

Carlisle Southern Link Road
Creating new places and new spaces

Prepared on behalf of



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Project No: ED/000762		Document Reference: A689-WSP-ELS-ZZZ-RP-LE-0007			
Revision	Purpose of Issue	Originated	Checked	Approved	Date
Initial Issue	Issue for comments	II	MM	WR	15.11.2024
01	For information	ST	HJ	GS	

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Durdar roundabout and Carlisle Racecourse



River Caldew and Caldew Crossing

1 INTRODUCTION

1 Introduction

1.1 Background History

In 2016, the Council adopted a new local plan that included a residential development south of Carlisle, funded by Homes England. This development, called St Cuthberts Garden Village, required better infrastructure in the area to handle increased traffic.

After several studies, the Carlisle Southern Link Road was chosen as the best solution, with most of the funding coming from Homes England. The route was finalised in 2018, planning approval was granted in 2020, and construction began in June 2023. The project is set to be completed in 2025.

1.2 Project Overview

The A689 Carlisle Southern Link Road (CSLR) will provide a high-quality link to the south of Carlisle, connecting Junction 42 of the M6 to the A595 at Newby West. The route will pass the villages of Brisco, Durdar and Cummersdale and will involve the construction of new sections of single carriageway 8.2km in length, five new roundabouts and bridges over the Cumbria Coast Railway Line, the River Caldew, the West Coast Main Railway line and the River Petteril.

The input gathered from previous public engagement has played a pivotal role in shaping the direction and scope of the project. This inclusive approach has ensured that the voices and concerns of the community have been taken into account in the development of the project.

The following page provides a project overview.

1.3 Purpose of Report

This report has been compiled to outline the placemaking for the Carlisle Southern Link Road (CSLR). It was established early in the project that a placemaking strategy was required to ensure that the proposed design celebrated and strengthened the unique qualities of the local landscape character.

The intention was to create distinctive areas within this large infrastructure project, aid wayfinding, create a sense of place, and enhance local biodiversity.

Whilst placemaking has been considered throughout the project design as a whole, there are several specific areas where placemaking has been a key focus. Design proposals that create distinctive roundabouts, some publicly accessible SuDS ponds and some serving the wildlife and biodiversity, the Caldew River Corridor, suitable street furniture design along with bespoke wayfinding signage, and interpretative boards make up the placemaking design for CSLR. These will be listed within the document alongside an explanation of what features are being proposed in these locations and why.

This report will act as a supporting document to fulfil the planning condition for the implementation and successful commencement of the project.

While the CSLR project is currently under construction, it should be noted that the design and placement of elements presented in this document is due to change as the project proceeds on site.

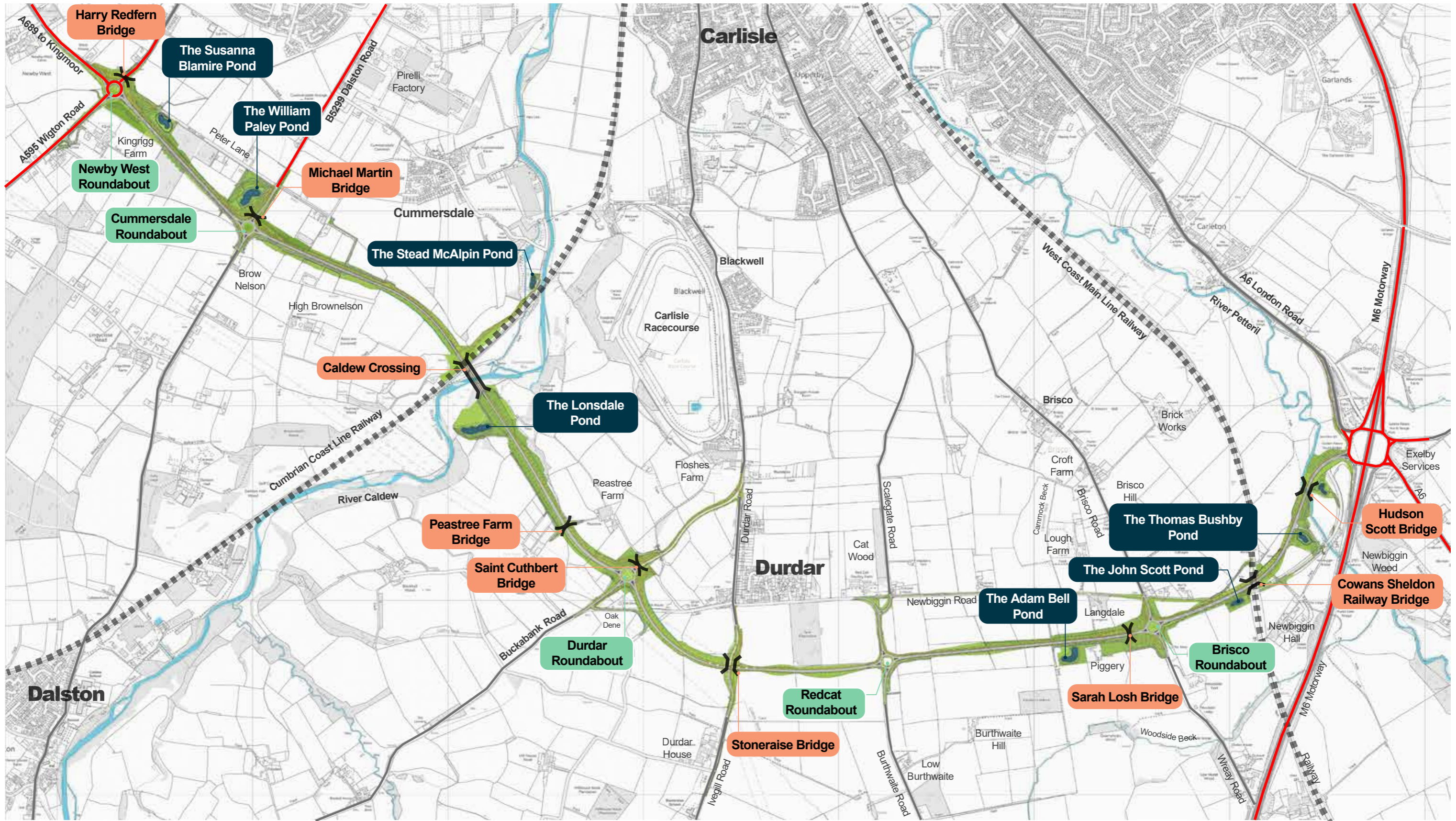
1.4 Naming Concept

The names chosen for the ponds and major structures along the new route have been thoughtfully selected to reflect and celebrate the rich history and diverse contributions of this area. Each name tells a story, connecting the present to the past and honouring the individuals and industries that have shaped the area and the community.

The ponds have been named to highlight the area's deep artistic heritage, recognising the many painters, sculptors, writers, and other creative minds who have lived and worked here. Their work has not only enriched the local culture but has also had a lasting impact beyond this community, inspiring generations with their creativity and vision. By dedicating these names to the artistic legacy of the region, we aim to encourage a continued appreciation for the arts and inspire new creative endeavours.

Similarly, the structures along the route pay tribute to the engineers, architects, and industries that have played a crucial role in shaping the landscape and development of this area. These individuals and enterprises have been instrumental in driving progress, from designing remarkable buildings to pioneering innovations that have influenced the wider world. Their contributions are a testament to the ingenuity, craftsmanship, and resilience that define this community.

By naming these landmarks after the artists, engineers, and visionaries who have left their mark on the area, we seek to create a meaningful connection between the past and present. Visitors will not only experience the beauty of the surroundings but also gain a deeper appreciation for the creativity and innovation that continue to shape this special place. Our hope is that these names will serve as an enduring tribute, inspiring people to explore, reflect, and take pride in the rich history that makes this area truly unique.



Carlisle Southern Link Road: Layout Drawing



Caldew Crossing

2 PLACEMAKING

2 Placemaking

2.1 Planting & Materials

In the initial stages of the placemaking project, our primary goal was to design public spaces that would not only encourage but also inspire social interaction. Throughout this process, we carefully pinpointed specific locations that we believe will serve as focal points for socialising.

We fully understand and value the importance of gathering input from the community as it is crucial in establishing a strong sense of place and belonging for the residents of Carlisle.

Additionally, we utilised landscape design and planting to ensure that these spaces are visually appealing throughout the year, with special attention given to creating seasonal attractions while maintaining their unique identity during off-peak times through other design elements.

This page details some of the 10,000 trees, planting and materials used in the project.

