

A96 Dualling

Inverness to Nairn (including Nairn Bypass)

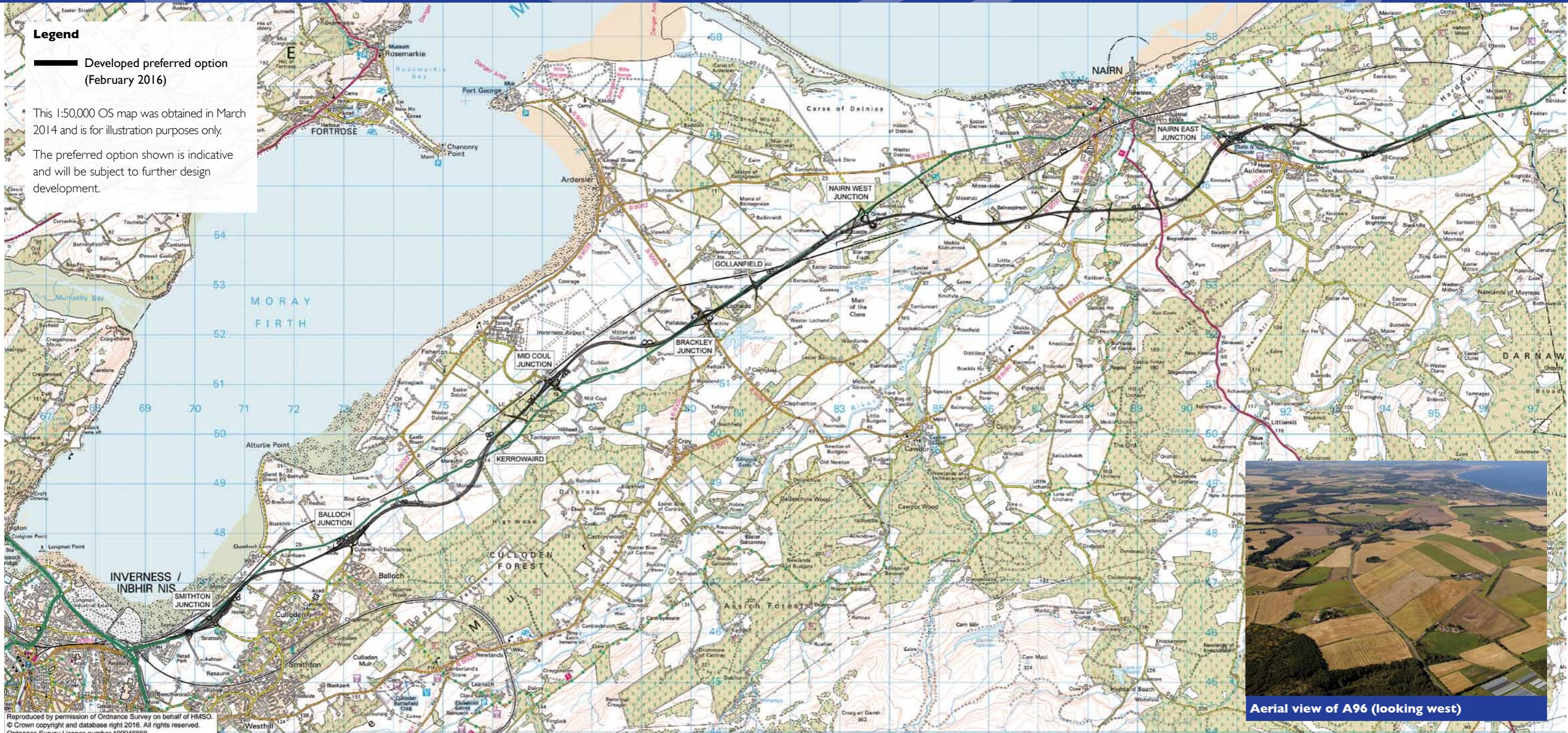


Preferred option design update

February 2016



A96 Inverness to Nairn (including Nairn Bypass)



Introduction

As part of the Scottish Government's ambitious A96 Dualling Programme, Transport Scotland has been taking forward design development for dualling the 31 kilometre section of the A96 between Inverness and Nairn, including a Nairn Bypass.

In October 2014, Transport Scotland held a series of public exhibitions to announce the preferred option for the route and vital public feedback provided during and following those exhibitions is being used to help inform and further develop the design of the preferred option.

This leaflet provides a summary of the further work undertaken and proposed design



Scheme update

Following public consultation, further design development has included refinement of the dual carriageway alignment and the layout of grade-separated junctions. Through consultation with landowners, arrangements for local access have also been updated.

Emerging arrangements for Non-Motorised Users (NMUs), such as pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians, have been included in the design through provision of almost 30 kilometres of off-carriageway shared-use path. Other considerations which have also contributed to the development of the scheme design include:

- Consideration of local alignment

changes, including side roads, to minimise environmental and land-use impacts

- Review of the design of bridges to reduce land take and ensure cost effectiveness
- Development of the road drainage design, including pollution control measures
- Further development of the side roads and private accesses to provide suitable access.

Further details

Further details of the proposed changes are available to view at the drop-in sessions and on the project website. The proposed changes include:

- Balloch junction
- Gollanfield and Lochside access
- Skene Park to Nairn East junction
- Penick to Hardmuir.

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What happens next?

Draft Road Orders, Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) and Environmental Statement for the scheme will be published later in 2016 for formal comment by members of the public, local communities and stakeholders.

The draft Road Orders will define the line of the developed preferred option while the draft CPO will define the extent of land required to deliver and maintain the scheme.

Work is ongoing on the development and assessment of the preferred option and includes:

- Consultation with affected parties
- Further consultation with statutory bodies, community councils and other relevant groups
- Further design development of the preferred option
- Ground investigation works
- Identification of the land required for the project and preparation of draft Orders
- Environmental impact assessment of the developed preferred option and preparation of an Environmental Statement
- Development of suitable mitigation measures to reduce impacts on the environment.

Comments and feedback

We welcome your comments and feedback using the feedback form available at this drop-in session or on the scheme website:

www.transportscotland.gov.uk/project/a96-inverness-nairn-including-nairn-bypass

Please leave completed forms in the feedback box provided at the drop-in session or email to:

A96dualling@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk

You can also post to:

A96 Dualling Team
Transport Sotland
Buchanan House
58 Port Dundas Road
Glasgow
G4 0HF

Please provide feedback as soon as possible and by Monday 14 March 2016.

Further information

For further information on the A96 Dualling Inverness to Nairn (including Nairn Bypass) scheme, please visit the Transport Scotland website:

www.transportscotland.gov.uk/project/a96-inverness-nairn-including-nairn-bypass

Information on the wider A96 Dualling Inverness to Aberdeen Programme can be found at:

www.transportscotland.gov.uk/a96dualling

If you have any queries or any comment on the wider programme, please contact the A96 Dualling team at the address above or by telephone or email.

Telephone: 0141 272 7100

Email: A96dualling@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk