

# Elgin Transport Strategy



**moray**  
council



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# Introduction

Transport isn't an isolated topic – people need to get about to work, to access services, for shopping and leisure activities. Goods need to move about for retail, commerce, agriculture and manufacturing. Economic development is a key priority for Moray, and transport connectivity is a vital part of that development.

This transport strategy for Elgin provides a fresh framework to keep Elgin moving for the future. We have developed it in parallel with our Local Development Plan, aiming to meet our growth needs with a 14 year horizon to 2030. In that period we are forecasting an additional 2,700 houses being built around Elgin, and an additional 960 jobs coming from growth in Elgin.

In putting this strategy together we have listened extensively, and called on the resources of experts too. This document summarises that process outlining:

- What we're trying to do and why
- How we've listened
- What our plans are
- How our plans keep Elgin moving
- How we bring our plans to life
- How you can have your say about these plans

The full technical document supporting this strategy is also available by emailing [transport.develop@moray.gov.uk](mailto:transport.develop@moray.gov.uk) or ringing [0300 123 4565](tel:03001234565).

Our vision through the transport strategy is to make sure that Elgin is a desirable, vibrant and healthy place to live, work and visit for all.

Our transport network needs to enable Elgin to grow and develop as planned for in our Local Development Plan 2015. This includes more housing, schools, leisure facilities and employment sites.



### **Accessible**

making it easier to get around between home, work, services and social activities



### **Quicker**

reducing the time it takes to get around on foot, bicycle or public transport



### **Reliable**

making getting around Elgin more predictable and consistent



### **Safe**

making journeys feel and be safer



### **Sustainable**

getting more people to walk, use a bicycle or public transport and leave the car at home



### **Attractive**

integrating changes in to the landscape of Elgin

# **Our Vision**

**Elgin**  
is a **desirable**,  
**vibrant** and **healthy**  
place to live,  
work and visit...  
**for all**

# Supporting growth

by 2030 Elgin will have:

+ 960

more jobs

+

2,700

more homes

generating

15,000

additional car  
trips every day

MARKET

We asked people what their biggest issues with transport in Elgin were:

cost 53

pedestrian  
crossings  
47

mobility  
5

time  
15

cycle networks  
66

need for a bypass  
79

public transport  
133

roundabouts 135

road  
infrastructure  
181

traffic + congestion  
406

other  
road users  
65



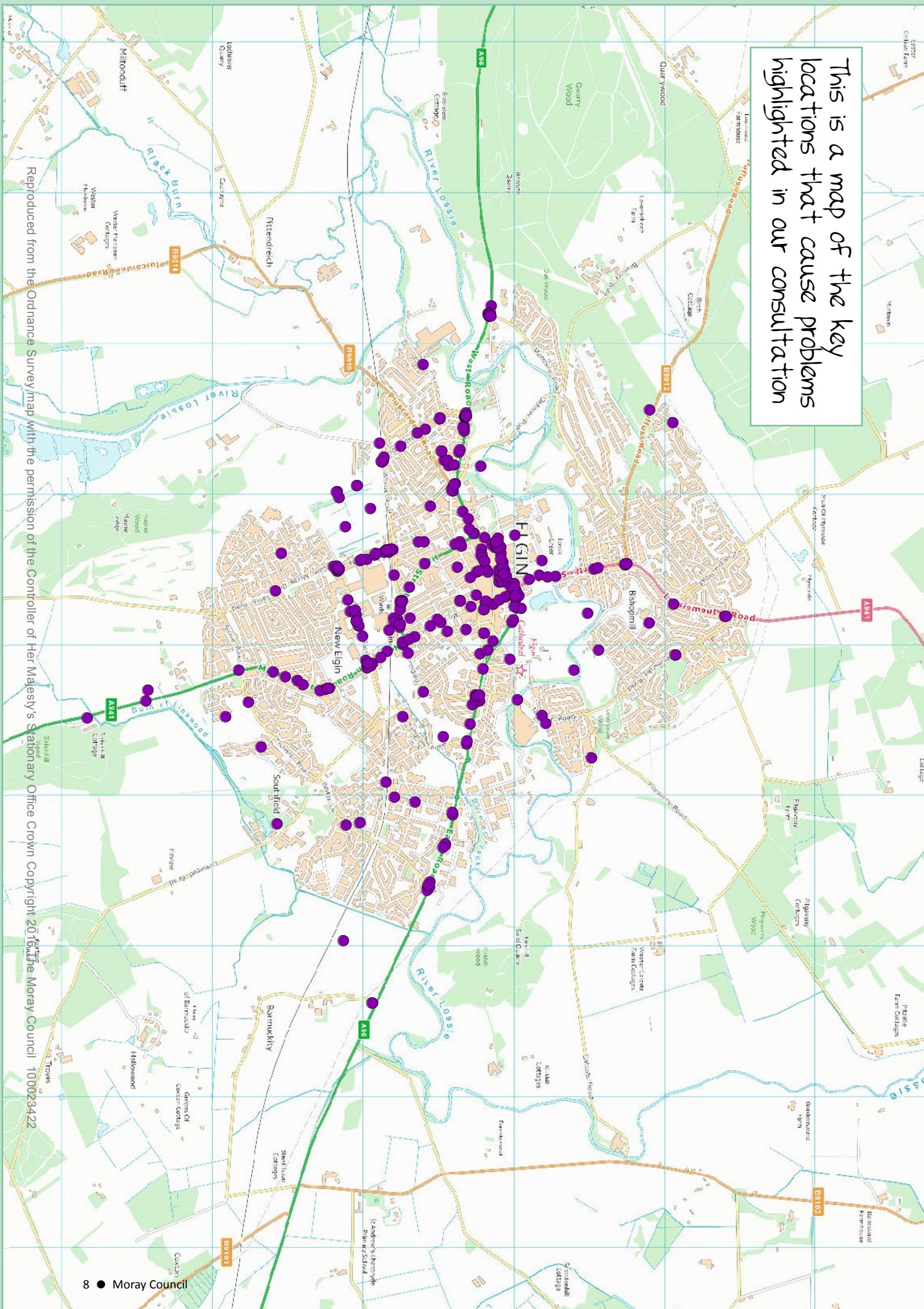
9,400 people live within a 20 minute walk of Elgin town centre, and 75% of people think walking is easy and direct in Elgin...