Individual Trees



Rowan
Sorbus aucuparia



English Oak
Quercus robur



Hawthorn
Crataegus monogyna



Silver Birch
Betula pendula



Field Maple
Acer campestre



Alder
Alnus glutinosa



Goat Willow
Salix caprea

Native Broadleaf Woodland



Blackthorn
Prunus spinosa



English Oak
Quercus robur



Hawthorn
Crataegus monogyna



Dog Rose
Rosa canina



Beech
Fagus sylvatica



Crab Apple
Malus sylvestris



Wild Cherry
Prunus avium

Native Shrub Planting



Blackthorn
Prunus spinosa



Dog Rose
Rosa canina



Dogwood
Cornus sanguinea



Field Rose
Rosa arvensis



Goat Willow
Salix caprea



Hazel
Corylus avellana



Holly
Ilex aquifolium

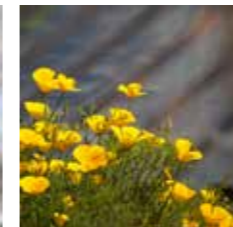
Pond and Wetland Planting: Marginal Species



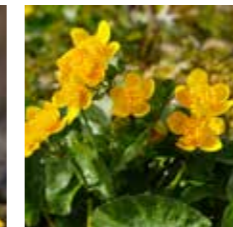
Brooklime
Veronica beccabunga



Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil
Lotus uliginosus



Lesser Spearwort
Ranunculus flammula



Marsh Marigold
Caltha palustris



Purple Loosestrife
Lythrum salicaria



Waterforget-me-not
Myosotis scorpiodes



Water Mint
Mentha aquatica

Ornamental Meadow Mix



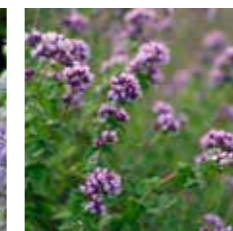
Aster
Aster amellus



Balkan Clary
Salvia nemorosa



Flat Sea Holly
Eryngium planum



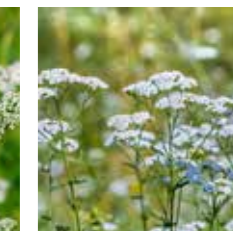
Oregano
Origanum vulgare



Spiked Speedwell
Veronica spicata



Wild Carrot
Daucus carota

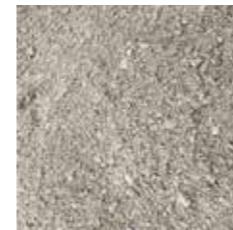


Yarrow
Achillea millefolium

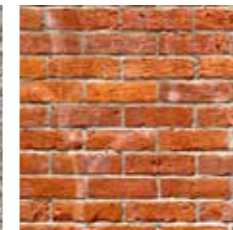
Material Palette



Wood



Concrete



Brick



Corten Steel



Sandstone



Stone



Bench Texture

2 Placemaking

2.2 Street Furniture

The kind of street furniture we plan to use for the project reflects the natural qualities of this predominantly rural landscape. Street furniture items are primarily timber:

- Seating
- Litter bins
- Dog waste bins
- Cycle stands
- Fingerposts
- Entrance signage
- Information boards

Each furniture item has been chosen to ensure both durability and a natural aesthetic, reflecting our commitment to quality and the environment.

By introducing seating areas, cycle stands, and footpaths to new amenity spaces, we provide opportunities for people to make short cycle journeys or walks from the existing and new residential developments.

Along the paths, we propose to install seating and signage at strategic locations, enhancing the experience of using the routes.



Timber benches



Timber benches



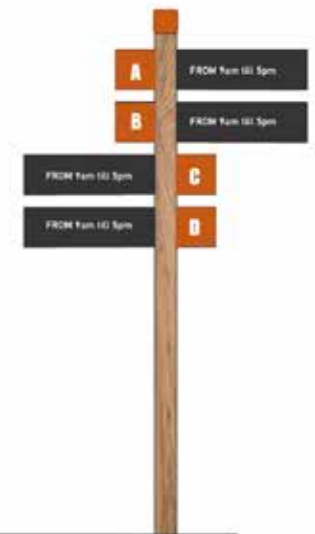
Timber litter bin



Timber dog waste bin



Timber cycle stand



Bespoke fingerposts

2 Placemaking

2.3 Gates

Pedestrian gates are single-way closing or two-way self-closing, with hinge arrangement to provide easier access to users with larger mobility devices, pushchairs, etc.

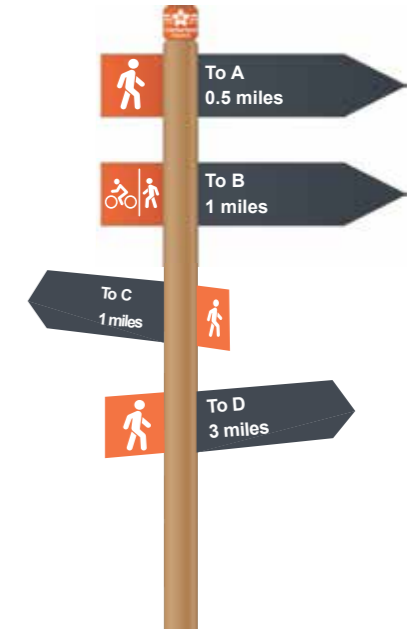
To avoid pedestrians opening a large vehicle gate to access public rights of way (PROW) or amenity areas. A pedestrian gate alongside will be provided for pedestrians to use, and allows the use of larger vehicle gate limited to those who need vehicular access for maintenance/private access.



Gate



Information boards



Bespoke, multidirectional fingerposts

2.4 Other features

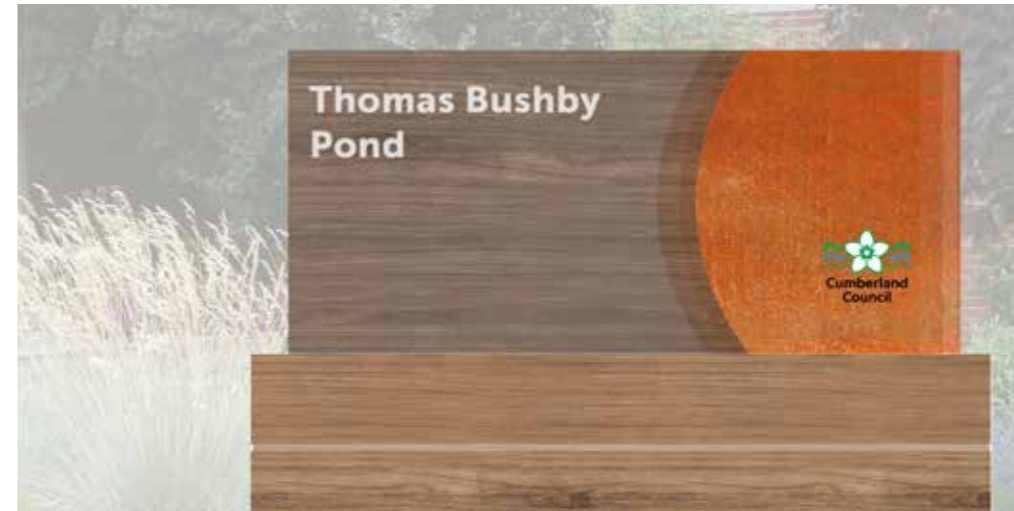
Insect house:

Used to provide shelter and habitat for a variety of beneficial insects, including solitary bees, ladybirds, lacewings, beetles, and other small creatures.

The "Insect House" will be made from reclaimed and recycled materials and proposed that could be created alongside local community groups, leading to community engagement.



Insect house



Entrance Signages for publicly accessible ponds

Signage:

Bespoke signage used throughout the project and information boards are used at specific locations adding interest and information to the public.



Redcat Roundabout to the M6

3 PARKS AND PONDS

3 Parks and Ponds

Background

Ponds are used throughout the project to manage the water run-off from the carriageway and the surrounding land which will control the volume of discharge into the nearby watercourses. The ponds are then enhanced with landscaping and other features to offer habitats for biodiversity.

