



**DORSET**  
Local Enterprise Partnership

# **BIG PROGRAMME**

## **End of Programme Report**

**November 2021**

## PROJECT SUMMARY

The BIG Programme is a major economic growth plan focused on improving connectivity, easing congestion, protecting existing jobs and creating new jobs in and around Bournemouth Airport and Wessex Fields.

£49.5 million (£40.4 million Local Growth Fund plus £9.1 million public sector match funding) was secured to fund a series of transport and infrastructure investments along the A338, B3073 and A348 corridors aimed at facilitating better access into and around Bournemouth Airport as well as unlocking employment land at Aviation Business Park and at Wessex Fields.

Start date	September 2015
Completion date	March 2021

### Projects:

A338 Reconstruction [End of Project report](#)

A338 Package: Blackwater Junction & A338 Widening [End of Project report](#)

Cooper Dean [End of Project report](#)

Wessex Fields [End of Project report](#)

FWP (A348/A3049) Corridor [End of Project report](#)

Chapel Gate [End of Project report](#)

Hurn Roundabout [End of Project report](#)

South East Urban Mobility Strategy [Strategy documents](#)

### Aims and objectives

The project objectives have been delivered and have added value by achieving and contributing to wider Dorset LEP and local objectives e.g.: -

- The core objective of improved accessibility to and around Bournemouth Airport and Wessex Fields, through extensive transport improvements and to release over 36.7 hectares of prime, flexible employment land for high-quality new business premises at the Aviation Business Park and 6 hectares at Wessex Fields aim to be achieved by 2024/25. The schemes will help both sustain and increase opportunities for economic growth, health equalities, reduction of severance and a highway and structures network that is substantially more resilient than prior to the investment.
- Work to achieve the agreed outcomes is ongoing and will be reported back to the Dorset LEP over the next five years.
- Where possible and practical local suppliers/SME's have been used to help with the delivery of the programme schemes, including construction resource, technical expertise, materials and services.
- All schemes delivered within the overarching BIG programme have contributed positively to wider local objectives by:
  - Reducing severance and improving accessibility to local services, amenities and community connections has been achieved as a result of the infrastructure installed.

- Delivering efficiencies of movement and a fairer balance to all highway network users, thereby reducing road casualties and improving journey time reliability.
- Providing the single largest employment opportunity in the south-east Dorset conurbation with the potential to create up to 4,000 new highly skilled jobs at the Aviation Business Park and Wessex Fields over the next few years.
- Unlocking land at Wessex Fields. Proposals have been approved by BCP Council's cabinet, working in partnership with the University Hospitals Dorset and Bournemouth University, to bring forward a high tech, "Living Lab" science park, facilitated by the sale of part of the site to the local hospital Trust.
- Unlocking housing at Parley Cross:

Dorset County Council were awarded £30,000 to deliver a feasibility study to develop design and cost estimates for the Eastern and Western Link Roads which will be constructed to ease congestion and unlock housing at Parley Cross.

The delivery of the Eastern and Western Link Roads aims to alleviate traffic congestion and increase capacity along the B3073 corridor and specifically in the vicinity of the Parley Cross junction ; increase sustainable transport journeys through the junctions, along the new link roads and along the B3073 corridor by providing improved cycling and walking facilities; and improve access to the airport and Aviation Business Park and the delivery of 500+ dwellings around Parley Cross.

Exploration of opportunities for innovation and collaborative working were integral to the core values of the programme and were discussed at every stage of the process from project inception through to post project review. Specific examples of where this approach has been most successfully applied are:

- Partnership agreement with Dorset Council and Hanson:
  - Having the next phase of works in mind at Wessex Fields 1.1 enabled some construction of its slip roads during the main A338 Blackwater Junction works. This avoided extensive and disruptive traffic management on the busy A338 southbound into Bournemouth at a later stage.
  - Works carried out in conjunction with the Blackwater Junction and Auxiliary Lane project producing savings on economy of scale
  - Project team work between BCP / Dorset Council / Hanson's and WSP provided an alternative design solution avoiding an expensive addition concrete barrier in the central reserve due to level differences.
- Placemaking/ scheme design
  - Sustainable drainage systems used, which will need less ongoing maintenance
  - Reduced verge maintenance and landscape areas.
  - Crash barriers and signage implemented to modern standards and a reduction in un-necessary features

## **CHANGE REQUESTS**

**The following change requests were approved by Dorset LEP Board:**

**May 2018:**

Hurn Roundabout: Change Request for Dorset LEP to move funding round within the BIG Programme to enable additional outputs in the delivery of Parley Eastern Link Road and Parley Cross.

