King's Lynn Sustainable Transport and Regeneration Scheme (STARS)

Update for R&D Panel
25 November 2026

Ian Parkes



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Background

- Original STARS Scheme included
  - Active travel improvements to transform the nature of Railway Road and make it less hostile for pedestrians and cyclists
  - Road layout changes to implement the Southgates Masterplan
- 80/20 split in value
- Cost increase no additional funding
- Descoped Southgates and added extra LCWIP connections and Baxter's Plain
- R&D Panel updated on scheme evolution

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Introduction

- Project Adjustment Request sent to DfT in December 2025
- Economic appraisal showed BCR of 2.1 – High Value for Money
- £18.73m confirmed by DfT in January 2026 with no OBC or FBC required
- Local contribution 10%
  - NCC £1.76m
  - BCKLWN £0.32 in land value
- Further dialogue with ATE – comments to be addressed in detailed design
- LPA view is that no planning permission required for Baxter's Plain
- Certificate of Lawful Development

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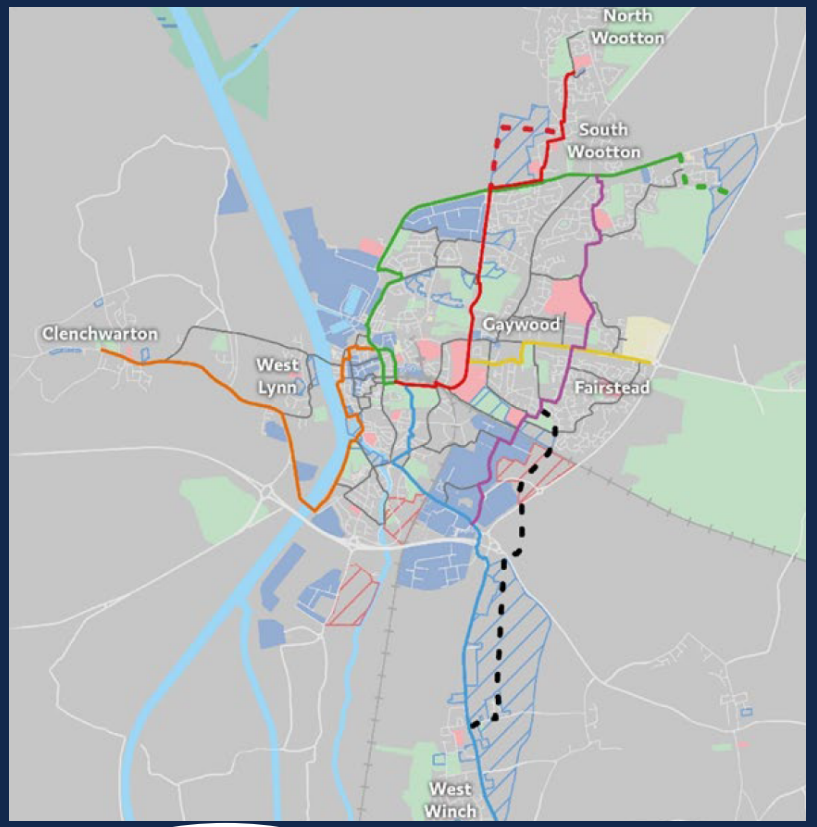
STARS
Scheme plan