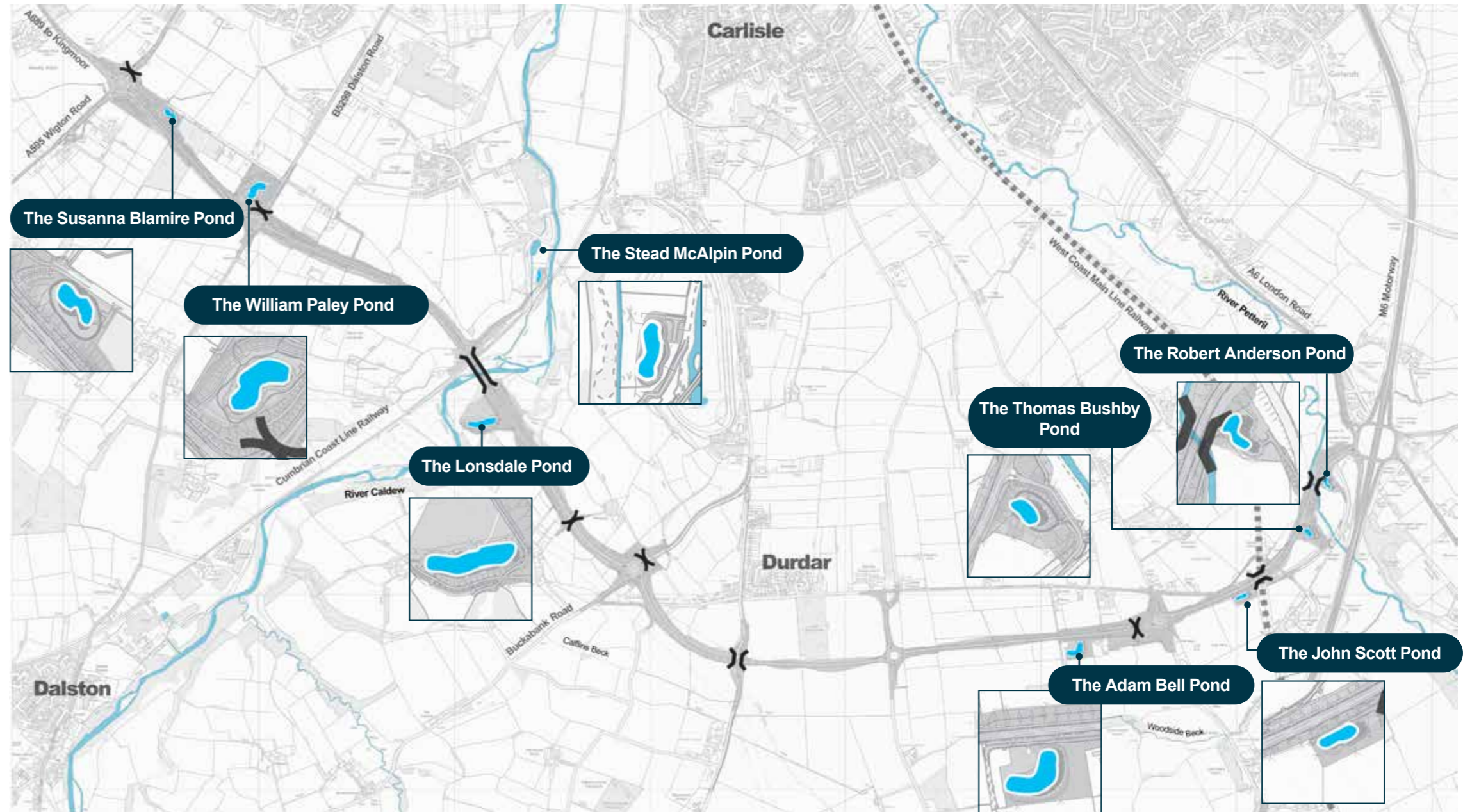
There are eight Sustainable Drainage System Ponds. Some of these ponds will be accessible to the public due to their close proximity to residential areas, making them suitable for amenity use and providing numerous wildlife and biodiversity benefits. Other ponds will enhance the biodiversity and reduce the risks of flooding.

The amenity ponds will have additional features in the design and placement of various street furniture, such as durable timber benches, litter bins, and dog waste bins. Timber cycle stands are also strategically placed to cater to passing cyclists using existing routes and the new paths.

Entrance signages and information boards at the amenity ponds will help inform the public of the numerous wildlife and environmental benefits of the pond and planting design.

The map on the right shows locations of the eight ponds in the project.

More information about each of these ponds is summarised in the next few pages.



Layout Drawing - Sustainable Ponds

3 Parks and Ponds

The Susanna Blamire Pond

The Susanna Blamire Pond is named after the 'Muse of Cumberland'. Susanna was a poet whose work gained recognition posthumously. She is now considered one of the most notable poets writing in a Cumberland dialect.

Susanna Blamire Pond is located near the proposed housing north of Peter Lane. Therefore, it has been designed with an informal, publicly accessible hoggin path to enable the local residents and visitors to this area of green space.

The proposed woodland planting contains native coniferous species, native broadleaf trees, and shrub species. Most of this space will also be sown with a species-rich native grass and wildflower mix, along with native marginal and aquatic planting around the pond.



Design Includes

- Timber seating
- Insect house
- Bespoke entrance signage
- Information maker post
- Timber cycle stands

The Susanna Blamire Pond: Layout



Visualisation of pond looking towards Newby West Roundabout



Accessible footpaths will provide a route around the pond and new woodland area.

3 Parks and Ponds

The William Paley Pond

The William Paley Pond is named after one of the most famous thinkers of his day, still known for his watchmaker argument for the existence of god from the intricate design of the world. The vicar of Dalston and Archdeacon of Carlisle he was an enthusiastic fisherman who knew the area around the Caldew very well. William Paley's writings were some of the most influential philosophical texts in late Enlightenment Britain and even inspired Charles Darwin.



Design Includes

- Timber seating
- Insect house
- Information board
- Information maker post

The William Paley Pond: Layout



Timber footbridges provide interesting features within the new open space



Pond slopes will be gradual with marginal planting for wildlife

3 Parks and Ponds

The Stead McAlpin Pond

The Stead McAlpin Pond is named after the local, world-famous printers. They have had a factory at Cummersdale since 1835. The factory was once the most versatile printing factory in the UK, using rotary, flatbed and digital printmaking. They completed prints for Queen Victoria, Queen Elizabeth II, Buckingham Palace, Winston Churchill, even had print work on the Titanic.

Stead McAlpin Pond is located near the mill at Cummersdale and is one of the biodiversity ponds which is not accessible to the public.

Native woodland planting with a species-rich grass and wildflower mix has been proposed to reflect the local character and benefit wildlife.



Design Includes

- Information maker post
- Native shrubs
- Species-rich grassland
- Pond and wetland planting

Stead McAlpin Pond: Layout



Pond designed to promote wildlife and biodiversity



Visualisation of pond from path

3 Parks and Ponds

The Lonsdale Pond

The Lonsdale Pond is named after Hugh Lowther, the 5th Earl of Lonsdale and the Lonsdale Battalion known for being well trained with good comradery and discipline. The battalion was made up of volunteers from Carlisle, Kendal and Workington. They camped at their base at Blackhall Racecourse, now known as Carlisle Racecourse and trained in the area on a rifle range that spanned over the Caldew.

The Lonsdale Pond is located near Caldew Valley, to the south of the proposed link road. This pond shall have more of a wildlife focus due to its more secluded location.

This is a biodiversity pond with two timber benches and one information board included in the design.

A public footpath runs through this area. The pond is designed to promote ecology and biodiversity of wildlife.



Design Includes

- Timber seating
- Information maker post

The Lonsdale Pond: Layout



Pond designed to promote wildlife and biodiversity



Visualisation of pond from Carlisle Southern Link Road

3 Parks and Ponds

The Adam Bell Pond

The Adam Bell Pond is named after the legendary English outlaw, similar to Robin Hood. He and his companions, William of Cloudsley and Clym of the Clough, lived in Inglewood Forest, a larger forest at the time, the edge of which was located south of Carlisle. Adam, William and Clym have an interesting story and end up employed by the King and served as Yeomen in the North Country.

The Adam Bell Pond will not be open to members of the public. This pond has been designed to promote wildlife and biodiversity.

The design of this pond focuses on creating an area to support diverse range of wildlife by planting a combination of broadleaf woodland, aquatic planting, species rich grassland, native shrub and individual trees that will provide a variety of habitats.



Design Includes

- Individual trees
- Native broadleaf woodland planting with species-rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Species-rich meadow grassland
- Pond and wetland planting

The Adam Bell Pond: Layout



Visualisation of the pond looking towards Brisco Roundabout



Pond designed to promote wildlife and biodiversity

3 Parks and Ponds

The John Scott Pond

The John Scott Pond is named after John Scott who was born in Carlisle. His father and grandfather, both also named John Scott, had a business as gilders and manufacturers of stained glass. Some of which can still be viewed in St Michael's in Longtown. He had his early education at Hannah's Academy in Carlisle. He later studied at the Carlisle School of Art, while also working in the family business. He exhibited at the Royal Academy from 1872, and also showed works at the Carlisle School of Art's exhibition.

The John Scott Pond will not be open to members of the public due to its location away from rights of way and residential areas. This pond has been designed to promote wildlife and biodiversity.

A combination of broadleaf woodland planting, aquatic planting, species rich grassland, native shrub and individual trees will be planted that will provide good habitats and a food source for wildlife. Species rich grassland is of great ecological value, the mix contains wildflower species which will support a wide range of pollinators as well as act as a great habitat for various invertebrates, birds and mammals.



Design Includes

- Individual trees
- Native broadleaf woodland planting with species-rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Species-rich meadow grassland
- Pond and wetland planting

The John Scott Pond: Layout



Pond slopes will be gradual with marginal planting for wildlife



Pond visualisation

3 Parks and Ponds

Thomas Bushby Pond

The Thomas Bushby Pond is named after Thomas Bushby who at the age of 23 had moved to Carlisle and was employed as a designer with Hudson Scott and Sons. His employers encouraged him in his painting, and his work which featured scenes from Rickerby Park, Wreay and Brisco attracted a lot of attention. His landscapes and rural scenes characterised by their pastel and light colouration were exhibited at the Royal Academy, the Royal Society of Arts, the Royal Cambrian Academy, the Royal Institute, the Walker Art Gallery, the Liverpool, and the Carlisle Art Gallery.

The design of the area around Thomas Bushby Pond is very similar to that of Susanna Blamire Pond. However, it is larger in its scale.

