

**Report title:** St Ives Local Improvements

**To:** Highways and Transport Committee

**Meeting Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**From:** Steve Cox, Executive Director Place and Economy

**Electoral division(s):** St Ives South and Needingworth  
St Ives North and Wyton

**Key decision:** Yes

**Forward Plan ref:** 2022/062

**Outcome:** The purpose of the report is to update the Committee with the progress of the St Ives Local Improvement scheme. The Committee is asked to agree the next steps to deliver the St Ives Local Improvement scheme further to funding for the scheme approved by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

**Recommendation:** That the committee:

- a) notes the update report and progress made in the delivery of proposals from the St Ives Transport study which was last reported to Committee 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020;
- b) approves the list of measures identified in the St Ives Transport Study set out in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.9 subject to the Combined Authority grant funding being secured for design, consultation and delivery;
- c) the Council agrees to accept in total £2.3M of funding (£1M in 2022/23 and £1.3M in 2023/24) from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority to allow design, programming and delivery of the St Ives Local Improvement schemes;
- d) delegate the decision to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority to the Director of Highways and Transport;
- e) grants approval to procure construction works from framework or full procurement process delegating the decision to Award and enter into Contract for construction to the Director of Highways and Transport and

g) establish a Member Working Group involving District Councils to run in parallel to scheme development, consultation and scheme implementation.

Officer contact:

Name: David Mitchell  
Post: Interim Team Leader, Project Delivery  
Email: [David.Mitchell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:David.Mitchell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01223 706805

Member contacts:

Names: Cllr Peter McDonald / Cllr Gerri Bird  
Post: Chair/Vice-Chair  
Email: [Peter.McDonald@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.McDonald@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
[Gerri.brid@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Gerri.brid@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01223 706398

## 1. Background

- 1.1 At the meeting of the committee on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020 members considered a report regarding the A141 and St Ives Transport Study. The report provided a summary of the A141 Transport Study and a more detailed report on the St Ives Transport Study. Work is continuing to develop the A141 Transport Study into an outline business case which will be brought to committee for consideration in the future outside of this report. This report details progress with the St Ives Transport Study and seeks approval to deliver the packages of improvement measures which were identified in the St Ives Transport Study.
- 1.2 The main objectives for the St Ives Transport Study had been to examine options for reducing existing congestion on the main A1123 and A1096 corridors in the area and to reduce unwanted through traffic on the roads in St Ives town centre. Consideration had also been given to improving bus journey times through the town centre.

## 2. Main Issues

- 2.1 The highway improvements which were approved in principle by committee in September 2020 have been developed into five packages of schemes which are planned to be progressed and are set out below and shown at a high level in Appendix A.

### Package 1 – St Ives Town Centre – Package of schemes

- 2.2 Introduction of a 20mph speed limit across St Ives Town Centre. Changing priorities and localised road widening at the Ramsey Road / North Road, Globe Place / North Road / Broad Leas and Globe Place / West Street / East Street junctions. Changes to on-street parking restrictions in the town centre area, to reduce illegal and inconsiderate parking. Focus on reducing congestion pinch points in the town centre, rat running and improving bus access.

### Package 2 – Silvaco West Roundabout Improvement (A1123 / B1040) and right turn ban Needingworth Road to A1123 St Audrey Lane

- 2.3 Silvaco West (A1123 / B1040) roundabout improvements, including the replacement of the roundabout at the A1123 St Audrey Lane / B1040 Somersham Road junction with traffic signals.
- 2.4 A right-turn ban for all traffic from Needingworth Road onto A1123 St Audrey Lane. To retest the impact of the recommendations, consider possible alternative options and recommendation of a preferred option.

### Package 3 – Bus Stop Improvements

- 2.5 Improvements to bus stop infrastructure, including:
  - a) 22 priority bus stops;
  - b) Removal of redundant bus stop infrastructure; and
  - c) Non-priority bus stops and hail and ride.
- 2.6 To make travel by public bus services in St Ives a more attractive option by improving the bus stop infrastructure facilities.