yet more than 50% of people travel by car for trips within Elgin

So, we need to provide capacity on our road network and help people to change the way they travel



This is a map of the key locations that cause problems highlighted in our consultation





Our plans address the issues raised through the public engagement exercise, and also deliver against the vision and objectives we have set out. We are taking account of the effect of Transport Scotland's plans to dual the A96 and provide a bypass around Elgin, and will cater for growth in Elgin both with, and without, a bypass.

The plans are grouped into:

**Short-term interventions – by 2018:** delivering 'quick wins' and being ready for future growth.

**Medium-term interventions – by 2022:** these are schemes which need more preparation but have a big impact on the operation of the road network.

**Long-term interventions – by 2030:** these are schemes that take full advantage of the efficient network created by the strategy and make sure that all users are catered for.

# Our Plans

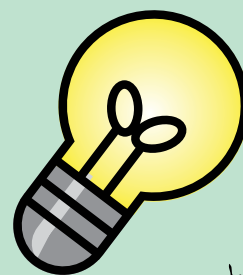
Traffic  
Management



Parking



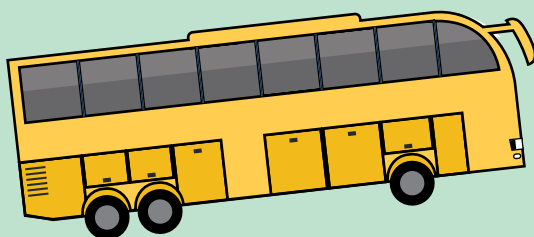
Junction  
Improvements



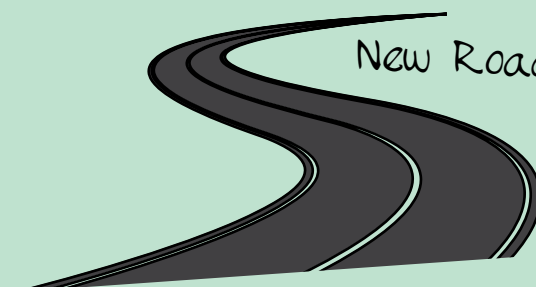
Creating  
behaviour change



Active Travel  