The proposed woodland planting contains native coniferous species, native broadleaf trees, and shrub species. Most of this space will also be sown with a species-rich native grass and wildflower mix, along with native marginal and aquatic planting around the pond.



Design Includes

- Timber seating
- Insect house
- Bespoke entrance signage
- Information maker post
- Timber cycle stands
- Litter bin

The Thomas Bushby Pond: Layout



Accessible footpaths provide different routes around the pond

3 Parks and Ponds

The Robert Anderson Pond

The Robert Anderson Pond is named after Robert Anderson the Cumberland Bard. He was born on 1 February 1770, the youngest child of nine when his parents were already old. An English labouring class poet from Carlisle. He was best known for his ballad-style poems in Cumbrian dialect. Unfortunately he died very poor, but with the financial support of friends, he was buried in the grounds of Carlisle Cathedral such was the value of his work to others.

The Robert Anderson Pond lies to the eastmost end of this project, in close proximity to the River Petteril.

Due to its location away from rights of way and residential area, the Robert Anderson Pond will not be open to members of the public and has been designed to promote wildlife and biodiversity.

A combination of broadleaf woodland planting, aquatic planting, species-rich grassland, native shrub and individual tree will provide a variety of habitats in terms food and habitat for various invertebrates, birds and mammals, while also supporting a wide range of pollinators.



Design Includes

- Individual trees
- Native broadleaf woodland planting with species-rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Species-rich meadow grassland
- Pond and wetland planting
- Native hedgerows with trees

The Robert Anderson Pond: Layout



Visualisation of The Robert Anderson Pond looking north-west, with River Petteril in the background



Pond visualisation



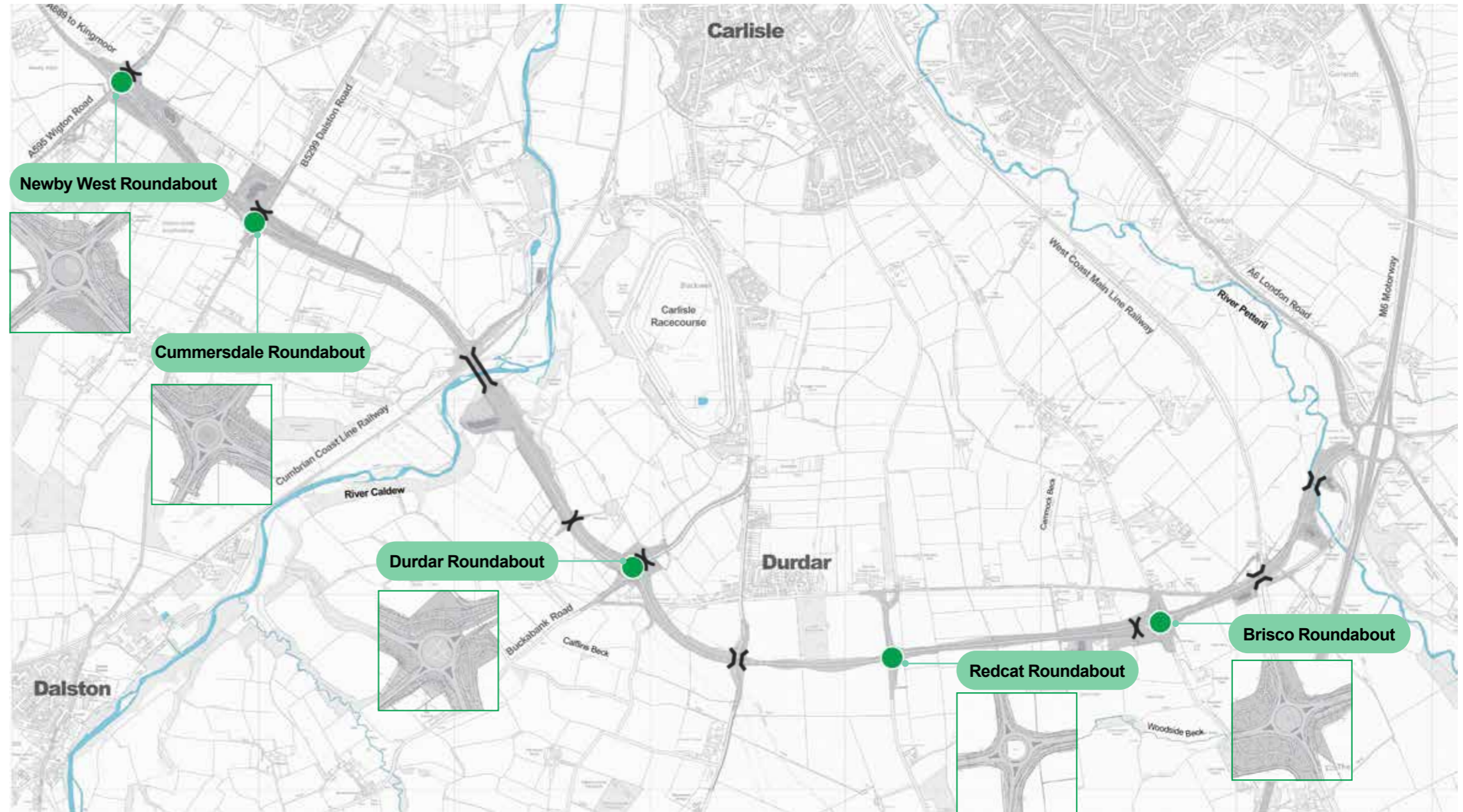
4 ROUNDABOUTS

4 Roundabouts

Background

Five roundabouts are located along the Carlisle Southern Link Road project.

While roundabouts are more of an engineering feature of a highway project, they also present an opportunity to shape the identity of the project. The use of artworks, sculptures, and carefully placed landscaping contribute to the overall appeal of the roundabouts, making them functional, unique, and aesthetically appealing, inspiring all who encounter them. Incorporating seasonal plants and features will enhance the roundabout's visual appeal throughout the year.



Layout Drawing - Roundabouts

4 Roundabouts

Newby West Roundabout

The design of the Newby West Roundabout has considered the local landscape character and cultural heritage. Its linear form references the historic Roman Road (approximately following the route of the A595), which interconnects Carlisle with the Roman forts of Old Carlisle and Papcastle.

Gently graded earthworks have been designed so that the planting “faces” traffic arriving from Carlisle and reflects the gently sloping topography in the area. A steeper sloped wall will be faced with weathering steel, which complements the colour palette of the planting and the design of the overbridge behind, which has weathering steel beams.

Semi-mature Scots Pine trees have been proposed linearly to reinforce a sense of arrival and reflect the coniferous plantation woodland in this locality.

Blocks of ornamental shrubs, grasses, and perennials, with some areas of ornamental meadow mixes, have been proposed for the roundabout’s centre. The proposed planting style, designed to provide interest through seasonal change, colour, texture, and structural form in a naturalistic style, will create a visual spectacle that excites and intrigues all who pass through.

This roundabout is envisioned to be a key gateway to the city of Carlisle. To fulfil this role, more ornamental species have been proposed to ensure a prolonged season of interest, underscoring the significance of this junction to the area.



Newby West Roundabout: Layout

Design Includes

- Individual trees
- Native woodland planting with species-rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Ornamental shrub planting
- Native hedgerows with trees
- Overbridge
- Weathering steel sloped wall



Visualisation of Newby West Roundabout looking towards bridge



Visualisation of Newby West Roundabout showcasing roundabout's weathering steel sloped wall

4 Roundabouts

Cummersdale Roundabout

The Cummersdale Roundabout has been designed to be modest and reflect the area's rural characteristics. Over time, the perceived width of this roundabout will appear to diminish due to the proposed central area of broadleaf woodland planting, which creates a visual screen.

A sandstone wall around this woodland planting references this typical boundary type within the townscape of Cummersdale. The circular form would contrast with the adjacent roundabouts along the route, helping to create a distinct identity and assist navigation for drivers. Earthworks have been gently graded to be raised in the centre to provide variation.



Design Includes

- Individual trees
- Native woodland planting with species-rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Native hedgerows with trees
- Overbridge

Cummersdale Roundabout: Layout



Visualisation of Cummersdale Roundabout looking north-east



Curved sandstone wing walls and corten steel cross beams on Dalston Road

4 Roundabouts

Durdar Roundabout

The design of Durdar Roundabout is unique, featuring two 5m high abstract steel horse sculptures that pay homage to the local Carlisle area. The earthworks on the roundabout will be profiled to create a raised central area of approximately 1-2m, gently graded out to enhance visual interest across the large roundabout.

The naturalistic, ornamental meadow planting not only accentuates the rural qualities of this landscape but also ensures a longer-lasting period of seasonal interest. Beech hedge planting has been proposed to provide some structure in the landscape design to compliment the horses, alongside some semi-mature oak trees, which are typical features in the local landscape.

As with the proposals for the other sections of the project, the design of Durdar Roundabout has been carefully considered to ensure that it will complement the St Cuthbert's Garden Village proposals. It is designed to be a source of local pride, distinct from the adjacent Cummersdale and Redcat Roundabouts with their broadleaf woodland areas.