## Package 4 – Walking and Cycling Signage Improvements

- 2.7 Package of walking and cycling signage improvements.
- 41 new signs;
  - Removal of redundant infrastructure; and
  - Consideration of conducting a quality audit of pedestrian and cycling routes.
- 2.8 To improve consistency and connectivity of walking and cycling signage throughout St Ives to encourage increased levels of walking and cycling.

## Package 5 – Non-Motorised User (NMU) Routes Development Study

- 2.9 Audit, feasibility, scoping and optioneering and development of a network of active travel routes in and around St Ives. This work will build on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority’s study work, the Local Cycling Walking Improvement Plan (LCWIP) and other local evidence. Output will be a more developed package of projects for consideration for investment. Detailed programme and cost profile to be provided after engagement with the supply chain and development of a more detailed scope.

### Programme and Cost of each package of measures

- 2.10 A high level indicative programme and cost of each package is shown in the table below:

Package	Feasibility		Design and Consultation		Construction		Cost £
	Start by	End	Start by	End	Start by	End	
1	May 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	March 2023	April 2023	March 2024	617,420
2	May 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	May 2023	June 2023	March 2024	834,480
3	May 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	March 2023	360,192
4	May 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	March 2023	87,908
5	May 2022	Oct 2023	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	400,000
<b>Total</b>							<b>2,300,000</b>

The programme is very much indicative at this early stage. Assuming the scheme is supported and funding assigned by this committee, a Council Project Team will be established, who will engage with design organisations and contractors to develop more accurate and detailed programmes.

- 2.11 The programme for each package will be developed alongside a Member Working Group. The programmes will be developed including periods of consultation with user groups, Members and other local stakeholders.

## Financial Implications

- 2.12 A paper was submitted to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Transport and Infrastructure Committee on 14th March 2022. The Board approved the drawdown of £2.3M funding on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022, to enable commencement of the St Ives Local Improvement Schemes.
- 2.13 In order to secure the funding the Council will need to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.
- 2.14 Project risks will be managed through project governance, where the Council are the Delivery Agent and the CPCA are the Project Sponsors (funders), who make the key decisions and hold the financial and programme risks.

## 3. Alignment with corporate priorities

### 3.1 Communities at the heart of everything we do

The primary focus of the St Ives Local Improvements is to implement measures for reducing existing congestion on the main A1123 and A1096 corridors in the area and to reduce unwanted through traffic on the roads in St Ives town centre. Consideration had also been given to improving bus journey times through the town centre. These measures benefit of the local community.

### 3.2 A good quality of life for everyone

The St Ives Local Improvements will improve access in the area which will assist with providing better links to employment, health and education. Throughout the design, the principles in DfT's "Gear Change – A Bold Vision for Cycling and Walking" will be applied where practical, to promote modal shift and support pedestrians and cyclist users in the area.

### 3.3 Helping our children learn, develop and live life to the full

The St Ives Local Improvements, will assist with making St Ives town centre a more pleasant place for children to visit which will be less dominated by car traffic.

### 3.4 Cambridgeshire: a well-connected, safe, clean, green environment

The aspiration to improve transport infrastructure in St Ives could promote modal shift away from car use with associated benefits in air quality.

### 3.5 Protecting and caring for those who need us

There are no significant implications within this category.

## 4. Significant Implications

### 4.1 Resource Implications

- If approved, resources will be required from within the Project Delivery service to develop and deliver the St Ives Local Improvements, subject to approval of funding by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority. The project budget will cater for these costs fully.

### 4.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

- A Grant Funding Agreement with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority will be required to release funding for the development and delivery of the schemes. Procurement of the required works will be via the Highways Term Service Contract, the Preferred Supplier Framework or an alternative procurement route if necessary. The Council's Procurement Team will be fully engaged throughout.

### 4.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

- Risks around funding will be addressed in a Grant Funding Agreement with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority. Delivery risks for individual schemes will be managed by experienced staff using robust processes adopted within the Project Delivery service.

