



Setting the scene

Construction of the Bexhill to Hastings Link Road is underway and the road is due to open in May 2015.

Alongside the Link Road, East Sussex County Council is committed to delivering a package of complementary improvements across the wider highway network including bus priority measures. These are a requirement of the Link Road planning permission and a condition on the Department for Transport's funding contribution.

After the opening of the Link Road, traffic levels on the existing A259 Bexhill Road are predicted to fall by around 40% as traffic diverts to the new road. The proposals take advantage of this reduction in traffic levels, which will allow the introduction of bus priority measures that have been developed in consultation with Stagecoach.

Following implementation of the bus lanes, bus journey times are predicted to fall and reliability will be improved, resolving long-standing problems identified by the Hastings Quality Bus Partnership and Punctuality Improvement Partnership.

We also plan to upgrade facilities at the bus stops, including providing Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI) which informs passengers when the next buses are due to arrive. We will also be providing new bus shelters, high access kerbs and bus stop clearway markings to ensure that the bus stops are kept free of parked vehicles.

Due to the need for traffic to have diverted onto the new Link Road before the bus lanes can be installed, the construction of the bus priority measures would start in Summer 2015, shortly after the Link Road opens.