Design Includes

- Native broadleaf woodland planting with species-rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Native hedgerows with trees
- Translocated hedgerows
- Ornamental meadow
- Overbridge
- Art installation

Durdar Roundabout: Layout



Visualisation of Durdar Roundabout approaching from the north-east.



Visualisation of Durdar Roundabout with the proposed sculpture (artiste's sketch)

4 Roundabouts

Redcat Roundabout

Redcat Roundabout has been designed to be simple in appearance. The central area, featuring broadleaf woodland and species-rich grassland, effectively reduces the perceived width of the roundabout and road, while enhancing the sense of place.

This intentional design serves to create a striking contrast with the two roundabouts to the east and west, which are more formal in design to ensure that they are different.



Design Includes

- Native broadleaf woodland planting with species-rich grassland
- Native hedgerows with trees

Redcat Roundabout: Layout



Visualisation of Redcat Roundabout showing the simple landscape features around it



Visualisation of Redcat Roundabout featuring broadleaf woodland in the middle

4 Roundabouts

Brisco Roundabout

The design of this roundabout is uniquely centred around a 5m high abstract steel Limousin bull sculpture, a distinctive feature that pays homage to the agricultural heritage of Brisco and the surrounding landscape and the previous use of the adjacent Cumberland Show field. This design, with its unique features, draws inspiration from the curved sandstone walls at Brisco Hall and Woodside Park, which are key features of this local landscape.

Alternate semi-mature Beech and Copper Beech trees in a formal planting style also reference local landscape character and provide a striking contrast to other roundabout designs, highlighting the uniqueness of this proposal. The landform of this roundabout has been proposed to be raised approximately 2m in the central platform area, with 1:6 slopes towards the edges. Naturalistic, ornamental meadow planting emphasises the rural qualities of this landscape but provides a longer-lasting period of seasonal interest.

As with the proposals for the other sections of the project, the design of Brisco Roundabout has been considered to ensure that it will be complimentary of the St Cuthbert's Garden Village proposals. This roundabout will be locally distinctive and contrast the adjacent Redcat Roundabout, which is planted with a central area of broadleaf woodland and is surrounded by a relatively open landscape, in contrast to the proposed wooded embankments, which will enclose the Brisco Roundabout.

This roundabout was noted to be a "gateway" to the future St. Cuthberts Garden Village from the east, which is why a more formal design approach has been taken for this location.



Design Includes

- Individual trees
- Native broadleaf woodland planting with species-rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Ornamental meadow
- Art installation
- Native hedgerows with trees
- Overbridge

Brisco Roundabout: Layout



Visualisation of Brisco Roundabout approaching from south



Visualisation of Brisco Roundabout with the proposed sculpture (artiste's sketch)



5 LANDSCAPING & PLANTING

5 Landscaping and Planting

Fairy Beck Corridor

Fairy Beck is a designated main river and a tributary of the River Caldew. It is currently extensively modified and culverted in a number of places along its length.

The original culvert underneath the roundabout has been replaced with three shorter culverts to allow protected species easier through movement.

Fairy Beck is diverted and has curves incorporated into the diverted section, which over time will create a variety in riverbed structure and habitat beyond the existing straight section of Fairy Beck.

Mammal ledges have been used to allow small animals through the culvert and otter proof fencing will be installed to reduce the risk to animals from being injured on the road.

A linear open green space will run south west to north east along the course of Fairy Beck, incorporating habitat enhancements, woodland and ponds features.



Layout: Fairy Beck Corridor



Visualisation of Fairy Beck Corridor looking towards Peter Lane

Design Includes

- Individual trees
- Native woodland planting with species- rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Ornamental shrub planting
- Native hedgerows with trees
- Grass seeding around Fairy Beck

5 Landscaping and Planting

Peter Lane Wood

Following the felling of the plantation coniferous woodland, this area will be replanted with native, mixed woodland with species-rich grassland.

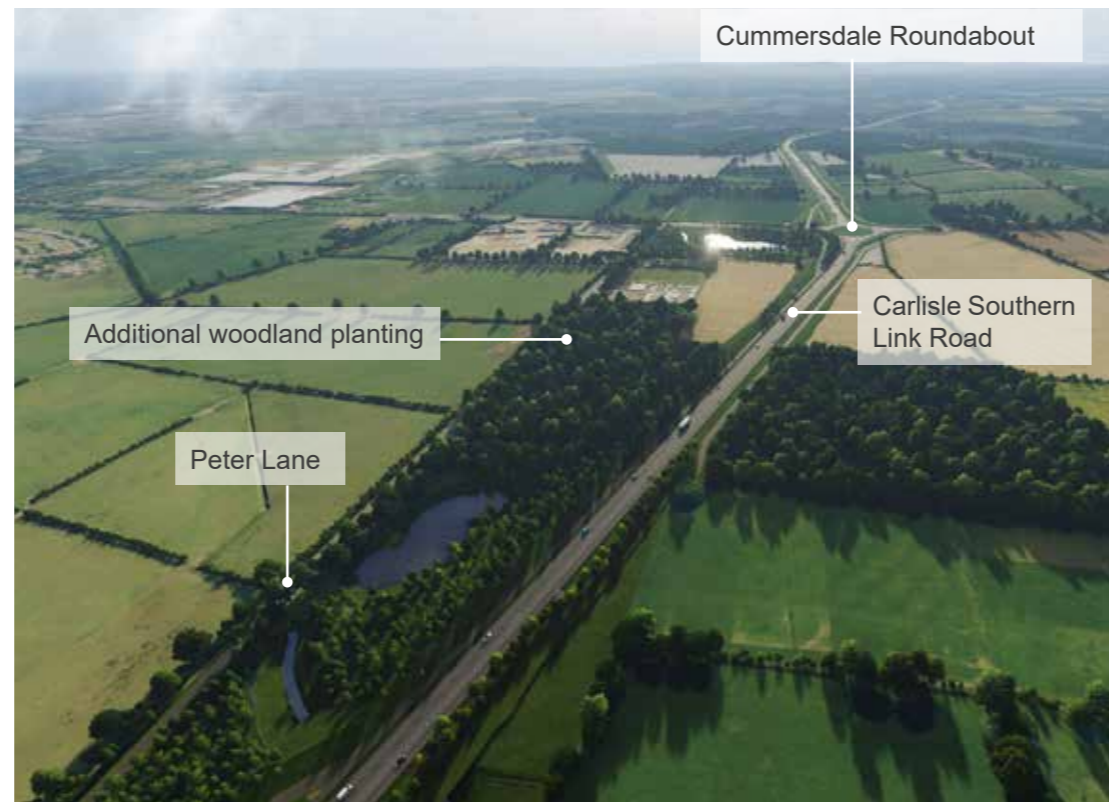
This new biodiverse woodland provides better habitat connectivity for a range of wildlife species between the same type of woodland at the Susanna Blamire Pond and the William Paley Pond. Species rich grassland is of great ecological value, the mix contains wildflower species which will support a wide range of pollinators as well as act as a great habitat for various invertebrates, birds and mammals.



Design Includes

- Individual Trees
- Native mixed woodland planting with species rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Native hedgerows

Peter Lane Wood Layout: Proposed Woodland Extent



Visualisation of Peter Lane Wood looking towards Cummersdale Roundabout



View from the Susanna Blamire Pond looking towards Peter Lane Wood

5 Landscaping and Planting

Caldew River Corridor

The Caldew Valley is a well used recreational route for walkers, cyclists and fishermen. Alongside its natural beauty, it is home to a diverse range of wildlife and has a fascinating history. The design of Caldew River Corridor will further enhance the sense of place and complement local landscape character.

At the southern end of the proposed path from the Caldew Crossing Bridge to the Caldew Valley footway and cycleway, a simple yet effective area of ornamental planting and three individual trees, large natural stone and smooth boulders. Further down the path, where there will be long distance views across the valley, three durable timber benches will be included.

The Caldew Crossing bridge is designed with three span design to allow the Caldew River to move naturally and freely within the floodplain, reducing impact on floodplain. This design has helped the intent of limiting the impact on original surroundings by construction, therefore limited the need for replanting in the natural surroundings.

Where the impact of construction has happened, we have translocated the soil and trees where possible. The embankments are planted with woodland trees and scrub planting. The Lonsdale Pond is planted with aquatic plants and is surrounded by species-rich grassland, making it a valuable pond for wildlife biodiversity.