### 4.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

- An equality impact assessment will be prepared for each package of measures identified in the St Ives Local Improvements as part of the design process.

### 4.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

- Appropriate consultation on the measures to be implemented will be carried out as soon as the design is sufficiently developed to make the consultation worthwhile and carried out in accordance with standard process.

### 4.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

- Local Members will be consulted and engaged in the development of this programme.

### 4.7 Public Health Implications

- The proposed improvements to public transport, walking and cycling currently being examined should encourage some users to walk and cycle or use public transport more regularly which are expected to bring health benefits. The schemes are also anticipated to reduce vehicle emissions which will improve the local air quality with the associated health benefits.

#### 4.8 Environment and Climate Change Implications on Priority Areas:

##### 4.8.1 Implication 1: Energy efficient, low carbon buildings.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: The proposed measures will not impact on any buildings

##### 4.8.2 Implication 2: Low carbon transport.

Negative Status:

Explanation: The proposed schemes are aimed at reducing delays and improving safety locally. Vehicle emissions should be reduced by minimising time spent in queues, but the proposals will not encourage shift to lower carbon vehicles. There is also the possibility that through making roads more attractive to drivers this may encourage increased private vehicle use. The proposed improvements to public transport, walking and cycling currently being examined should encourage some users to walk and cycle or use public transport more regularly.

##### 4.8.3 Implication 3: Green spaces, peatland, afforestation, habitats and land management.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: The St Ives Local Improvements are a reconfiguration of existing highway and paved areas and with no impact on existing green spaces.

##### 4.8.4 Implication 4: Waste Management and Tackling Plastic Pollution.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: The schemes will produce waste during the construction phases, however any impact will be minimised by the choice of construction materials and maximising opportunities for recycling, including aggregates, concrete and re-use of bituminous material. Further where suitable as the end product, existing materials will be retained within the schemes.

##### 4.8.5 Implication 5: Water use, availability and management:

Neutral Status:

Explanation: The St Ives Local Improvements are not anticipated to affect water use.

##### 4.8.6 Implication 6: Air Pollution.

Positive Status:

Explanation: Air pollution is expected to be improved by the St Ives Local Improvements as time for traffic spent in queues will reduce.

##### 4.8.7 Implication 7: Resilience of our services and infrastructure, and supporting vulnerable people to cope with climate change.

Neutral Status:

Explanation: No expected impact.

The contacts for the sign off process are as follows:

**Have the resource implications been cleared by Finance? Yes**

Name of Financial Officer: Sarah Heywood

**Have the procurement/contractual/ Council Contract Procedure Rules implications been cleared by the LGSS Head of Procurement? Yes**

Name of Officer: Clare Ellis

**Has the impact on statutory, legal and risk implications been cleared by the Council's Monitoring Officer or LGSS Law? Yes**

Name of Legal Officer: Fiona McMillan

**Have the equality and diversity implications been cleared by your Service Contact? Yes**

Name of Officer: Elsa Evans

**Have any engagement and communication implications been cleared by Communications? Yes**

Name of Officer: Sarah Silk

**Have any localism and Local Member involvement issues been cleared by your Service Contact? Yes**

Name of Officer: Sue Proctor

**Have any Public Health implications been cleared by Public Health? Yes**

Name of Officer: Kate Parker

**If a Key decision, have any Environment and Climate Change implications been cleared by the Climate Change Officer? Yes**

