

A47 corridor feasibility study

Background

Following 2013 Spending Review, Government announced that it will identify and fund solutions to tackle some of the most notorious and long-standing road hot spots in the country by conducting 6 feasibility studies:

- The A27 corridor (incl. Arundel and Worthing)
- The A303/A30/A358 corridor
- The A1 North of Newcastle
- The A1 Newcastle-Gateshead Western Bypass
- Trans-Pennine routes
- The A47 corridor

Studies progressed alongside the Highways Agency's Route Based Strategy (RBS) programme.

Outcomes inform future roads investment decisions as part of the Roads Investment Strategy development process.

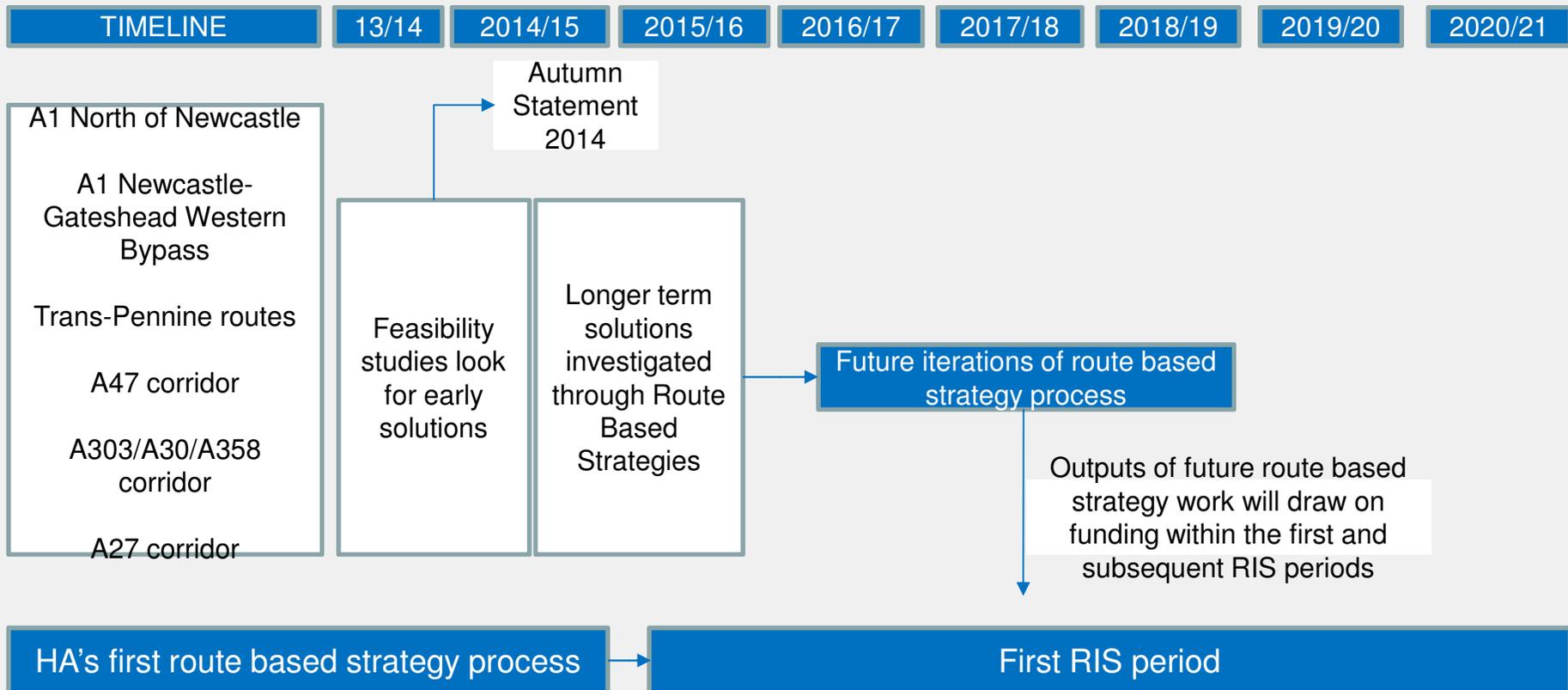
Wider investment planning process

Roads Investment Strategy

- Commitment to ending the boom and bust cycle of roads funding
- Launched in “Action for Roads”
- Made up of four interlocking elements:

The Future of Our Strategic Road Network	A high-level strategy for our motorways and trunk roads for the period to c.2031
The Statement of Funds Available	The amount of capital funding available for our motorways and trunk roads for the period to 2021
The Strategic Road Network Investment Plan	The Government’s funding plan for the period to 2021
NewCo’s Performance Specification	The outcomes/metrics that Government wishes to set for NewCo for the period from 1 April 2015

How the feasibility studies and RBSs feed the Roads Investment



Proposed study scope – Aims and objectives

Aim: identify the opportunities and case for future investment solutions on the A47 corridor which are deliverable, affordable and offer value for money.