Schematic Layout near Caldew River

Design Includes

- Individual trees
- Native shrub planting
- Species-rich grassland
- Native hedgerows
- Ornamental shrub planting
- Native broadleaf woodland planting with scrub woodland
- Native shrub and scattered trees
- Native broadleaf woodland planting - with translocated trees

5 Landscaping and Planting

Hedges and Trees

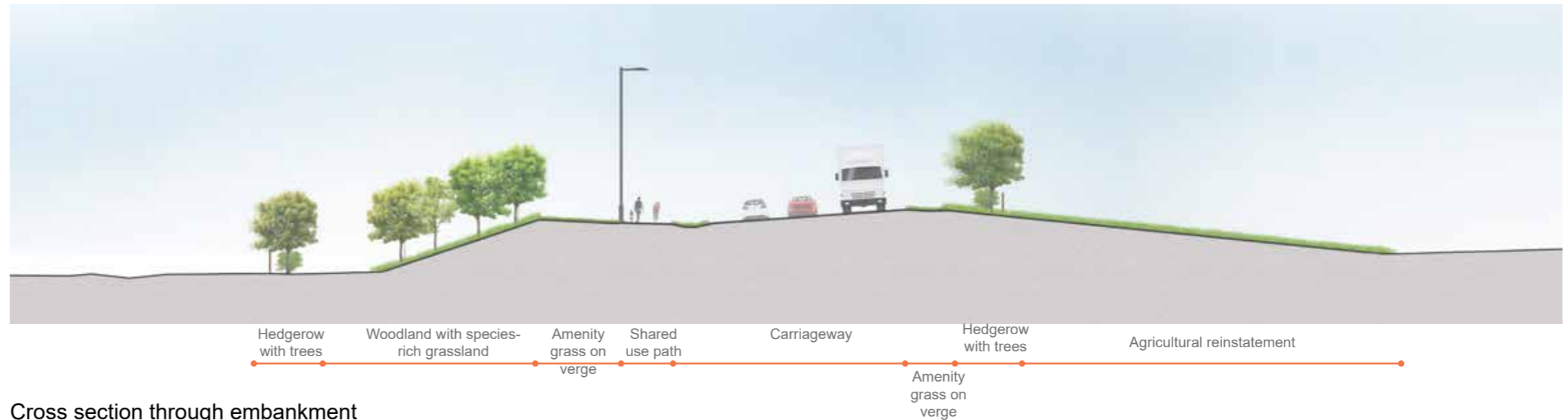
Throughout the project, general design principles have been applied while proposing the landscape. Within visibility splays, the landscape design ensures that there will be no obstructions. Predominantly, in vegetated areas, an amenity grass seed mix has been specified due to its suitability for roadside verges. This mix will be tolerant of road salts and aid with the prevention of soil erosion as it establishes quickly and helps to bind soils. It will also tolerate the high frequency cutting regime that will be required within the visibility splays.

To provide sustainable management of surface water, the highway design incorporates swales, alongside the carriageway.

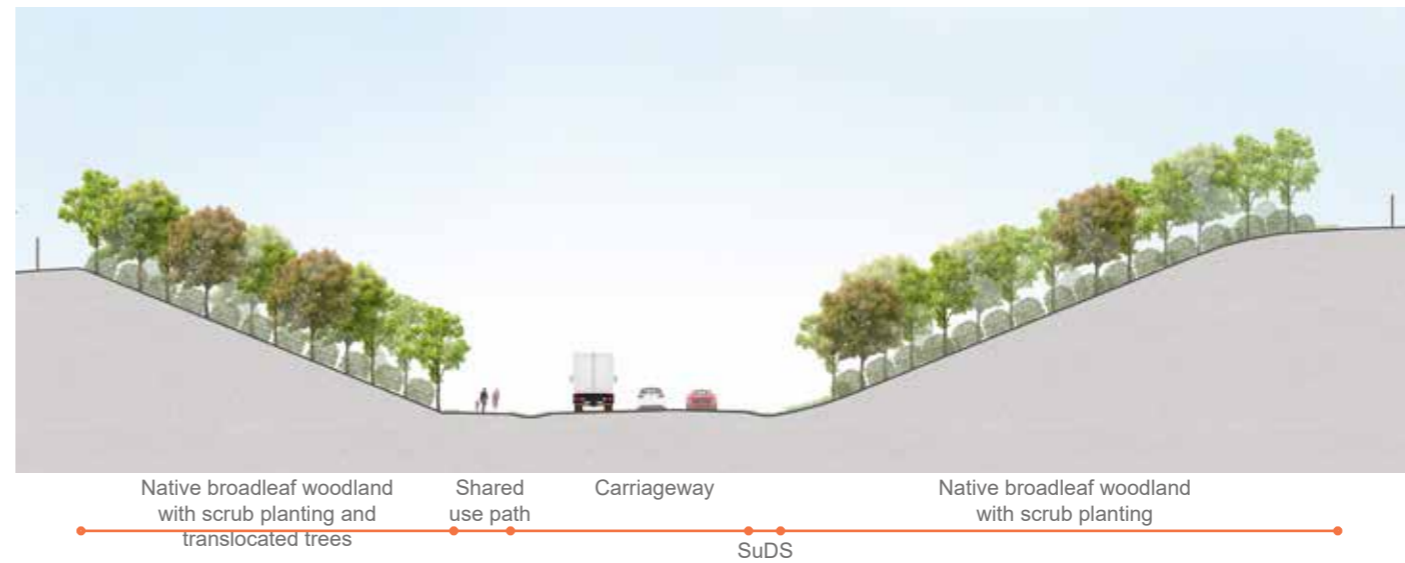
Where tree planting is proposed along the edge of the carriageway, this has been offset by a minimum of 5m for standard tree sizes and 7.5m for semi-mature tree planting.

Furthermore, mitigation to reduce the landscape impacts includes:

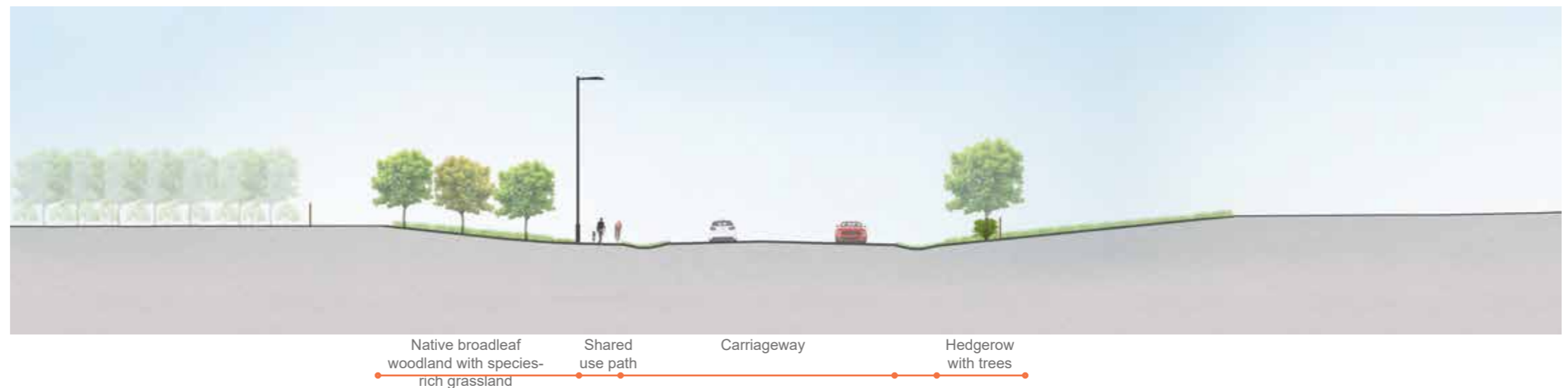
- Approximately 16km of species rich hedgerow planting and 1km of translocated hedgerows.
- Native coniferous and broadleaf tree and woodland planting resulting in approximately five times more trees.
- Grading out some slopes where possible to a shallower gradient to allow these to be returned to agricultural use and help them integrate better into the natural landscape.



Cross section through embankment



Cross section through cutting



Cross section

5 Landscaping and Planting

North of the West Coast Main Line Bridge

Native broadleaf woodland and shrub planting with species-rich grassland is proposed in this location that will promote biodiversity.