Name of Officer: Emily Bolton

## 5. Source documents

### 5.1 Source documents

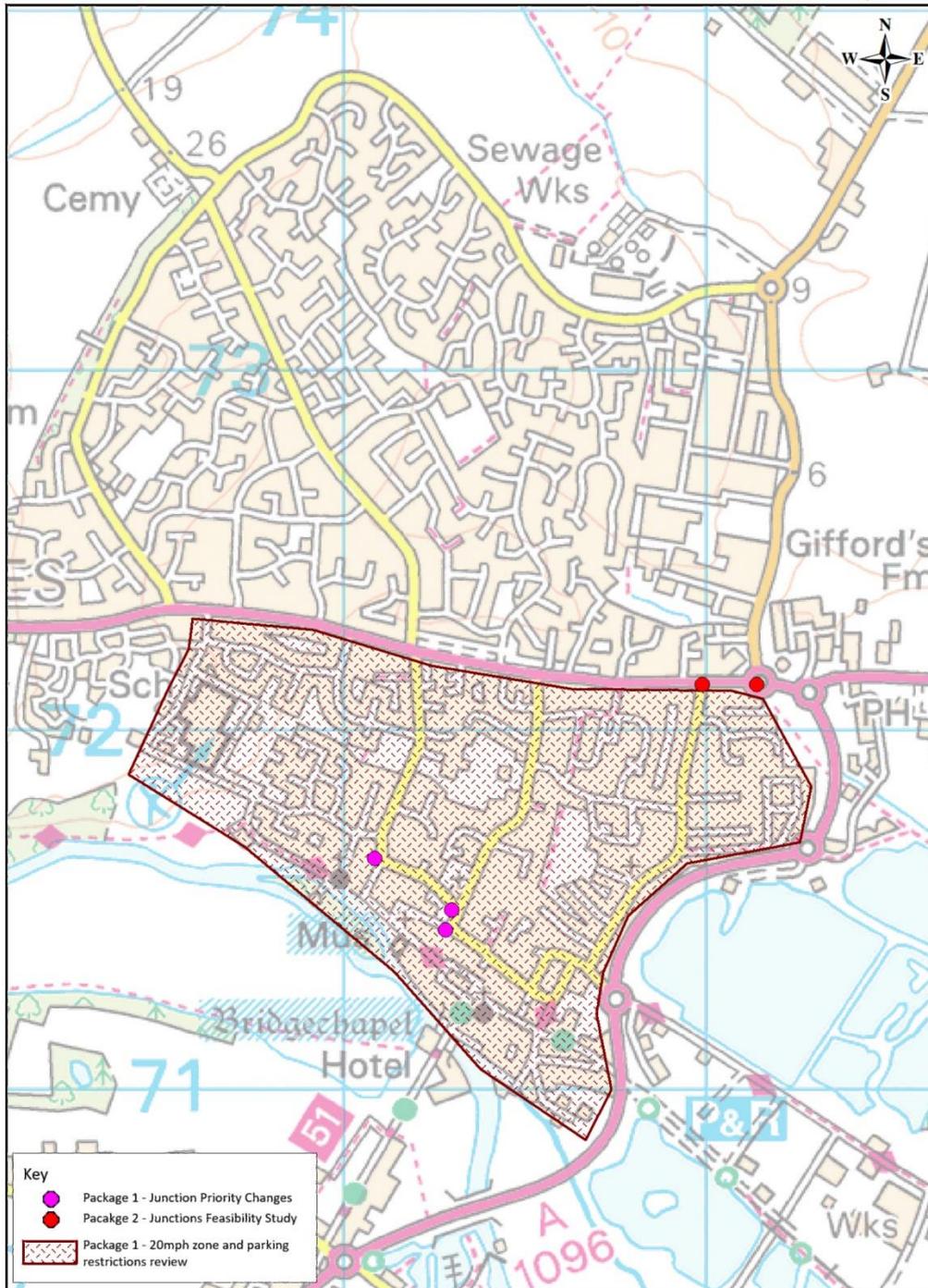
Committee report from 15 September 2020 available at this link: [Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)

