

THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (A582 CROSTON ROAD JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS) (SIDE ROADS) ORDER 2026

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR MAKING THE SIDE ROADS ORDER

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This is the Statement of Reasons of Lancashire County Council (“the Council”) for making the Lancashire County Council (A582 Croston Road junction improvements) (Side Roads) Order 2020 (“the Order”). This is a non-statutory Statement provided in compliance with paragraph 11.1 of the Local Authority Circular 1/97 (Department for Transport).

1.2 This Statement:

- identifies the powers under which the Order is made (Section 2);
- sets out the background to the Order (Section 3);
- describes the existing highway arrangements (Section 4);
- provides a general description of the proposals and details of the works proposed (Sections 5 and 6);
- sets out the Council’s reasons and justification for making the Order (Section 7);
- sets out the arrangements for the inspection of documents (Section 8); and
- sets out contact details for further information (Section 9).

2 POWERS UNDER WHICH THE ORDER IS MADE

2.1 The Order is made under sections 14 and 125 of the Highways Act 1980 (“the Act”). Section 14 of the Act authorises the Council in relation to a classified road:-

- to stop up, divert, improve, raise, lower or otherwise alter a highway that crosses or enters the route of the road or is or will be otherwise affected by the construction or improvement of the road;
- to construct a new highway for purposes concerned with any such alteration as aforesaid or for any other purpose connected with the road or its construction and to close after such period as may be specified in the Order any new highway so constructed for temporary purposes.

2.2 Section 125 of the Act provides that any order made by the Council under section 14 or section 18 may authorise the Council to stop up any private means of access to premises adjoining or adjacent to land comprised in the route of the classified road, or forming the site of any works authorised by the order and to provide a new means of access to any such premises.

2.3 The purpose of the Order is to enable the Council to stop up existing highways, stop up private means of access, carry out improvements to existing highways and construct new highways with respect to the A582 and the adjoining roads of Croston Road and Flensburg Way. The land required for the improvement of the Classified Road and related works will be the subject of a compulsory purchase order to be made shortly by the Council.

3 BACKGROUND TO THE ORDER

3.1 The Council is proposing to improve the existing Croston Road Junction – A582, the improved junction will add road capacity and improve travel times through the junction. Improved pedestrian and cycle facilities will allow better connectivity for those users wishing to cross the A582.

3.2 The objectives of the Scheme with particular regard to the traffic generated in the area are:

- Reduce congestion on arterial routes between Preston City Centre and the Strategic Road Network

- Support Economic Growth in South Ribble through full development of, and access to the Lancashire Central strategic employment site
- Support the delivery of housing sites south of Preston.
- Support sustainable and active modes by facilitating the provision of bus network improvements and enhanced walking and cycling facilities on routes connecting South Ribble to key economic sites in Preston City Centre and the Lancashire Central strategic employment site.

3.3 The Scheme will affect several roads and public footpath lengths and private access arrangements and so the Order is required to ensure highway connections are not adversely affected and to provide for private accesses to be managed safely onto the improved Classified road.

4 THE EXISTING HIGHWAY ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 The existing A582 is a single carriageway road built by the Central Lancashire New Town Development Corporation in the 1970's and 1980's following their Compulsory Purchase Orders.

4.2 Existing constraints on the existing highway include:

- Peak hour queues and delays on the A582 extending west to the junction of the A582 and B5253;
- Peak hour queues and congestion on the A582 extending East towards Stanifield Lane;
- Difficulties in peak hours for traffic using Croston Road to enter the A582 due to traffic flows impeding the roundabouts;
- Poor connectivity for pedestrians wishing to cross the A582;
- Difficulty for users of the Lancashire Business Park entering the A582 during peak hours.

5 GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSALS

5.1 The Scheme comprises the removal of an existing double roundabout and its replacement with three interconnecting signalised T-junctions.

5.2 It is situated on a parcel of land which is approximately 3.5 hectares in size, with the majority of this being existing highways land. The proposed Scheme includes the following

- The removal of the double roundabout system to be replaced with 3 signalised T-junctions with the prioritisation of the A582.
- The installation of new connecting junctions at Croston Road (north and south) and the re-routing of Enterprise Drive to ensure safe operation.
- Improvements to road crossings, with the installation 3 integrated Toucan crossings, across Croston Road, Enterprise Drive and the A582.
- Improvements to shared use footways and cycleways and improved conditions of existing public rights of way.
- The implementation of a technology package to provide bus and heavy vehicle priority through signals which ensure efficient co-ordination of the traffic flows; and,
- The installation of ecological, landscape, flood and noise mitigation measures.
- The proposal will benefit from a full landscaping scheme which includes landscape/ecological mitigation measures and features which have been deemed to be required during completion of the Biodiversity Metric which is a requirement of the planning application. In order to comply with current highway design drainage and water quality standards the proposed junction design features 1 attenuation pond.

6 DETAILS OF THE WORKS PROPOSED UNDER THIS ORDER

6.1 Highways to be improved by Widening

- 6.1.1 (I01) Lodge Lane (U5836) from the junction with the existing A582 Classified Road for a distance of 18m North.
- 6.1.2 (I02) Fidler Lane (U10687) from the junction with Croston Road for a distance of 30m East.
- 6.1.3 (I03) Croston Road (C256) the Southern section from the junction with the existing A582 Classified Road for a distance of 134m South.
- 6.1.4 (I04) Croston Road (C256), the Northern section from the junction with the existing A582 Classified Road for a distance of 76m North.
- 6.1.5 (I05) Enterprise Drive (U49577) from the junction with the existing A582 Classified Road for a distance of 99m South.

6.2 Highways to be stopped up

- 6.2.1 (SU1) Footpath 0704003 from its junction with the A582 for a distance of 125 metres.

6.3 Private means of access to be stopped up with replacement access proposals

- 6.3.1 (X01) Access to the Lancashire Business Park along the existing private road Enterprise Drive. The PMA will be incorporated into the improved highway, the improved highway will terminate at a point on Enterprise Drive which will continue as a private means of access (PA02).
- 6.3.2 (X02) This access is to be moved from the existing highway boundary to the proposed highway boundary (PA01).

7 REASONS FOR MAKING THE ORDER

- 7.1 The reasons for making the order are as follows:

- To reduce congestion on arterial routes between Preston City Centre and the Strategic Road Network.
- To support Economic Growth in South Ribble through full development of, and access to the Lancashire Central strategic employment site.
- To support the delivery of housing sites south of Preston.
- To support sustainable and active modes by facilitating the provision of bus network improvements and enhanced walking and cycling facilities on routes connecting South Ribble to key economic sites in Preston City Centre and the Lancashire Central strategic employment site.

8 INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

8.1 The following documents are available for public inspection during normal office hours at:

- Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston PR1 2RE;
- The offices of South Ribble Borough Council, Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland PR25 1DH.

8.2 The documents are:

- The Order and accompanying plans.
- This Statement of Reasons.
- A copy of Planning Decision Notice reference no. LCC/2025/0008

8.3 The documents can also be viewed on the County Council's website: visit www.lancashire.gov.uk and search for A582.

9 CONTACT DETAILS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

9.1 Interested parties affected by the Order who wish to discuss matters with the Council should contact Richard Askew by one of the following means:

- by e-mail to Richard.Askew@lancashire.gov.uk
- by post to Lancashire County Council, County Hall, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 8XJ marked for the attention of Richard Askew