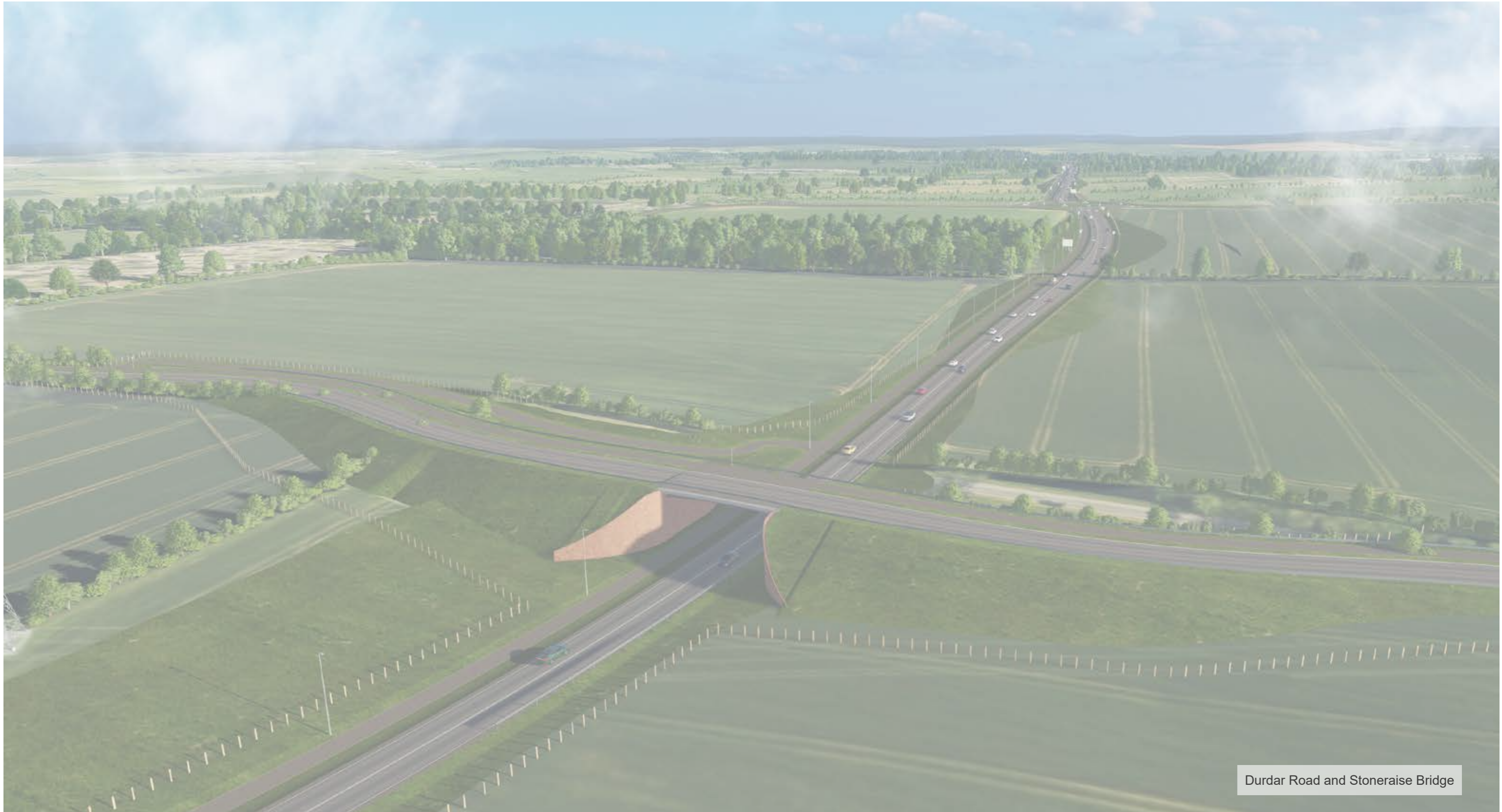
Design Includes

- Individual trees
- Native broadleaf woodland planting with species-rich grassland
- Native shrub planting
- Native hedgerows with trees

Layout: North of the West Coast Main Line Bridge



Visualisation looking towards Cowan Sheldon Railway Bridge and woodland parcel



Durdar Road and Stoneraise Bridge

6 BRIDGES

6 Bridges

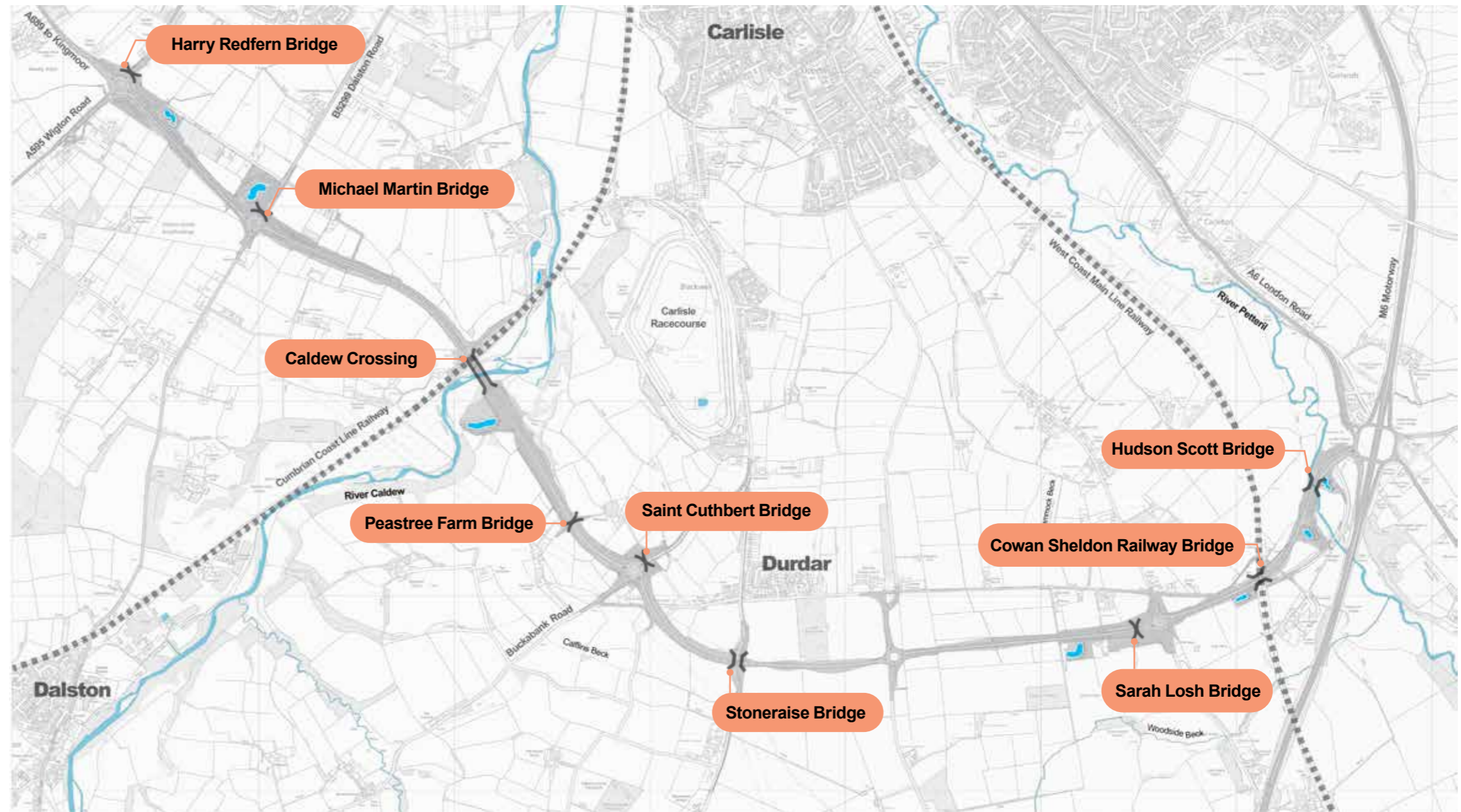
Background

Bridges are an important part of creating a sense of place. The design of the various bridges across the project has been considered to mitigate the impact of the introduction of large urban features into a predominantly rural landscape.

The bridges are designed to have a slender form and open spans. For instance, the Caldew Crossing is a slender design with open spans to reduce the visual impact and maintain views up and down the River Caldew along the Cumbrian Way. Other bridges shall be designed to have curved wing walls, clad in Lazonby Sandstone, to provide a design that is more sympathetic to the rural landscape.

Locally sourced, sandstone masonry cladding has been proposed for the substructures of the bridges to ensure that the designs respond to the local vernacular of the area and create a sense of local distinctiveness and identity. The use of sandstone and weathering steel also help to ensure that the bridges are less visually prominent in the landscape, as the muted colour palette will reduce the dominance of these features.

Good design and use of quality materials for these new structures also help to establish a sense of local pride in these areas and celebrate some of the key characteristics of the landscape.



Layout Drawing - Bridges

6 Bridges

Design examples

Plaques displaying the names of the bridges will be fixed centrally to the bridge parapets (footbridges and road bridges).

The visualisations on the right showcase a few examples of how the bridges will look once complete.

Caldew Crossing was named by local students and reflects the river that it crosses over and that communities on either side to cross over and connect with one another.

Sarah Losh Bridge is named after Sarah Losh who was an English architect and designer. Her biographer describes her as an antiquarian, architect and visionary. She was a landowner of Wreay, where her prime work, St Mary's Church, can be found.

Harry Redfern Bridge is named after Harry Redfern a well-known British architect responsible for designing, in an imaginative and varied manner, fourteen pubs in and around Carlisle. His work introduced comfortable seating, women's bars, food, leisure facilities, games like darts and pool. Modern pub design is built on the work of Harry Redfern. Cheers!

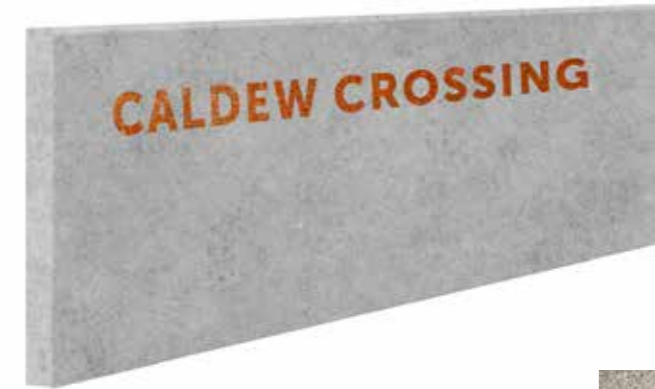
Cowans Sheldon Railway Bridge is named after the Carlisle firm of Cowans, Sheldon & Co. The company had a world-leading reputation in the construction of rail and dock cranes which were exported across the world. In 1933 the largest floating crane in the world was manufactured by Cowans Sheldon, then the world's leading crane makers.