# Appendix 1 – St Ives Packages of Scheme Plans

Package 1 – St Ives Town Centre Package of Schemes, and

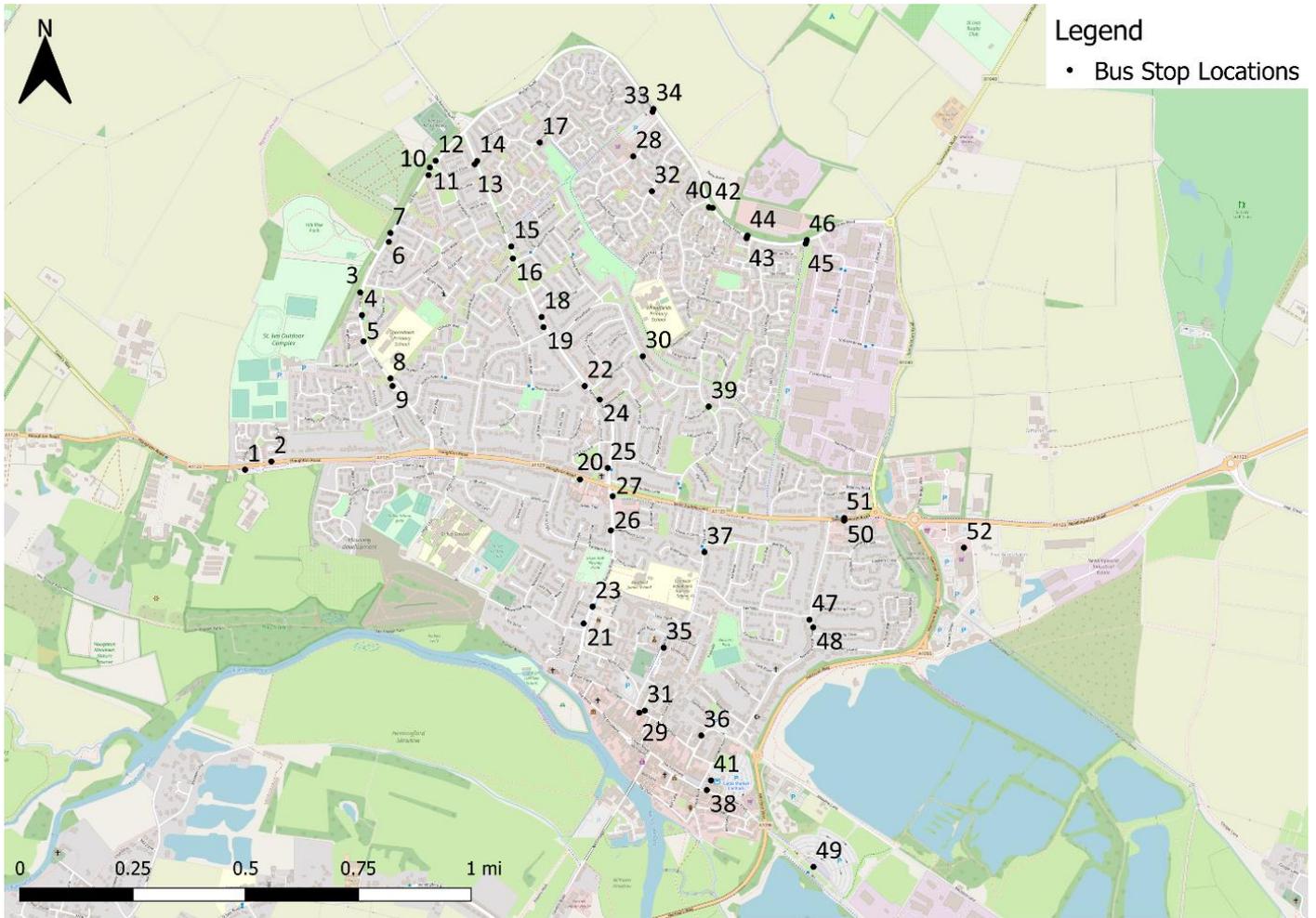
Package 2 - Silvaco West Roundabout Improvement (A1123 / B1040) and right turn ban Needingworth Road to A1123 St Audrey Lane