#### January 2020:

Wessex Fields: Transfer of £783,850 from the Cooper Dean project to the Wessex Fields project. The Wessex Fields Scheme costs were significantly higher overall than originally forecast in 2016/17 when the bid to the LEP was submitted.

#### March 2020:

Blackwater Junction/ FWP (A338/A3049) Corridor: Transfer of £1.3m from FWP Corridor project to Blackwater West Junction

#### July 2020:

Transfer of £502,500 from FWP (A348/A3049) Corridor project to Blackwater West Junction.

#### September 2020:

Reduction in overall funding of the Wessex Fields project and extension of the Grant Agreement from December 2020 to end of March 2022 to mitigate external delays that impacted delivery.



#### OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES:

To date, the following transport infrastructure outputs have been reported.

	INDICATORS	Actuals reported up to 2020/21
Length of resurfaced road (km)	A338 Reconstruction	9
	Hurn Roundabout	0.2
	Chapel Gate	0.6

	<b>Blackwater Junction &amp; A338 Widening</b>	2.42
	<b>Cooper Dean</b>	1
<b>Total length of resurfaced Road</b>		<b>13.22</b>
<b>Length of newly built road (km)</b>	<b>Chapel Gate</b>	0.1
	<b>Wessex Fields</b>	0.7
	<b>Cooper Dean</b>	1
	<b>Blackwater Junction &amp; A338 Widening</b>	1.13
<b>Total Length of newly built road</b>		<b>2.93</b>
<b>Length of new cycle ways (km)</b>	<b>Chapel Gate</b>	0.77
	<b>Blackwater Junction &amp; A338 Widening</b>	0.1
	<b>FWP Corridor</b>	1.73
<b>Total length of new cycle ways (km)</b>		<b>2.91</b>

To date, the following outcomes have been reported:

#### Bournemouth Airport/ Aviation Business Park

INDICATORS	Unit	OUTCOMES TO DATE						
		FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	TOTAL
		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	
<b>Jobs created and safeguarded</b>	FTE	847	182	96	0	0	0	1125
<b>Unlocked land</b>	HA	3.2	3.2	0	0	0	0	6.4
<b>Private leveraged investment</b>	£	143,848,000	£91,000	0	0	0	0	£143,939,000

The following outcomes are projected to be delivered:

#### Aviation Business Park

INDICATORS	Unit	ACTUALS UP TO FY 2020/21	FORECAST OUTCOMES				FORECAST TOTAL	ACTUALS & FORECAST TOTAL
			FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25		
<b>Jobs created</b>	FTE	1125	0	0	0	1900	1900	3,025
<b>Unlocked land</b>	HA	6.4	0	0	0	30.3	30.3	37
<b>Commercial floor space</b>	Sqm	37,577	0	0	0	92,903	92,903	130,480
<b>Private leveraged investment</b>	£	£143,939,000	0	0	0	£93,000,000	93,000,000	£236,939,000

## Wessex Fields Employment Site

INDICATORS	Unit	ACTUALS UP TO FY 2020/21	FORECAST OUTCOMES				FORECAST TOTAL
			FY	FY	FY	FY	
			2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	
Jobs created	FTE	0	0	130	50	320	500
Unlocked land	HA	0	2.3	0	0	3.7	6
Commercial floor space	sqm	0	0	6,400	10,000	20,000	36,400
Private sector leveraged investment	£	0	0	0			0
Public sector leveraged investment	£	0	£2.5m	0	0	0	0
Housing units started	Units	0	0	0	0	200	0
Housing units completed	Units	0	0	0	0	0	0

## West Parley Housing development

INDICATORS	Unit	ACTUALS UP TO FY 2020/21	FORECAST OUTCOMES					FORECAST TOTAL
			FY	FY	FY	FY	Post 2025	
			21/22	22/ 23	23/ 24	24/ 25		
Total West Parley Housing units	Units completed	0					536	536
East-side								
Housing units completed	Units completed	0	30	50	50	50	206	386
Commercial floor space completed	Sqm	0					4,100	4,100
Land unlocked	HA	0	20.2					20.2
Private leveraged investment	£	0	£2,269,680					2,269,680
West-side								
Housing units completed	Units completed						150	150

## FINANCES

	Dorset LEP Funding	Match funding	Total Funding
<b>Total Funding</b>	£40,467,873.35	£9,127,752.35	£49,595,625.7





*A338 Reconstruction*



*Blackwater Junction & A338 Widening*



*Cooper Dean improvements*

**Dorset LEP**

Rosie Macnamara, Programme Manager

Rmacnamara@bournemouth.ac.uk

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