& Streetscape  
Infrastructure



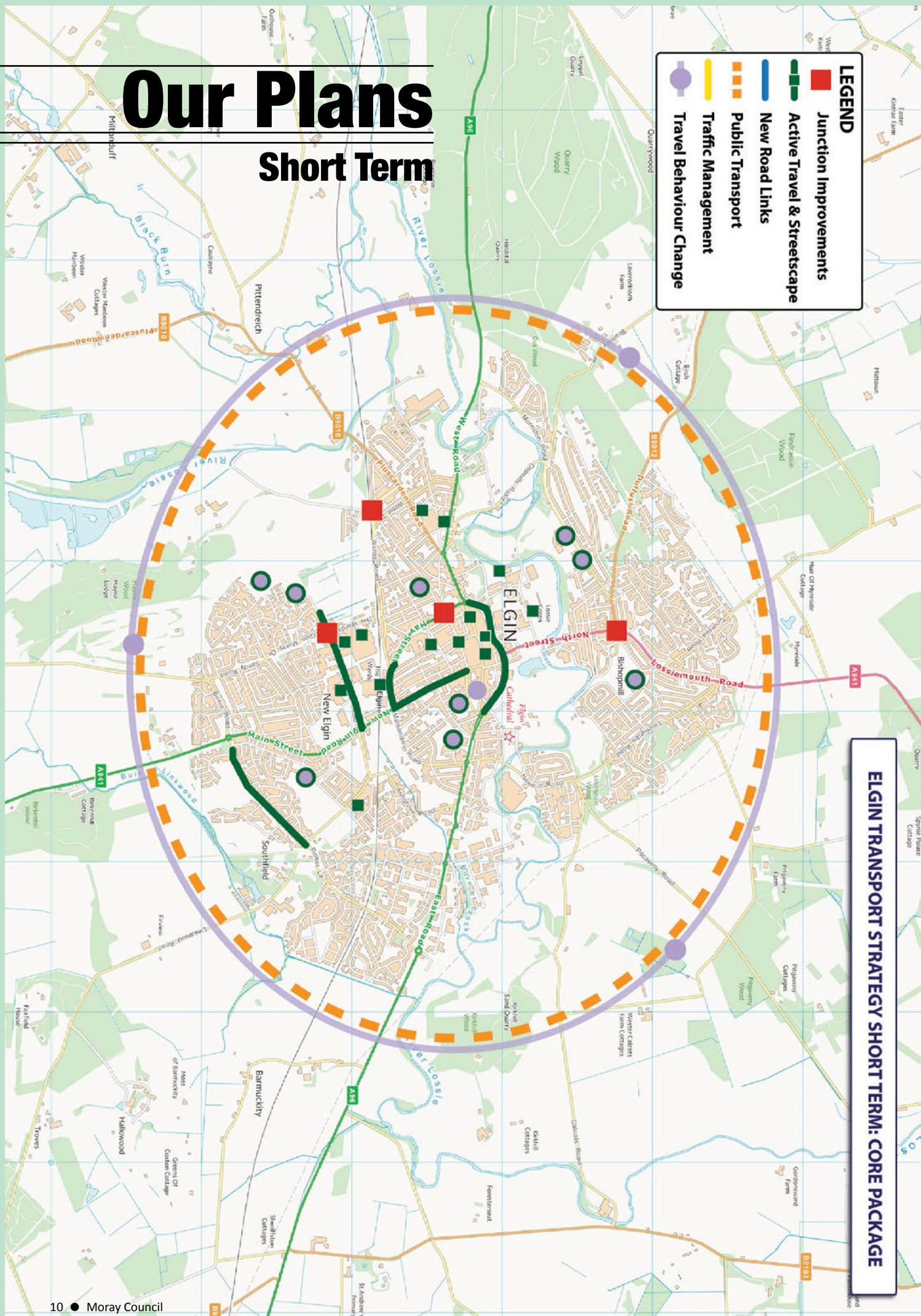
Public Transport












New Road Links

# Our Plans

## Short Term





Moss Street convert to one-way (northbound) & widen footways / cycle lanes	    
Reduce vehicle movements around schools	    
Improve South Street / Hay Street junction	   
Road layout improvements at Bilbohall Road / Mayne Road / Wards Road	   
Improve operation of Edgar Road / The Wards junction	   
Signal improvements at Morriston Road/ North Street junction	    
Provide cycle lanes along Station Road	    
Provide cycle parking in Elgin where cycle paths enter the town	     
Provision of information to support use of all modes of travel	    
Improve pedestrian crossing points on Edgar Road	    
Improve pedestrian crossings on Station Road / Maisondieu Road	     
Improve pedestrian crossings on the A96 in Elgin	    
Improve pedestrian crossings on Thornhill Road	    
Investigate use of technology to manage demand responsive bus services across Elgin	   
Undertake robust Travel Plan for the Moray Council to reduce car use by staff and visitors	    
Introduce measures to encourage walking / cycling / public transport use with all new housing development	    
Robust Travel Planning for all Elgin schools	    