**St Ives Town Centre Schemes - Packages 1 & 2**

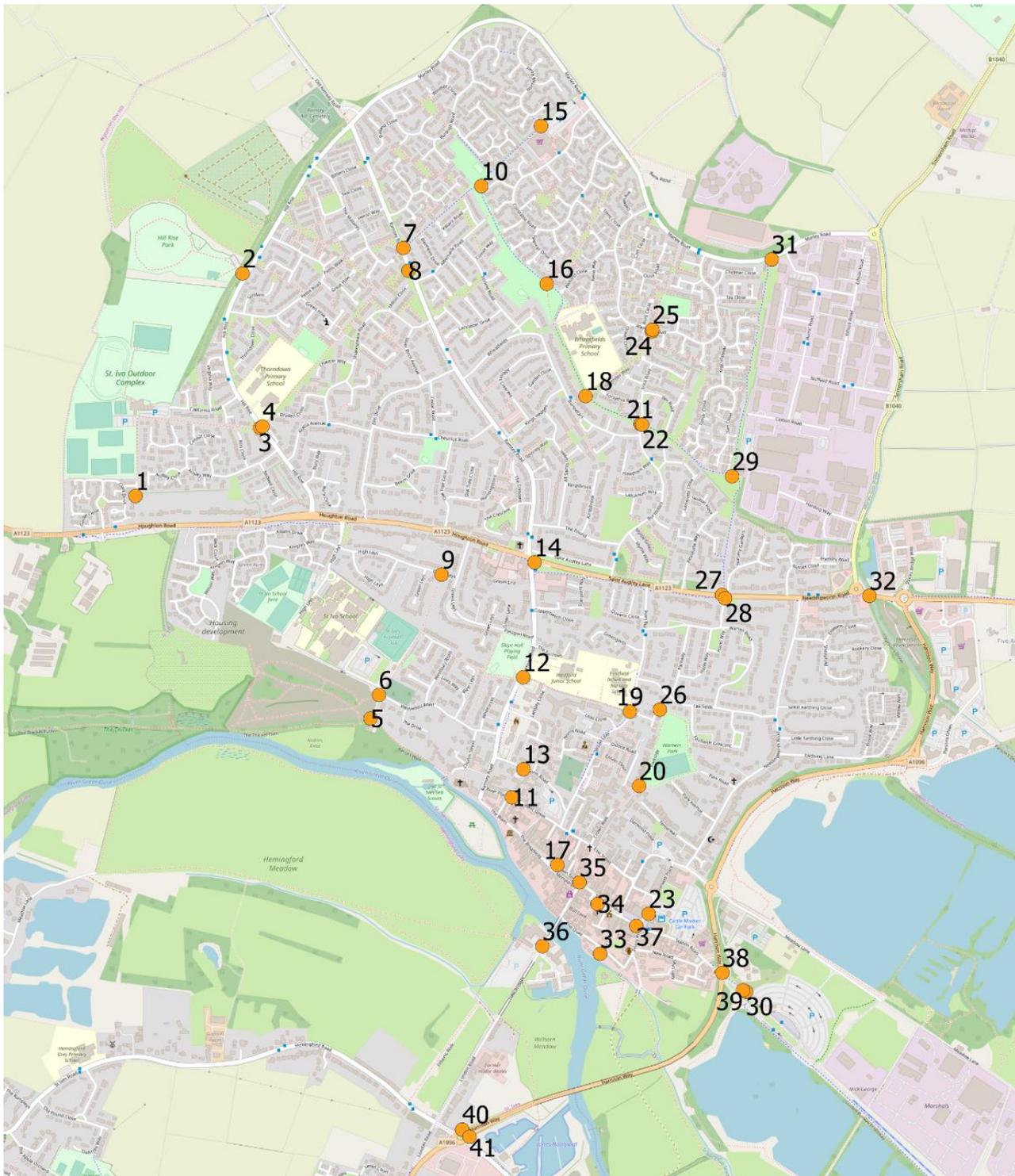


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# Package 3 – Bus Stop Improvement Locations