Objectives:

- Identify and assess the case, deliverability and timing of specific road investments that address existing problems on the A47 corridor.
- Understand the balance of benefits and impacts from potential individual investment proposals and any additional benefits or impacts from an investment on corridor basis.
- Evidence where possible, the wider economic benefits from the road investment in the corridor.

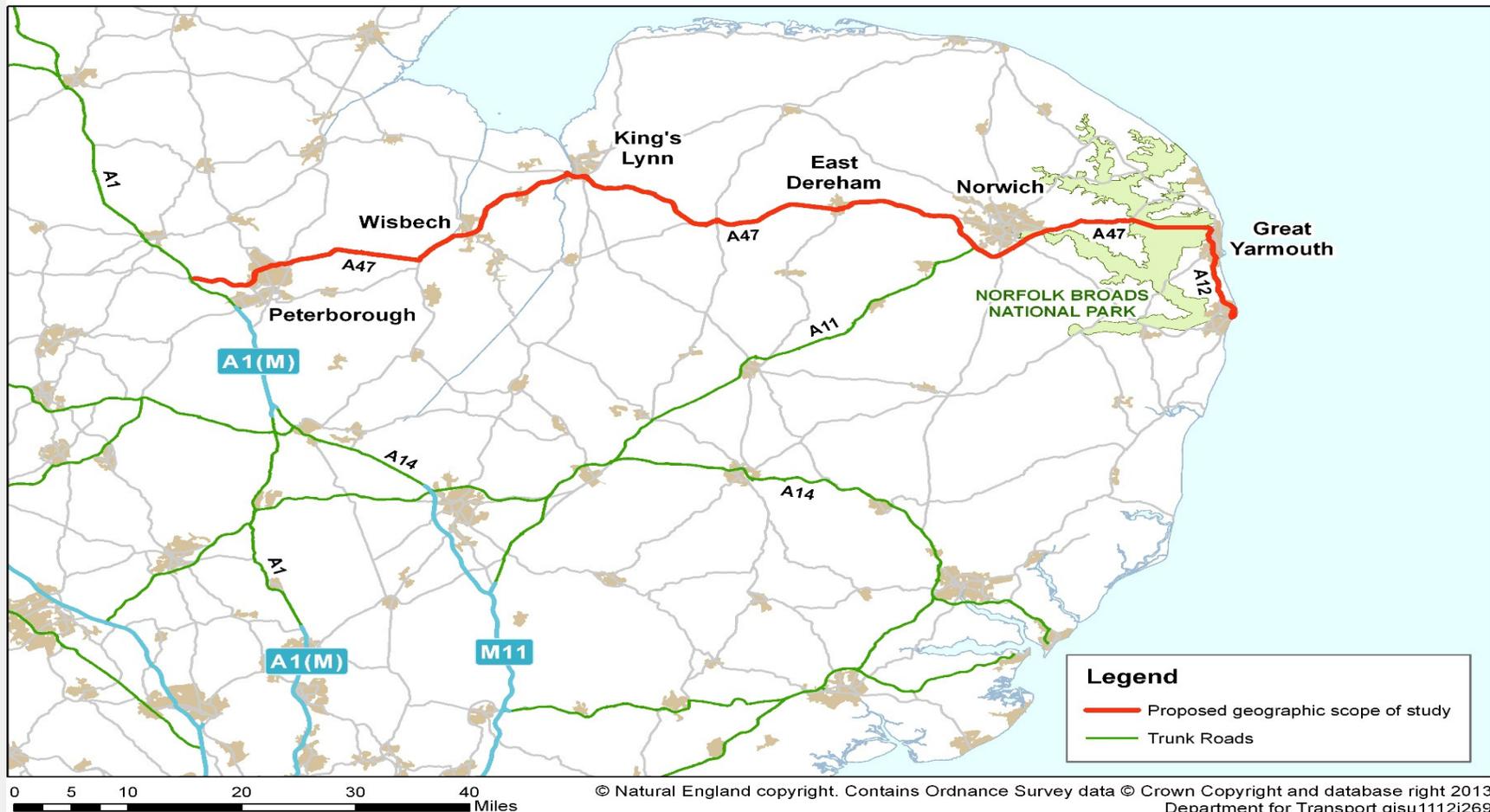
Proposed study scope – study approach

Study to build on previous analysis including:

- Norwich to Peterborough Multi Modal Study
- Norfolk County Council's Economic Impact Assessment
- A47 Alliance Prospectus - Gateway to Growth
- Greater Norwich City Deal

Study will also use evidence collected as part of stage 1 of the RBS process together with evidence presented as part of LEP strategic economic plans.

Proposed study scope – geographic scope



Proposed study scope – modal scope

Predominantly road-based.

Need to consider the potential local transport improvements, and the interaction between the A47 corridor and the local road network.