# Our Plans

## Medium Term

**LEGEND**

**Junction Improvements**

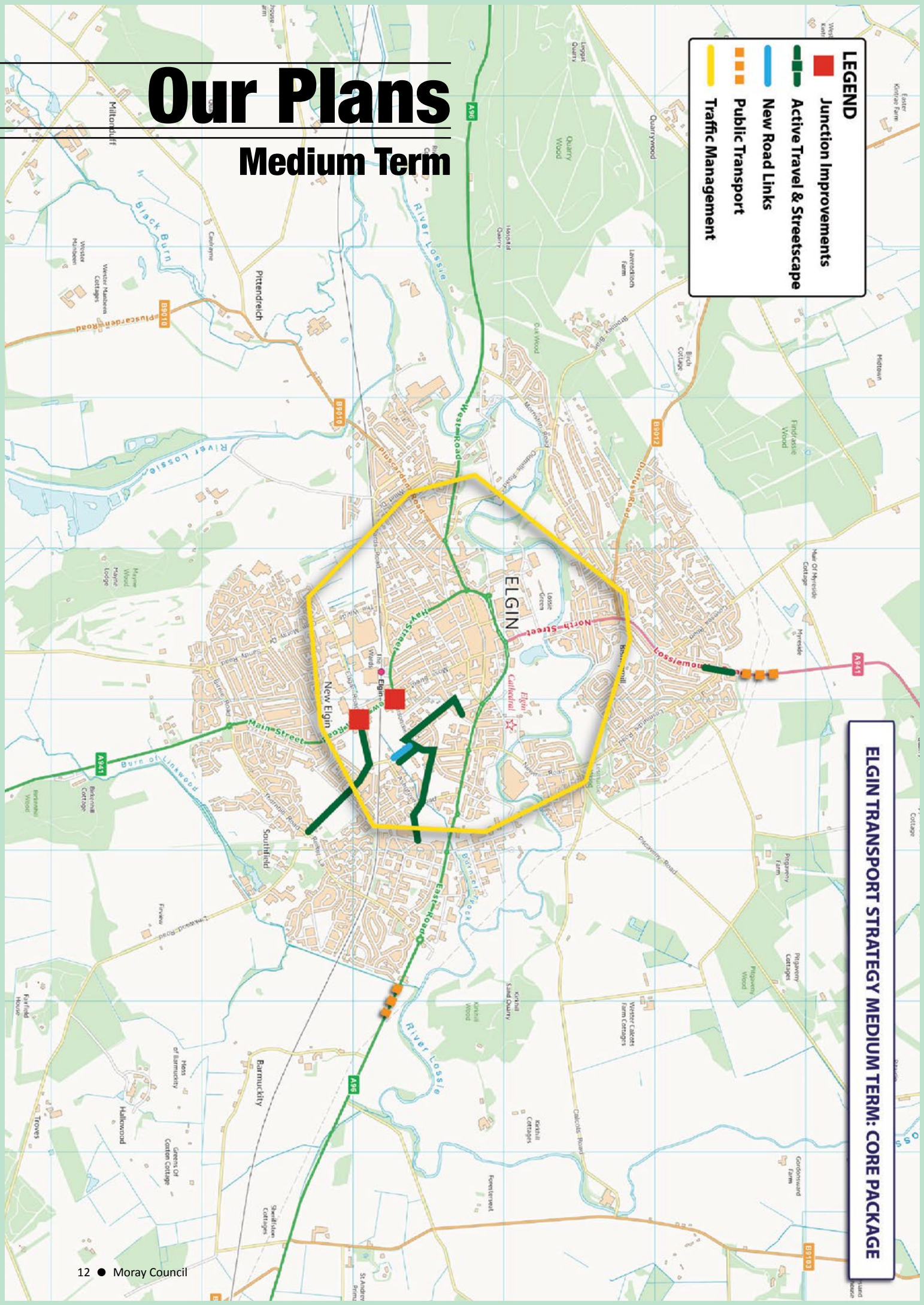
**Active Travel & Streetscape**

**New Road Links**

**Public Transport**










































**Traffic Management**

**ELGIN TRANSPORT STRATEGY MEDIUM TERM: CORE PACKAGE**



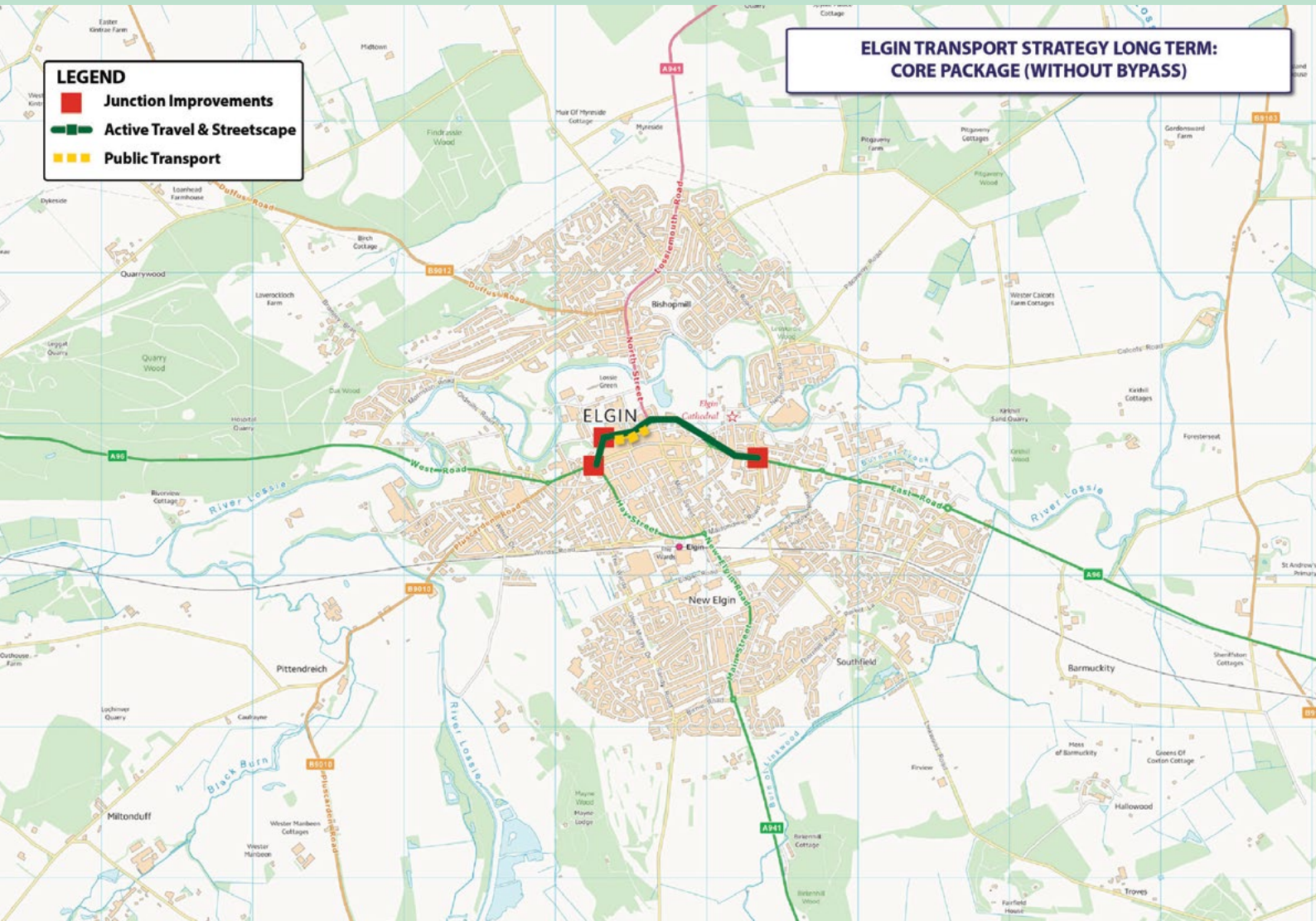




New north-south link Ashgrove Road to Maisondieu Road with traffic signals	    
Improve New Elgin Road and replace junctions north & south of railway with traffic signals	    
Replace existing roundabout traffic signals on A96 between Northfield Terrace & North Street (first phase)	    
New cycle / pedestrian north-south rail bridge on Ashgrove Road	    
New cycle/pedestrian north-south rail bridge on Bibohall Road / Fleurs Road	    
Provide cycle lanes alongside Linkwood Road	    
Active Travel Route between Pinefield and East End Primary School	     
Improve pedestrian and cycle provision at A941 / Lesmurdie Road junction	    
Urban Traffic Control for congested areas	    
Sites for park and change with direct access to active travel corridors into town via key destinations	  
Expand Moray Council Travel Plan initiatives to other Elgin businesses to reduce car use	    