LCWIP network

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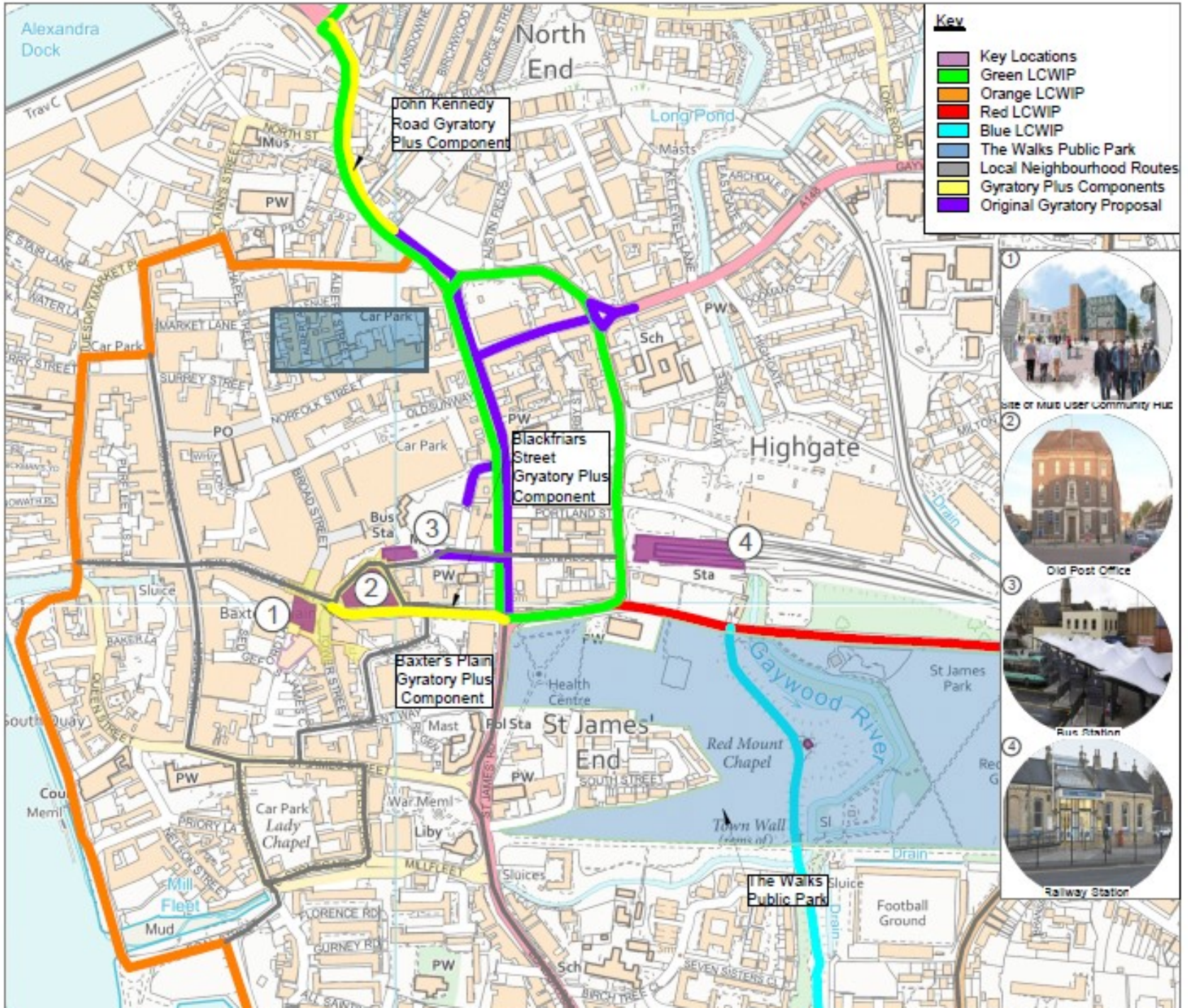

Baxter's Plain element

BDP plan for Public realm

The illustrative masterplan showcases the intentions of the space and hopes to promote improved pedestrian connectivity to and around Baxters Plain with an overall enhanced public realm.

The key below highlights the areas where enhancements have been strategically applied to have the most impact on improving the public realm.

Key to improvements:

1. Shared surface with flush kerbs
2. Flexible event space
3. New road layout
4. Rain gardens
5. Pedestrian priority with restricted vehicular access
6. Existing trees with new planting and seating
7. Rationalized parking layout
8. Seating and planting infront of H&M wall
9. New community hub (by others)
10. Laneways with catenary lighting and planters
11. Opportunities for cafe spillout
12. Feature tree
13. Street tree
14. Art installation
15. New trees and planting
16. New paving



