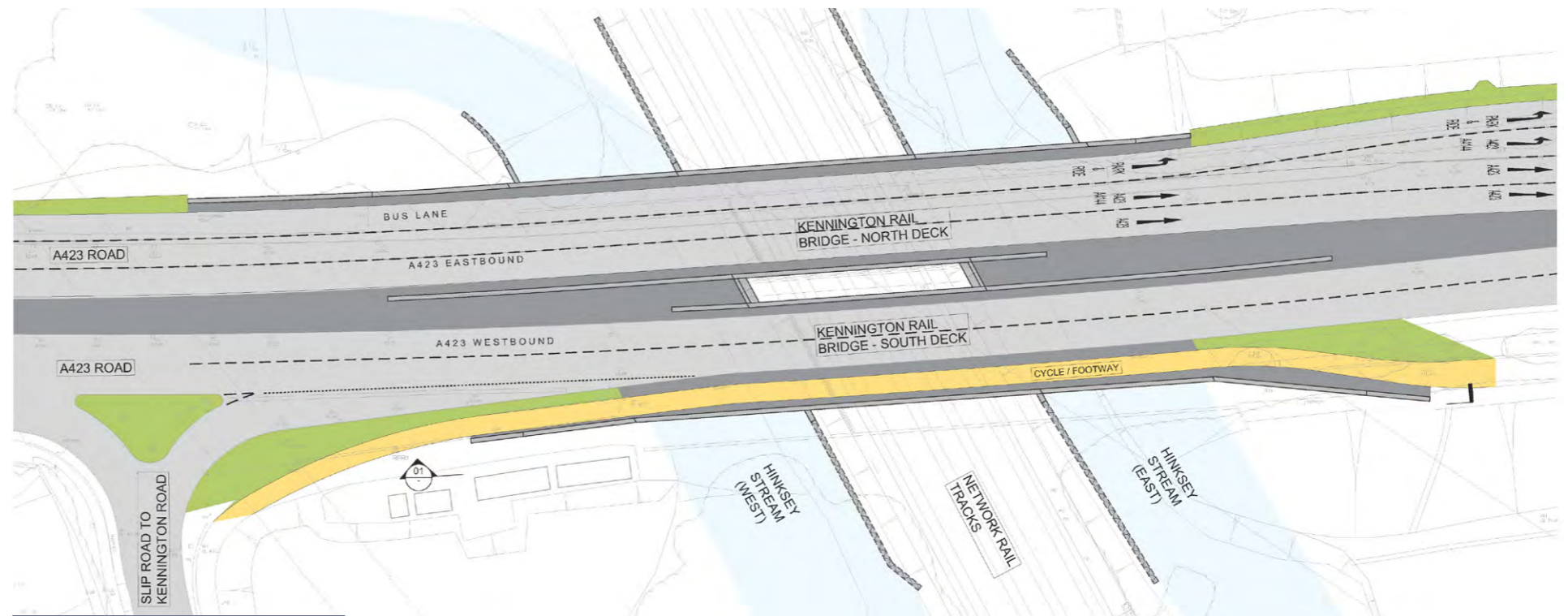
Preliminary design

## 4 What is proposed?

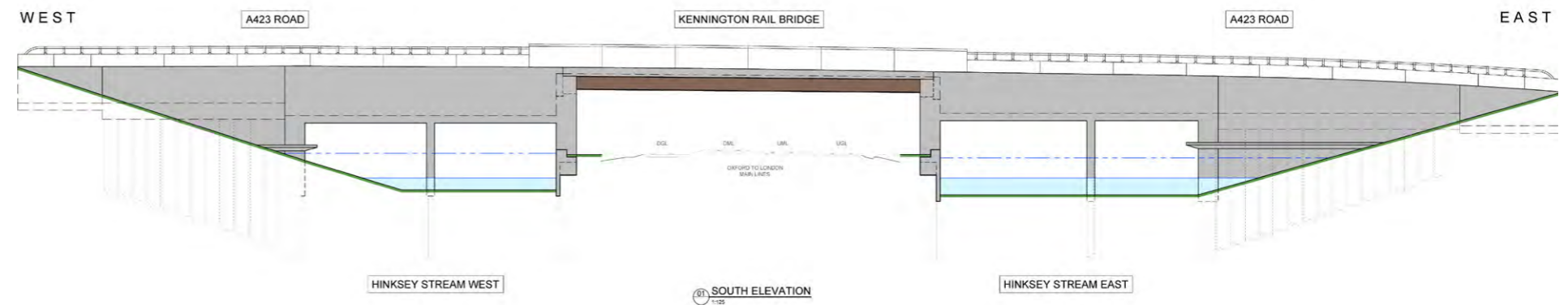
### Replacement rail bridge

The replacement bridge will include:

