

## ENVIRONMENT

### The Environmental Statement

The Environmental Statement is a detailed report of the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment. It predicts the environmental effects associated with the Proposed Scheme and details measures to reduce or eliminate those effects.

Copies of the Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Statement are being freely distributed at this exhibition, with the Environmental Statement also on display for inspection. Both the Non-Technical Summary and the Environmental Statement are available to view and download from the DRD website at: [drdni.gov.uk/yorkstreet](http://drdni.gov.uk/yorkstreet)

A summary of the key identified environmental impacts and effects associated with the Proposed Scheme are as follows.

### Land Use

- A total of six properties would be demolished (including associated landtake) and sixteen plots would be subject to private land loss impacts.
- Four planning applications would be lost in their entirety and five planning applications would be subject to direct and indirect impacts, however would not preclude the future development of these sites.
- No areas of community land or designations, policies, proposals or zonings for development land would be adversely affected.
- The majority of land that would be affected (where not already developed) has been left un-zoned as 'white land'.

### Ecology and the Water Environment

- Low to negligible effect on ecological value and conservation status of the area.
- There would be minimal impact on the water environment (from a water quality, hydromorphology and spillage risk perspective).
- To prevent flood water ingress to underpasses, it is proposed to incorporate flood retaining walls, sufficiently raised ramp approaches, a temporary flood barrier, specifically-designed non-backflow drainage and utilities infrastructure, and a storm water Pumping Station incorporated with resilience measures.

### Air Quality and Noise

- Localised changes in emissions would be experienced at various receptor locations. These would generally be of an imperceptible or small magnitude, in terms of both increases and decreases, and concentrations would be below UK National Air Quality Objective Values. No significant effect on local or regional air quality.
- The majority of proximal residential properties would experience a permanent (long-term) negligible increase in day-time noise level.
- Noise barriers would be required along the north and south side of Westlink, either side of North Queen Street Bridge and road surfacing options would include thin surface course systems on the interchange links and slip roads for its noise reducing qualities.
- Certain construction activities would result in increases in noise, vibration and dust levels (particularly in the vicinity of structures and major earthworks).