# Our Plans

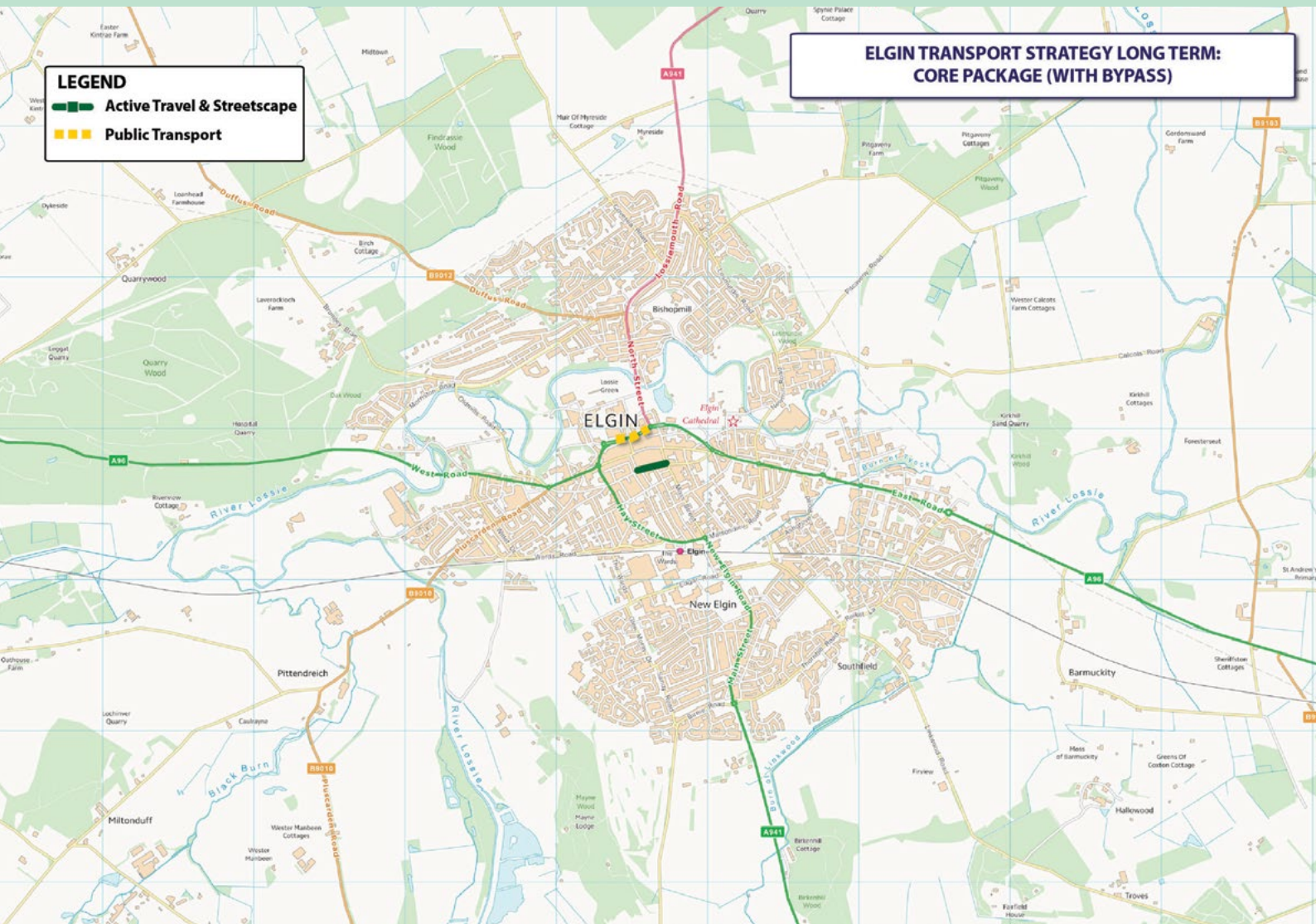
## Long Term



















## Without bypass

Remove barriers to pedestrian movements across A96 (Partial Streetscape Treatment) on A96 between Northfield Terrace & Pansport Roundabout	
Replace existing roundabouts with traffic signals on A96 between Northfield Terrace & North Street (second phase)	
Improve performance / replace A96 / Maisondieu Road junction	
Redesign / improve operation of Elgin bus station	





## With bypass

Pedestrianise South Street between Commerce Street & Batchen Street	    
Redesign / improve operation of Elgin bus station	     
Replace existing roundabouts with traffic signals on A96 between Northfield Terrace & North Street (second phase)	    