- two separate bridge decks
- two westbound lanes
- three eastbound lanes, including a dedicated lane for buses and Redbridge Park and Ride users
- a shared footway / cycleway to the southern side
- culverts (a tunnel carrying a watercourse) to replace existing water channels beneath the bridge on either side of the railway line and provide space for work on the Hinksey Streams required as part of Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme.



Rail bridge preliminary design



Elevation of replacement rail bridge from railway line

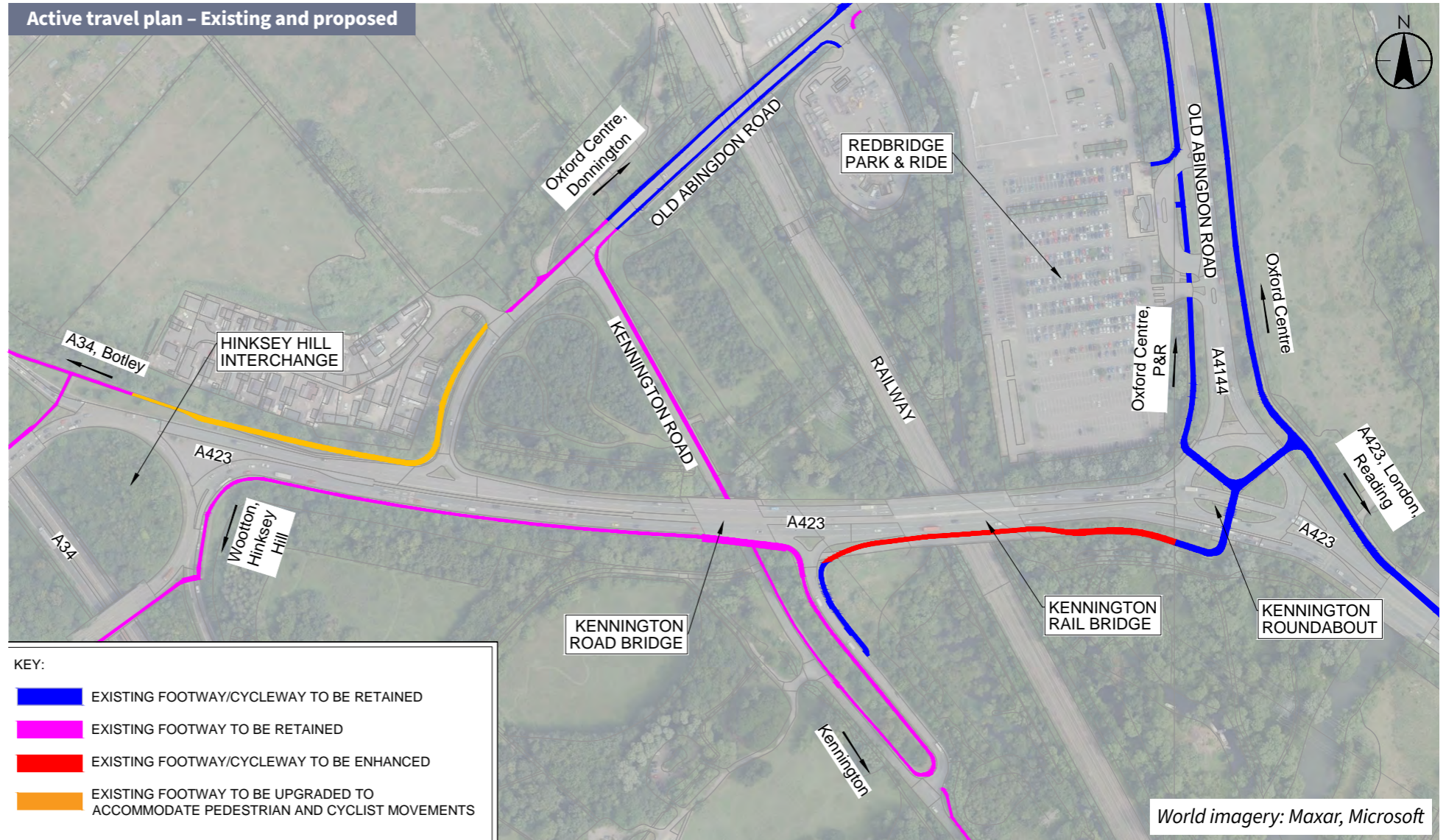
## 5 Active travel

Active travel includes walking, cycling, scooting and skating. Supporting and encouraging active travel is fundamental to Oxfordshire's strategy for a sustainable, equitable and inclusive mobility future.

