

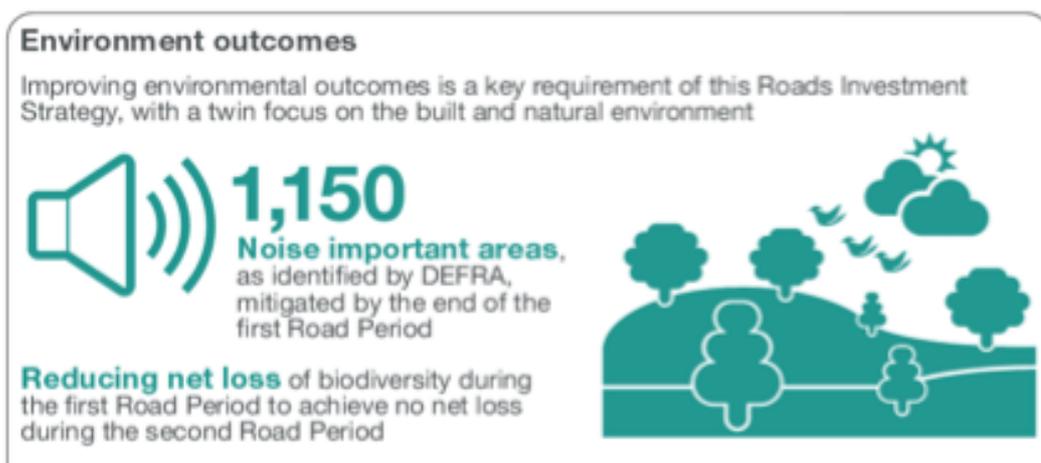
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[www.highways.gov.uk/highways-england.](http://www.highways.gov.uk/highways-england)

Welcome Highways England

In April this year, Highways England replaced the Highways Agency. It is a company wholly owned by Government, rather than an Agency of the Department for Transport. As a consequence, it is funded for a definitive 5 year programme, described in its Road Investment Strategy and its performance reported by an independent body, the Road Monitor. This fundamental restructuring of the operation and management of the Trunk Road network includes new and binding environmental commitments.

Over the next 5 years Highways England have allocated £5 billion to replace worn out roads on the strategic road network (SRN).



Highways England now recognizes how carbon emissions and noise significantly impact on local communities along the road network. As laid out in the delivery plan there will be included a £300M Environment Fund. (See link at end) There are over a thousand locations where noise is to be addressed. By spending up to £75 million on the likes of noise barriers, combined with an extensive resurfacing programme, they expect to reduce the number of people severely affected by noise from the SRN by at least 250,000, giving a positive impact on the environment and neighboring communities. There will be low noise surfacing on road links that would not be resurfaced due to age or condition, where benefit to the local

community can be demonstrated with provision of noise mitigation to those properties exposed to the highest noise levels.

The Government has set out its performance specification, investment plans and commitment to the necessary funding as mentioned above.

As part of a greener roads policy they will support specialist research to tackle noise pollution.

They will also spend around £100 million to enhance the network's landscape, address areas where there are negative impacts on sites of historic or cultural heritage and improve the impacts on biodiversity.

Our collaboration on a programme leading to trial installation of solar enabled noise barriers on our stretch of the M40 is continuing, strengthened, we hope, by the environmental commitments and funding summarized above.

We welcome Highways England.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/424467/DSP2036-184_Highways_England_Delivery_Plan_FINAL_low_res_280415.pdf

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