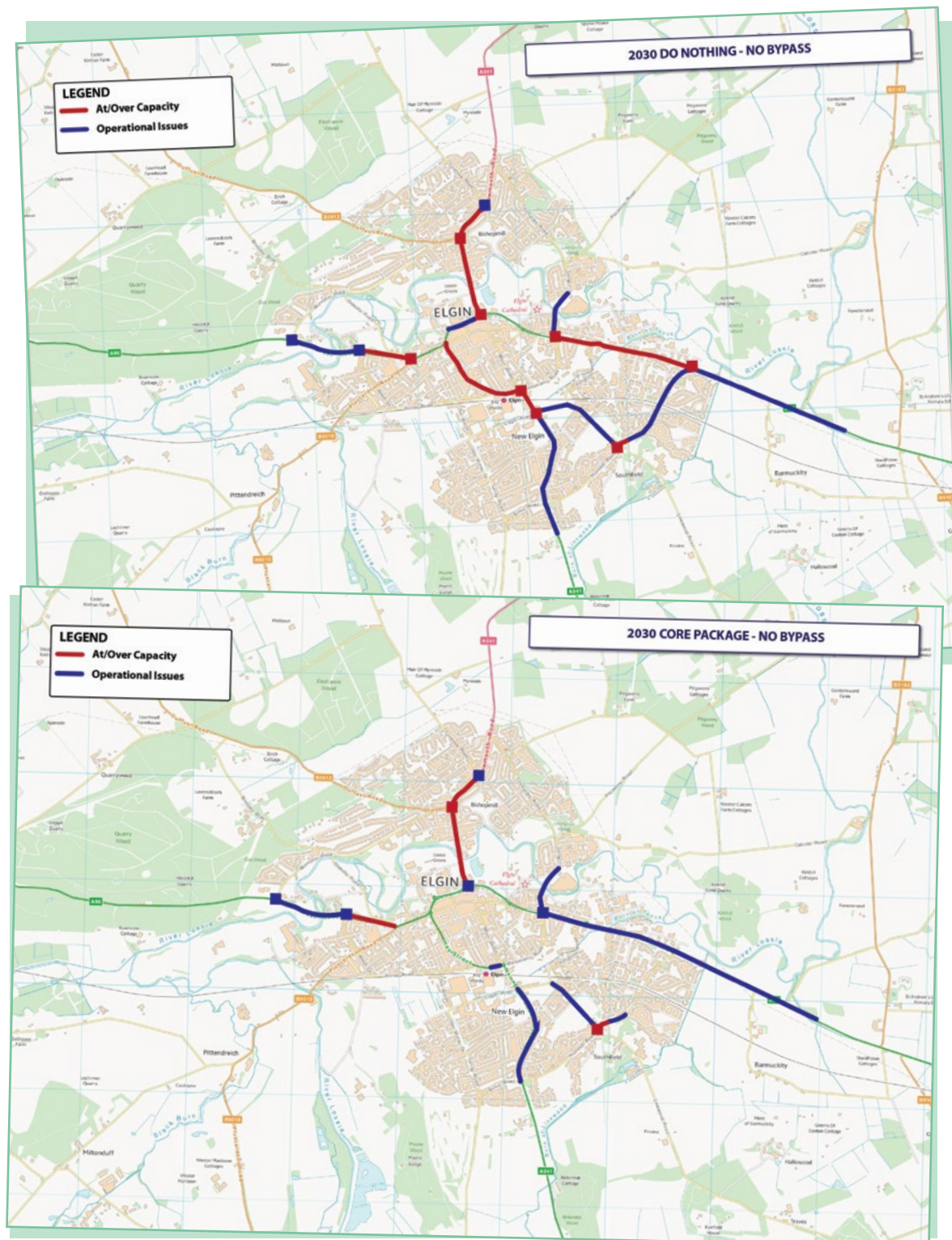


# The Benefits

With our plans you will start to see improvements to the network from 2018, but the real impact will be from 2022 where the schemes, particularly the new rail crossing will provide improvements across the whole of the network. As a result of these schemes, from 2022 the network will operate within capacity in the morning peak, and in the evening

peak there will only be a section of the A941 near the High Street that is over capacity. There is global improvement in journey times across the network.