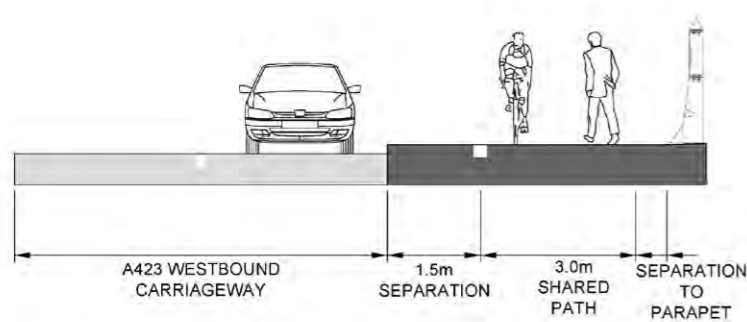
Existing pathways are narrow, uneven and close to the road. The parapets of Kennington rail bridge are also too low to provide safety for cyclists.

### Upgraded pathways

The programme will enhance active travel routes that provide key access to Redbridge Park and Ride and Oxford City, making journeys easier by bike and foot.

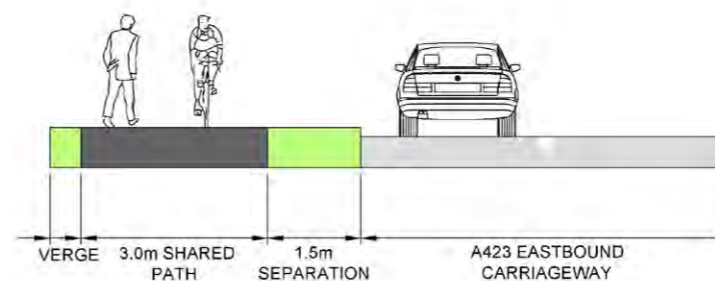


PROPOSED SHARED SURFACE ALONG SOUTHERN SIDE OF KENNINGTON RAIL BRIDGE



The westbound shared footway / cycleway (shown in red on the above plan) will be 3 metre wide. The new bridge parapet will increase safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

PROPOSED SHARED SURFACE BETWEEN HINKSEY HILL INTERCHANGE AND OLD ABINGDON ROAD



The eastbound footway (shown in orange on the above plan) will be upgraded to a shared footway/cycleway).