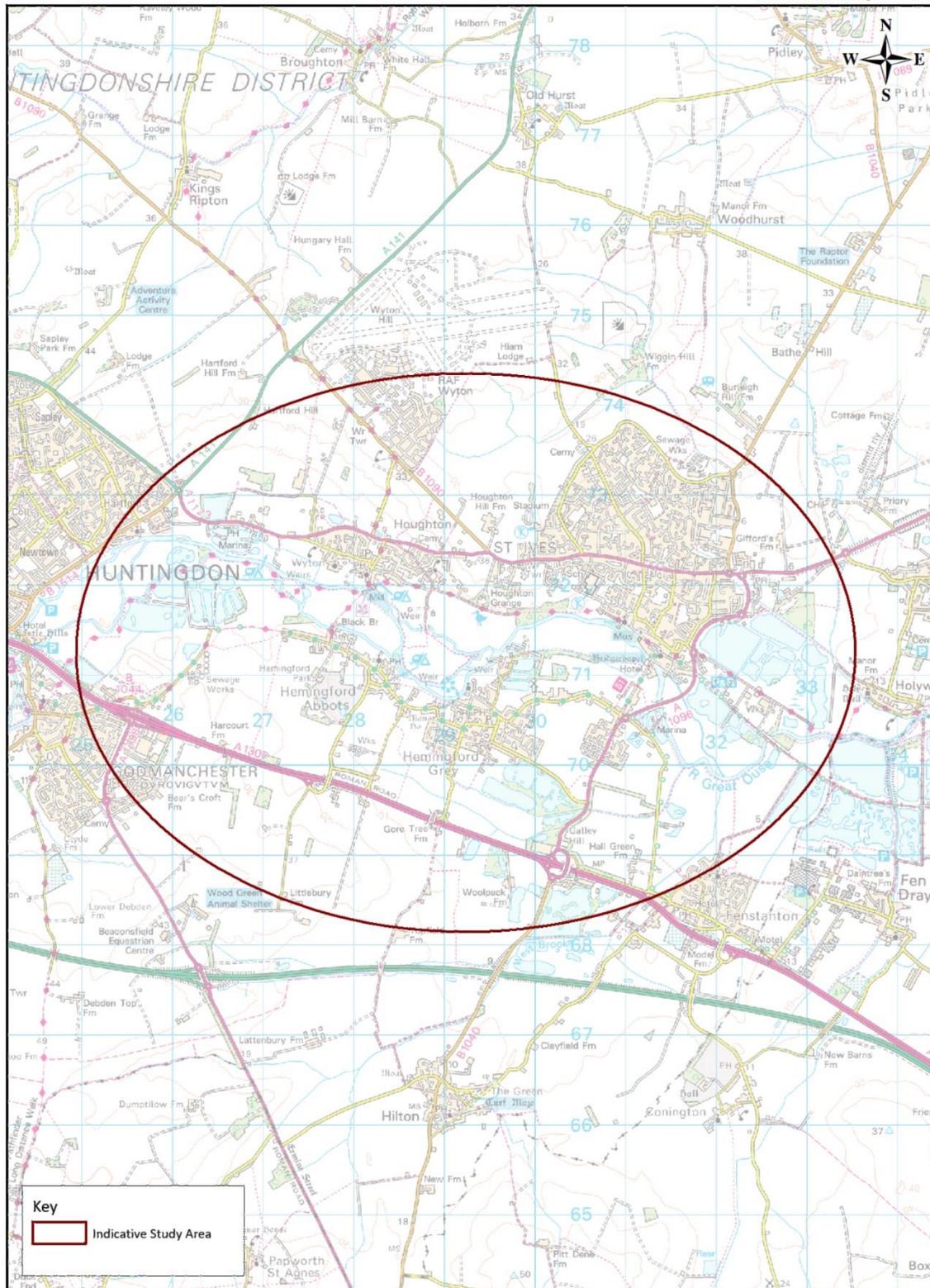


# Package 4 - Walking and Cycling Signage Improvements



# Package 5 - Non-Motorised User (NMU) Routes Development Study

## St Ives Town Centre Schemes - Package 5



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