

Dragonville road works transcript.

[Text: Dave Wafer, Strategic Traffic Manager]

[Dave Wafer is stood in front of the road works under progress]

Dave Wafer: Many people will be familiar with Dragonville, which is to the east of Durham City. It's a very popular area for employment, for retail.

[Aerial footage of Dragonville Retail Park]

Currently it has over 3000 people working here. The Dragonville estate continues to expand, there's more retail opportunities coming forward and it's already congested, and we know this congestion is only going to continue.

[Images of traffic around Dragonville]

So, to try and address those issues, we've now come forward with a new solution to traffic in the area.

[Dave Wafer is stood in front of the road works under progress]

So, what we're trying to do to address the existing traffic problems is to make best use of the existing highway infrastructure. To do this we're putting two new connections in.

[Aerial footage of the retail park and the location of the new road connection]

The first is a connection which will link Damson Way with Sunderland Road. This will be a long section of carriageway which will allow people to pass between the two.

[Footage of Damson Way as it currently stands]

The second half of the project is to link Damson Way to its south with the A181. This is will be new signalised junction which again will allow people to come into the estate from the south, come in from the north, connect the two together and give access across the estate.

[Aerial footage of Dragonville Retail Park]

The end result will be to take traffic away from Dragon Lane. Dragon Lane already suffers from congestion and the junctions at either end also have air pollution and issues for pedestrians as well.

[Footage of the construction work underway]

Preparation work has actually began back in September and a lot of that entailed diverting utilities under ground and the demolition of a building. So now we're actually coming out of the ground we're starting to build footpaths and actually put the sub waste in to construct the road.

[Footage of the construction work indicating where the road will go]

So, the new link road at the top will actually be constructed and should largely be completed by April. Whilst most of the work wont actually cause any destruction to the travelling public the new junction on the A181 will cause some disruption. We have to widen the road, put signals in, put the usual ducts across the road that sort of thing. We'll try and keep that to a minimum but there will be disruptions during April until the junction is completed in May.

As always there will be information beforehand and all the information is on our website.

[Text: durham.gov.uk/dragonville]

[Text: Find out more]