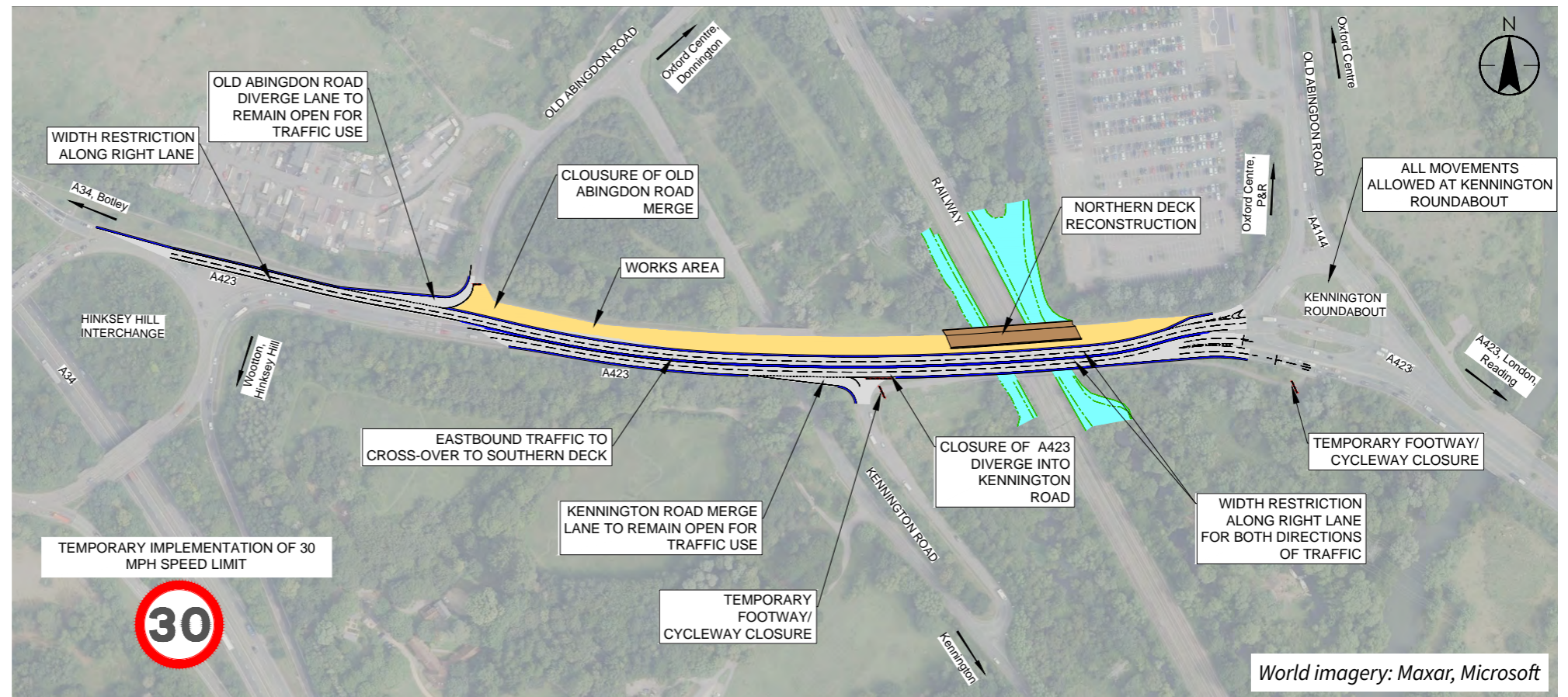
## 6 Construction

This board and the next board explain how we plan to construct the improvements and may be subject to small changes as the detailed design is developed. A further exhibition will be held before construction work starts to share the latest plans.

The programme aims to keep the A423 open as much as possible during construction and any road closures required will be kept to an absolute minimum.

### During phase one of construction:

- all traffic will be routed along the southern half of the bridge whilst construction of the northern half of the bridge is undertaken
- we intend to keep two eastbound lanes open and at least one westbound lane open at all times (subject to potential night-time road closures needed to undertake final surfacing work or implement traffic management plans)



Construction phase one

- we aim to keep movement around Kennington roundabout as normal
- the westbound A423 exit on to Kennington Road will be temporarily closed to ensure safe travel through the temporary lanes. Alternative routes are available via A4144 Abingdon Road
- access from Kennington Road onto the westbound A423 will remain open
- the footway / cycleway along the westbound A423 from Kennington Road to Kennington roundabout will be temporarily closed. Pedestrians and cyclists will be routed along Kennington Road and Old Abingdon Road
- a temporary 30mph speed limit will be imposed to ensure safety for all road users during construction.