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Proposals

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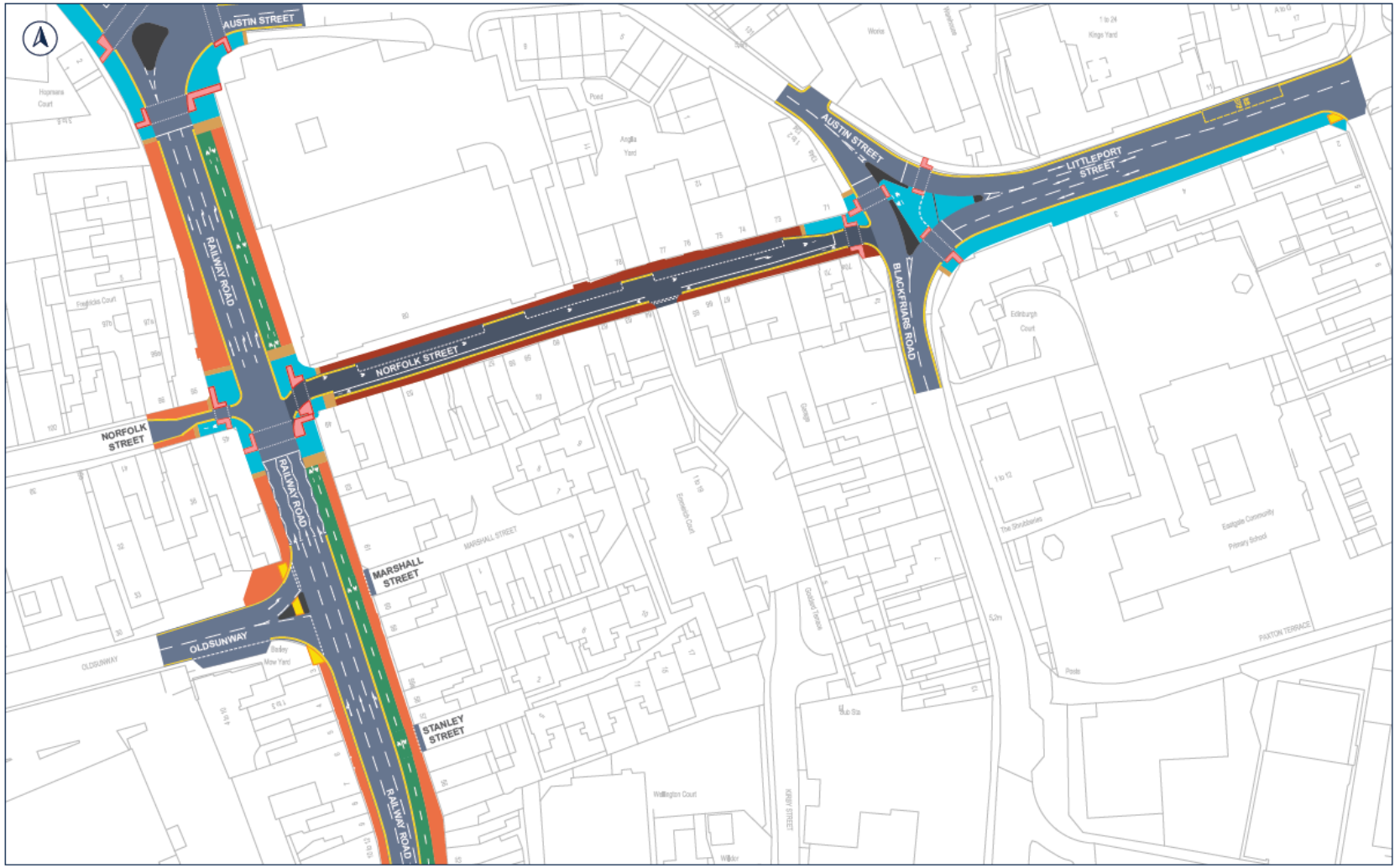
Railway Road from Wellesley Street to Austin Street



