

Description of development and scope of works

Works to the existing highway network (specifically parts of Central Expressway, Lodge Lane junction, Weston Link junction and M56 junction 12) arising from the provision of the Mersey Gateway Bridge will comprise:

- a) Closure of the existing Halton Brow and Halton Lea junctions onto the Central Expressway;
- b) Conversion of parts of the existing Central Expressway hard shoulder to comprise distributor lanes, comprising strengthening works to carry full highway loading;
- c) Modification and/or replacement of existing footbridges and a busway bridge spanning the Central Expressway to accommodate the additional distributor lanes;
- d) Modification of the existing Lodge Lane junction and slip roads to change the priority of traffic flow from the Southern Expressway to the Weston Link, with provision for dual two lanes of through traffic from the Central Expressway to the Weston Link with single lane slip roads for traffic movements to and from the Southern Expressway; these works comprise the construction of a new single span bridge;
- e) Modification to the Weston Link junction to change the priority of traffic flow from the northbound to the southbound section of the Weston Point Expressway;
- f) Construction of a new slip road on the northern side of the existing Weston Link slip road to allow vehicular movements onto the Mersey Gateway Bridge from the northern section of the Weston Point Expressway and a new equestrian bridge over this slip road to maintain the existing bridleway;
- g) Existing roundabout to the north of junction 12 to be modified into a signalised 'throughabout' to provide increased capacity at this junction;

Ancillary works will include general earthworks, kerb realignment, embankments, retaining structures. Finishing works will include street lighting, road markings, safety fencing, road signs, gantries and landscaping.