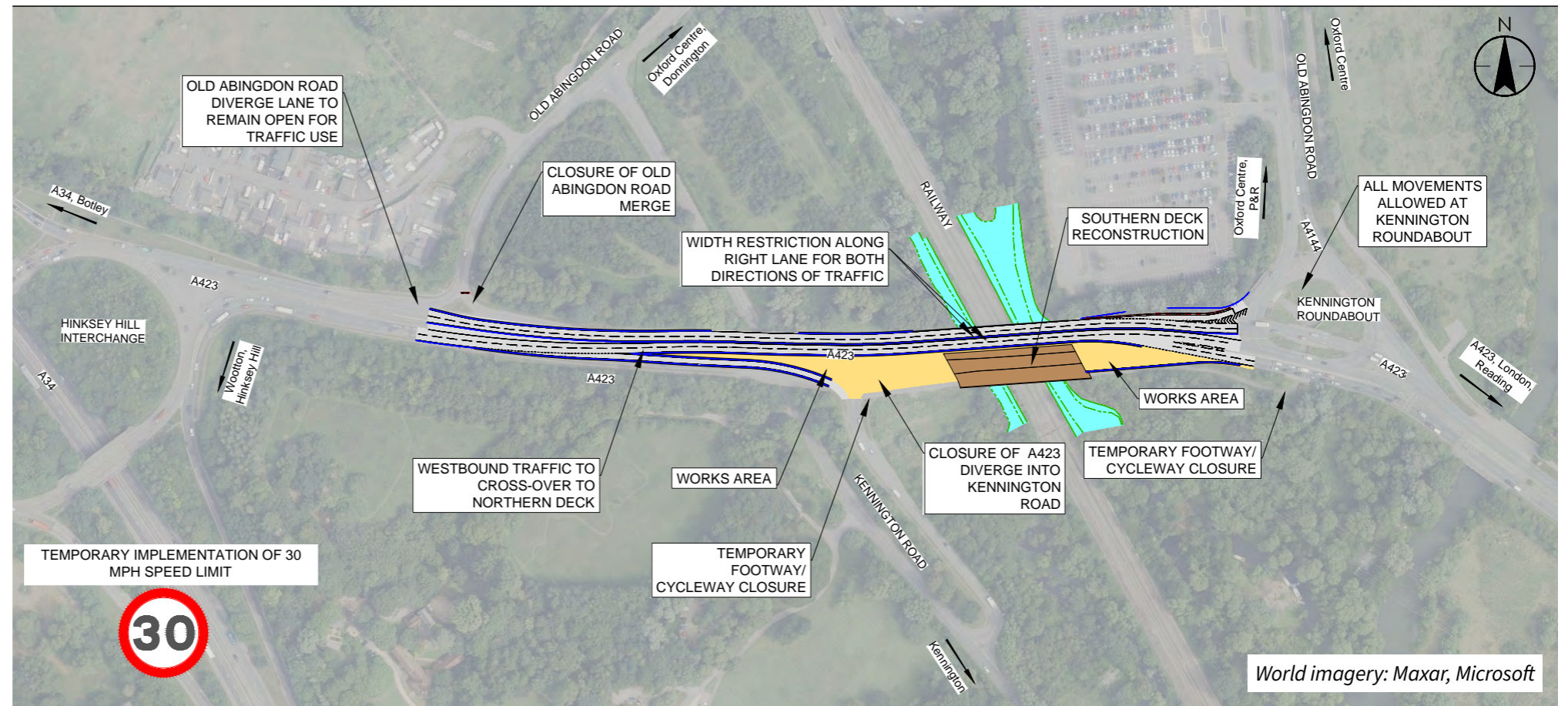


## 7 Construction

This board and the previous board explain how we plan to construct the improvements and may be subject to small changes as the detailed design is developed. A further exhibition will be held before construction work starts to share the latest plans.