- Shared use footway/cycleway
- Bi-directional cycleway
- New or resurfaced footway (widened where possible)
- Carriageway (to be resurfaced where required)
- Red Tactile paving at signal crossings (for visually impaired people)
- Buff tactile paving at other crossings (for visually impaired people)
- Corduroy tactile paving used as hazard warning
- Resurfaced carriageway in Norfolk Street using similar materials to those in Waterloo Street
- New footways in Norfolk Street using similar materials to those in Waterloo Street

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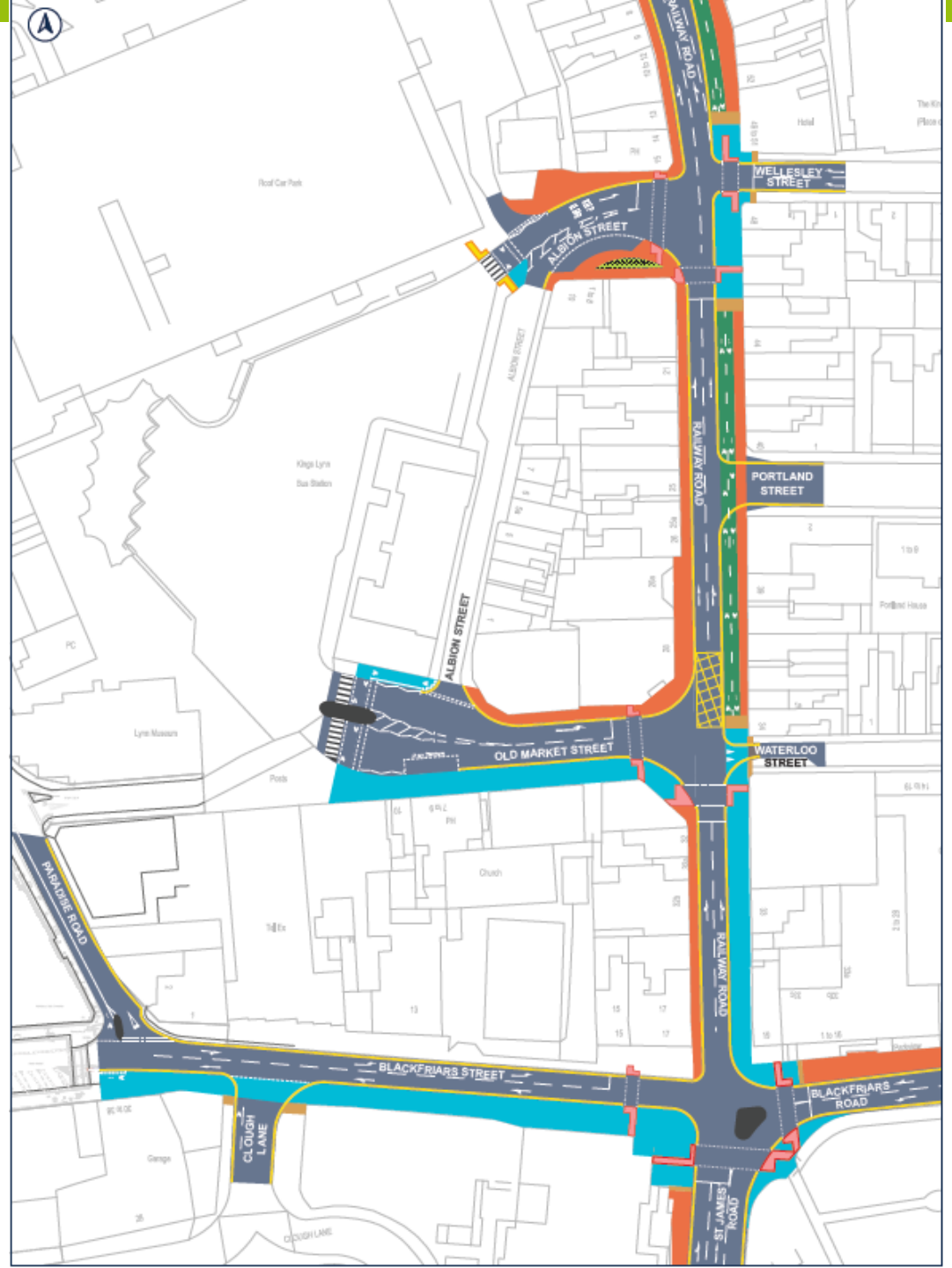
Railway Road from Blackfriars Road to Wellesley Street and Blackfriars Street



