A350 Melksham Farmers Roundabout

National Productivity Infrastructure Funding Bid

The A350 is the main north-south route on the western side of the county and is an important transport link for the west Wiltshire towns and the local economy. Journey time reliability is important, especially for freight movements and to attract and retain employers and businesses in the area.

A number of pinch points on the A350 route are already being addressed, particularly around Chippenham, but further selective improvement is required at Melksham at Farmers Roundabout. At peak periods the roundabout experiences particularly high volumes of traffic, and consequent queues and delays.
The proposed scheme consists of capacity and safety improvements at the A350 Melksham Farmers Roundabout junction with the B3107 and A3102, and changes to the operation of nearby traffic signals.

The scheme involves alterations to the Farmers Roundabout, and the introduction of traffic signals to improve safety and to increase capacity. As part of the scheme, the traffic lanes at the entries to the roundabout and the circulatory carriageway will be altered. The adjacent A350/A365 junction and the traffic signals at Asda will be linked to improve capacity at the junctions.

The objectives of the proposed scheme are to:

- Improve connectivity between Melksham, the west Wiltshire towns and the A36/M4;
- Reduce queue lengths and delays, improving journey time reliability on the A350 at Melksham;
- Facilitate housing and employment growth along the A350 corridor and encourage inward investment by addressing known and forecast congestion pinch-points; and
- Protect the strategic role of the A350, minimising the potential for traffic reassignment away from the corridor.

The scheme will include carriageway resurfacing and street light improvements. It is anticipated to cost in the region of £2.5 million and will be the subject of a bid by Wiltshire Council to the Department of Transport National Productivity Investment Fund.