### During phase two of construction:

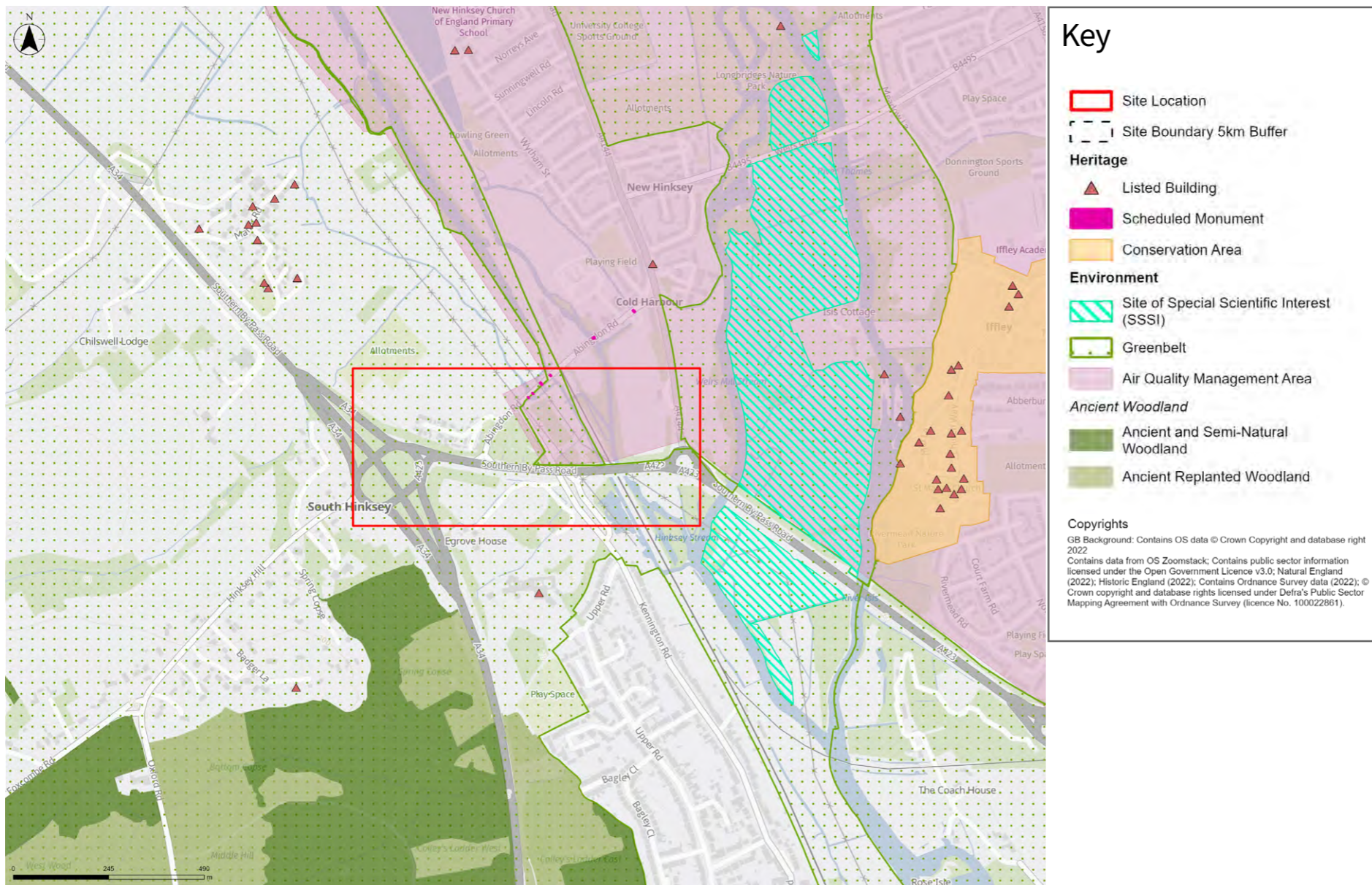
- all traffic will be routed along the northern half of the bridge whilst construction of the southern half of the bridge is undertaken
- we intend to keep two eastbound lanes open and at least one westbound lane open at all times (subject to potential night-time road closures needed to undertake final surfacing work or implement traffic management plans)
- we aim to keep movement around Kennington roundabout as normal
- the westbound A423 exit on to Kennington Road will be temporarily closed to ensure safe travel through the temporary lanes. Alternative routes are available via A4144 Abingdon Road
- access from Kennington Road onto the westbound A423 will remain open



Construction phase two

- the footway / cycleway along the westbound A423 from Kennington Road to Kennington roundabout will be temporarily closed. Pedestrians and cyclists will be routed along Kennington Road and Old Abingdon Road
- a temporary 30mph speed limit will be imposed to ensure safety for all road users during construction.

## 8 Environmental considerations



Environmental designations

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is being undertaken to assess the environmental impacts of the programme. Results will be presented in an Environmental Statement submitted with the planning application.

Where the EIA identifies significant impacts, an alternative design will be considered. Where an alternative design cannot be provided, other measures to avoid, reduce or offset environmental impacts will be used. These are known as mitigation measures.

Environmental studies are focussing on topics such as:

- air quality
- biodiversity
- landscape and visual impact
- noise environment
- climate change.

The figure to the right identifies some of the key environmental constraints.



## 9 Next steps

### Thank you for taking the time to view our digital exhibition.

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**Closing date for comments is 23:59 on Sunday 23 October 2022.**

We have provided Frequently Asked Questions document which provides further information about the programme.

If you know anyone who does not have access to the internet, please tell them about this opportunity to give feedback. To request printed copies of the material and feedback form they can write to **'Freepost OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'** including **'A423 Kennington'**

on the top left corner of the envelope or call our **Customer Service team on 01865 792 422**. Please note that the Customer Services team cannot answer specific questions about the programme.

Programme updates can be found on the Oxfordshire County Council website <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kennington>.

If you have any further questions, please email the A423 Kennington improvement programme team at [A423Kenningtonimprovements@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:A423Kenningtonimprovements@oxfordshire.gov.uk).

### Next steps

#### Ongoing