- Shared use footway/cycleway
- Bi-directional cycleway
- Alternative surface to indicate priority for cyclists
- New or resurfaced footway (widened where possible)
- Carriageway (to be resurfaced where required)
- Red Tactile paving at signal crossings (for visually impaired people)
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- Corduroy tactile paving used as hazard warning

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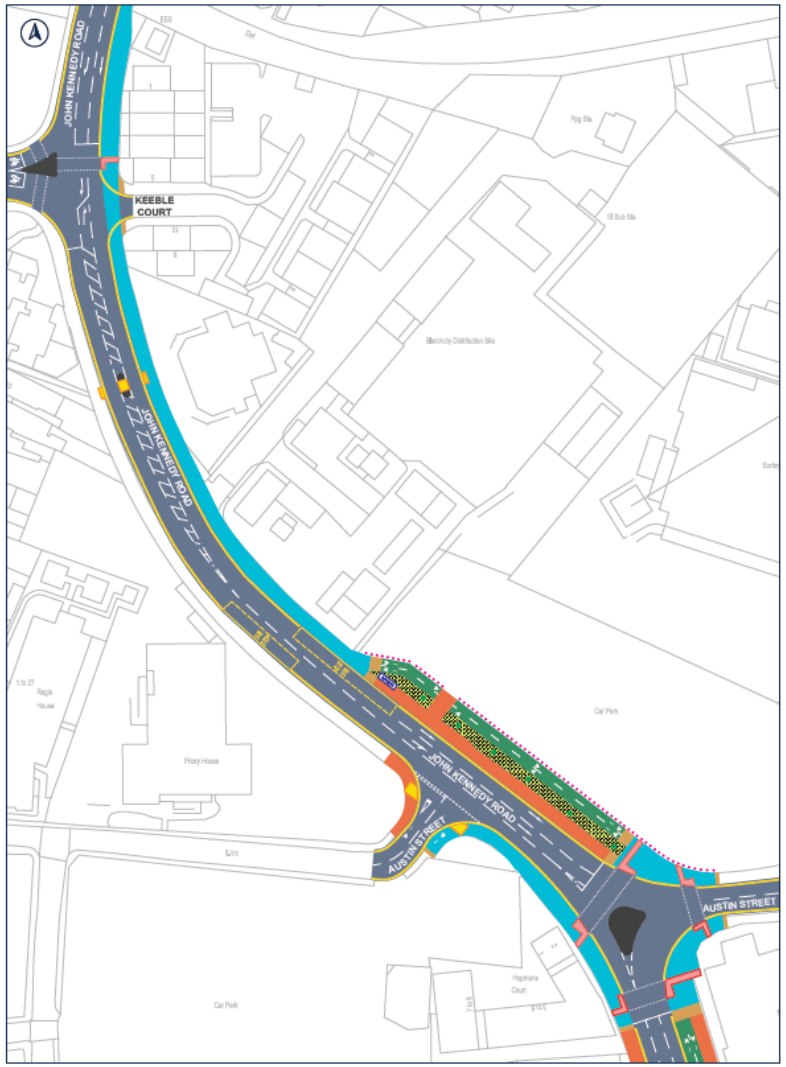
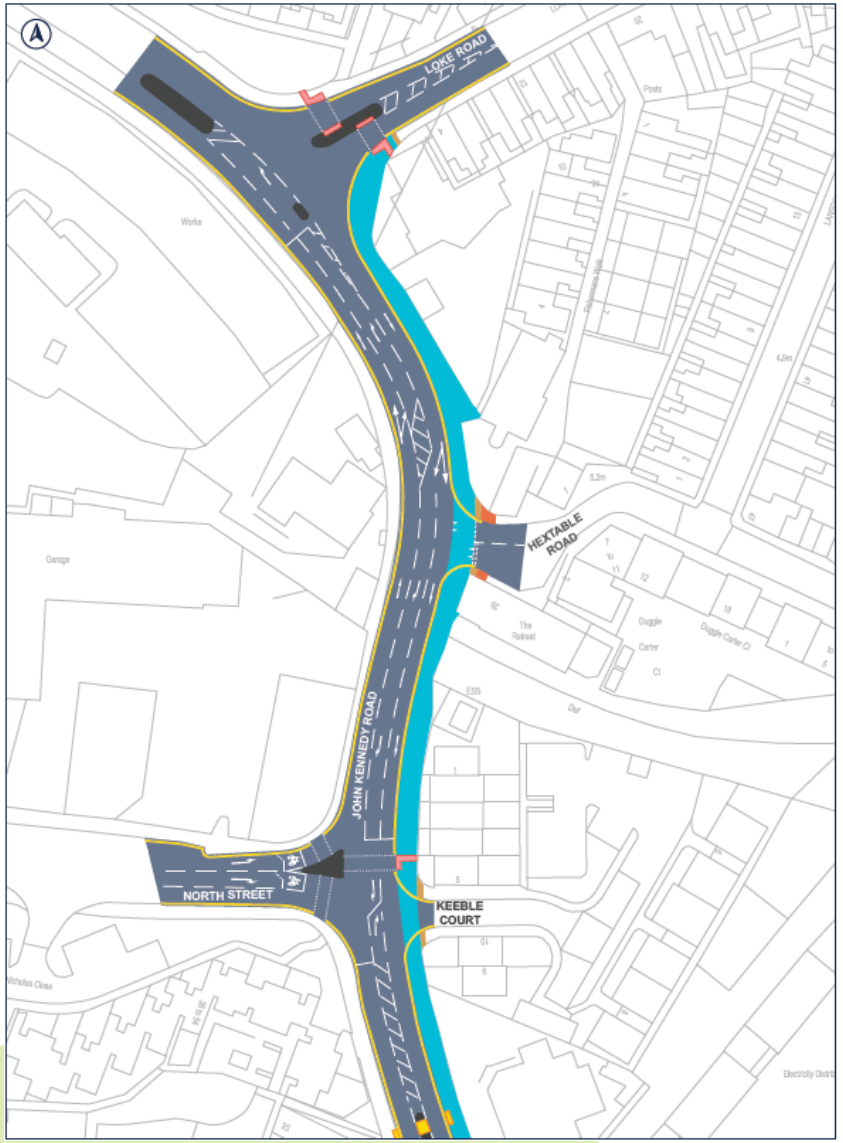
John Kennedy Road