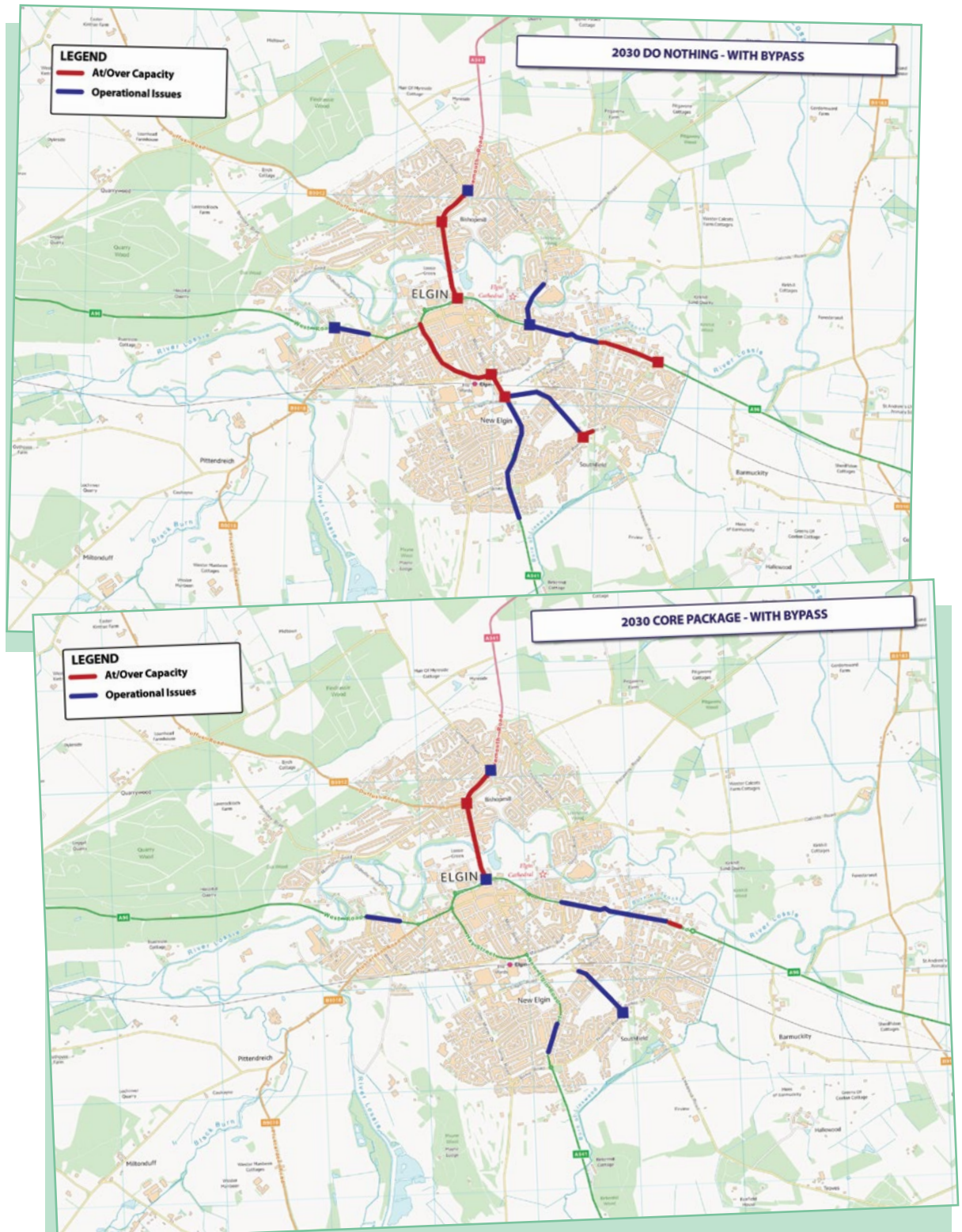
In the long term to 2030, with no improvements to the network infrastructure, there will be significant deterioration in traffic conditions. With a bypass





of Elgin on the A96 this picture improves, but there would still be significant issues around key areas of constraint such as the A941 rail bridge. With or without a bypass, the full core package of interventions reduces journey times and therefore improves journey time reliability.

We are confident that our core package of proposals will create significant improvements to the capacity of the transport network in Elgin, delivering against our strategy objectives and what you have told us you want to see.



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# Make it Happen

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## **Partnership & Funding**

Once we have the right plan for Elgin's transport network, we will need to bring it to life. This will involve more detailed work on the business case for the package of interventions we want to deliver. This is to demonstrate that our plans provide value for money as well as keeping Elgin moving.

Some of the plans can be delivered directly by Moray Council, others will mean working in partnership with Scottish Government, national and local bodies, communities and the private sector. Achieving our vision will require sustainable investment, and we will work with all our partners to identify how the interventions are best funded.

## **Measuring Success**

It is really important that we keep checking that all the changes we make deliver the benefits that are expected. We will put in place a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to check that all the objectives set out at the beginning of this document are met. This will include setting specific targets, and will be assessed at regular intervals with regular reporting.

## Consultation

We believe that we have created a plan which deals with the issues that Elgin will face between now and 2030 in relation to our transport network. Our plans are based on three main inputs:

- The problems that future growth are predicted to bring (assessed using robust traffic modelling)
- The constraints and opportunities that people across Elgin have told us about
- A vision and objectives for what we want Elgin's transport network to be like in the future.

It is now important that everyone interested in this strategy has the opportunity to say whether we're heading in the right direction. Over the winter we will seek your views using:

- Drop in sessions in at least three locations around Elgin
- A series of consultation questions online
- An event for stakeholder organisations.

We will publicise the consultation through the press and social media.

All the feedback we receive will be used to finalise our strategy.

For more information please visit [www.moray.gov.uk/currentconsultations](http://www.moray.gov.uk/currentconsultations) or ask at your local Access Point.

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# Have Your Say

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