Proposed study scope – questions to be addressed by the study

Given the assessment of current and future performance of the A47 corridor are there specific priority location/problems that should be addressed?

Are there viable potential solutions to these problems which are deliverable, affordable and offer value for money?

What are the potential timescales for the delivery of identified potential solutions?

Are there additional benefits or impacts from combinations of potential solutions over and above those for individual solutions?

Is there evidence of the impact of investment in potential solutions on the resilience of the road network?

Have the potential solutions identified fully considered and optimised the environmental opportunities and mitigation that potential transport investment could bring?

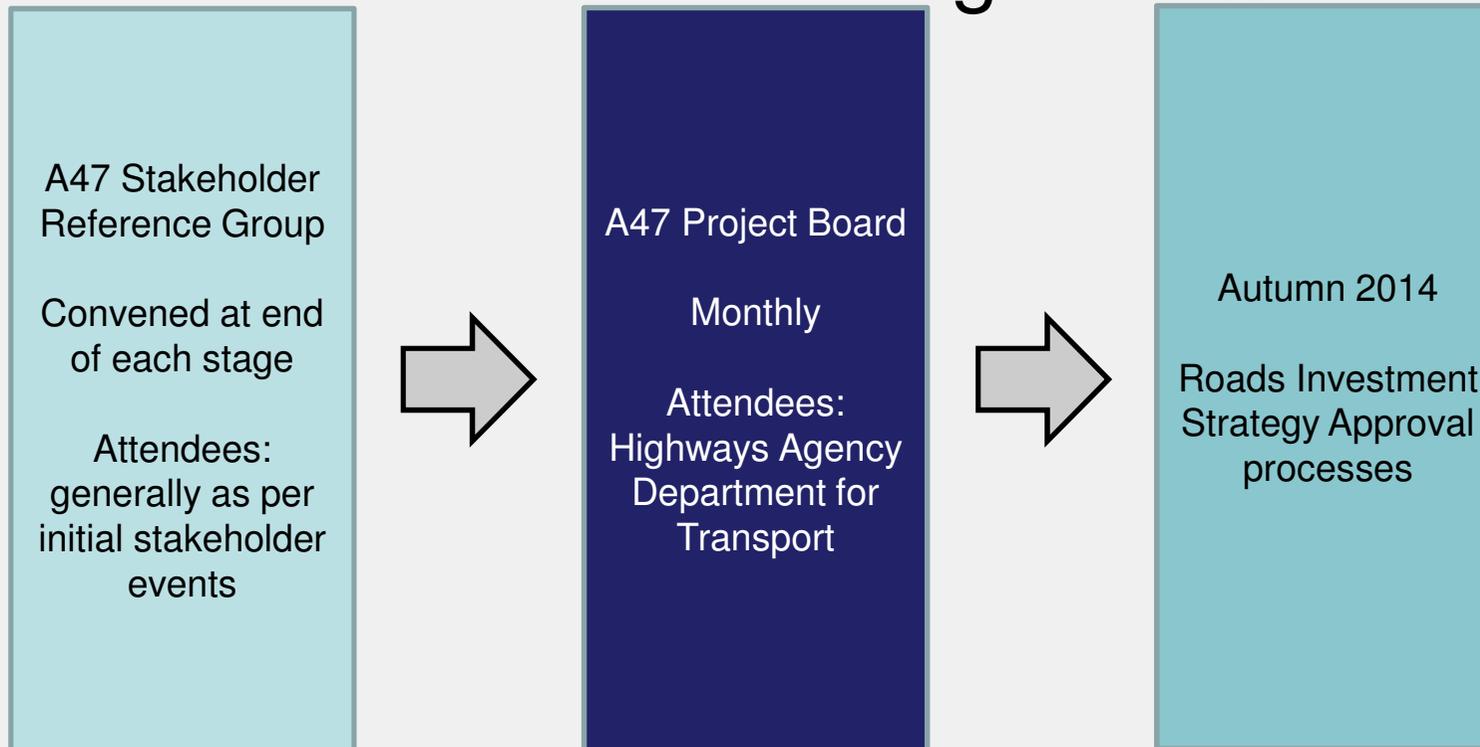
Is further work/analysis required for Government to be able to make specific investment decisions, and if so what are the timescale of such work?

Timescales and staging of work

Stage 0	Agreement to the scope, timing and management arrangements for the study	Complete by early February 2014
Stage 1	Review of evidence and identification of problems along the corridor	Complete by end of March 2014
Stage 2	Work to finalise the range of infrastructure proposals that could address the problems along the corridor	Complete by end of July 2014
Stage 3	Work to assess the affordability, value for money and deliverability of prioritised infrastructure proposals	Complete by autumn 2014

Outcomes of the feasibility studies will be included in the Autumn Statement 2014 announcement

Governance arrangements



A47 study reference established group to ensure stakeholders' views are captured and considered during the study process.

Reference group would allow stakeholder organisations to feed into the work of the A47 study.

Discussion