- Shared use footway/cycleway
- Bi-directional cycleway
- New crossing into car park
- Area for new planting
- New or resurfaced footway (widened where possible)
- Carriageway (to be resurfaced where required)
- Red Tactile paving at signal crossings (for visually impaired people)
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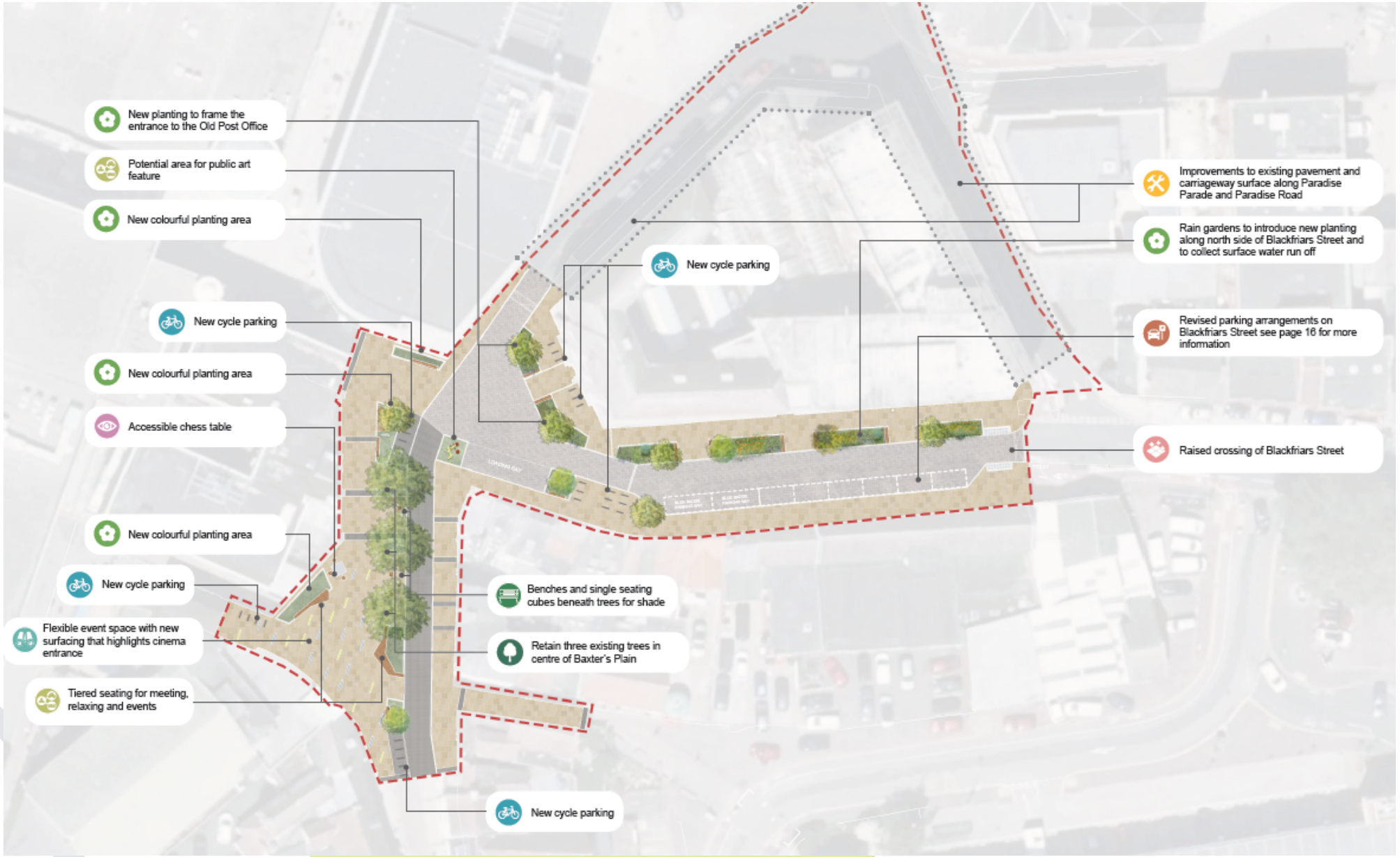
Baxter’s Plain



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Recent work

- Preliminary design of active travel elements
- WSP landscape architect “designed” the BDP vision with engagement from Borough officers on layout, palette and maintenance etc
- Pre consultation engagement with key stakeholders
  - King’s Lynn and West Norfolk Bicycle User Group (KLWNBUG)
  - Library
  - Vancouver Quarter
  - Vision Norfolk
  - Police Anti Terrorism Unit
  - Bus operators

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Recent work

- Addressed Safety audit issues on preliminary design
  - Vehicular route through Baxter's Plain
  - Railway Road/Blackfriars Road/St James Street Junction
  - Guanock Terrace
- Finalised material for Public Consultation starting on 9 November 2026
- Gave scheme update presentations
  - King's Lynn Neighbourhood Board (KLNB)
  - West Norfolk Transport and Infrastructure Steering Group (WNT&ISG)
- Discussions with contractor Kier on traffic management proposals

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Next steps

- Public Consultation closes on 20 December 2026
  - Predominantly an on-line consultation
  - Letter drops to frontage residents and businesses
  - Consultation advertising at key locations and on social media
  - Staffed events on 25 November and 3 December in the new library
- January/February 2027
  - Refine scheme and obtain Certificate of Lawful Development
  - Develop construction and traffic management proposals and programme
  - Commence detailed design

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