Visualisation of Caldew Crossing



Visualisation of Brisco Roundabout with Sarah Losh Bridge



Concrete

Corten Steel

Plaque proposed with weathering steel lettering, with material palette



Concrete

Sandstone

Curved sandstone wing walls and corten steel cross beams on Michael Martin Bridge

6 Bridges

Design examples

Peastree Farm Bridge is named after the nearby farm. Farming remains a key part of the area and the Peastree Farm Bridge provides access for agricultural activity and a public footpath. The structure provides safe access for around 300 cows every day.

St Cuthberts Bridge is named after St Cuthbert who, in 685, after being granted lands in Cumberland by Aldfrith, the new King of Northumbria, founded a monastery in the area. The land around the South of Carlisle became known as the Parish of St Cuthberts.

Stoneraise Bridge was named by the children who attend a local primary school close to the bridge. Students from the school were invited to visit the site and the bridge and learn about the Carlisle Southern Link Road. Their School Council put forward the name for the Bridge, which was accepted. The bridge and the project include a new shared use path to the school which will provide a new safe means of access for pedestrians and cyclists to the school.

Michael Martin Bridge is named after a local bridge engineer who grew up in Carlisle and studied at the Carlisle Technical College. In the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours he was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in recognition of his role in the construction of the Queensferry Crossing the largest three-tower cable-stayed bridge in the world. Not bad for a local lad.

Hudson Scott Bridge is named after Hudson Scott the Carlisle based printers (Metal Box). Their Carlisle works was the largest and best equipped of their kind in the country, and their decorated metal boxes made them pioneers of the metal printing industry in Great Britain and renowned the world over.



Visualisation of St Cuthberts Bridge



Visualisation of Stoneraise Bridge



Visualisation of Michael Martin Bridge



Visualisation of Hudson Scott Bridge



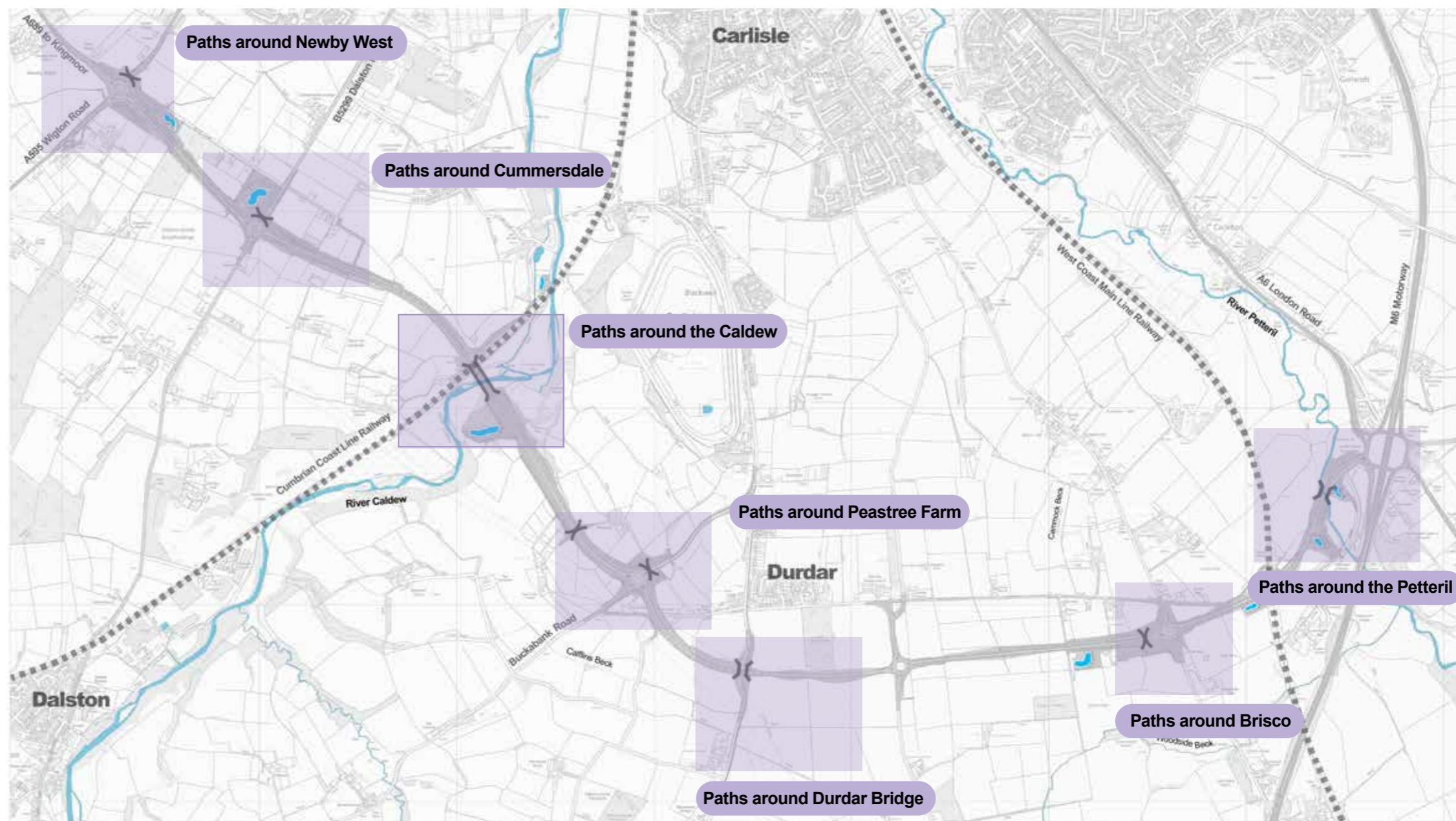
7 SIGNAGE AND FOOTPATHS

7 Signage & Footpaths

Background

Bespoke fingerposts have been designed to be cohesive with the suite of quality timber street furniture proposed for the project and to assist with wayfinding for non-motorised users of the new path networks.

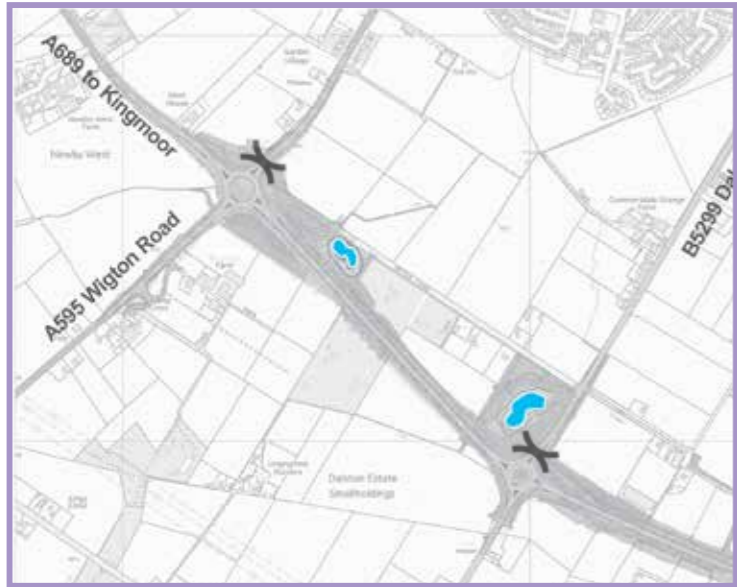
In addition to this, information will be available at key locations (such as publicly accessible ponds and the paths around the Caldew to provide information on local wildlife or cultural heritage).



Layout Drawing - Locations of paths

7 Signage & Footpaths

Paths at Newby West



Map Key
Footpath at Newby West in a signage style as:



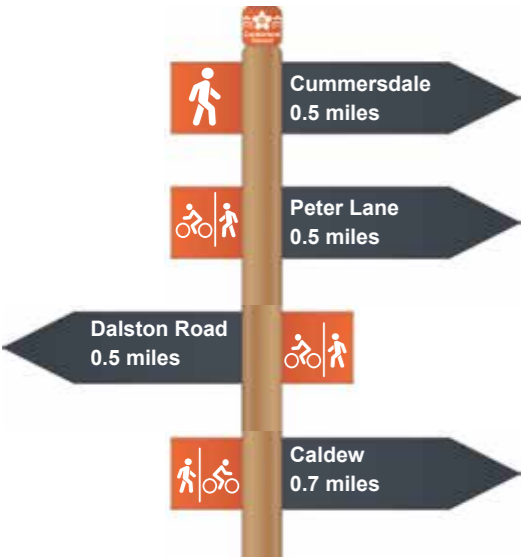
Newby West Roundabout: Fingerpost and gate locations

7 Signage & Footpaths

Paths around Cummersdale



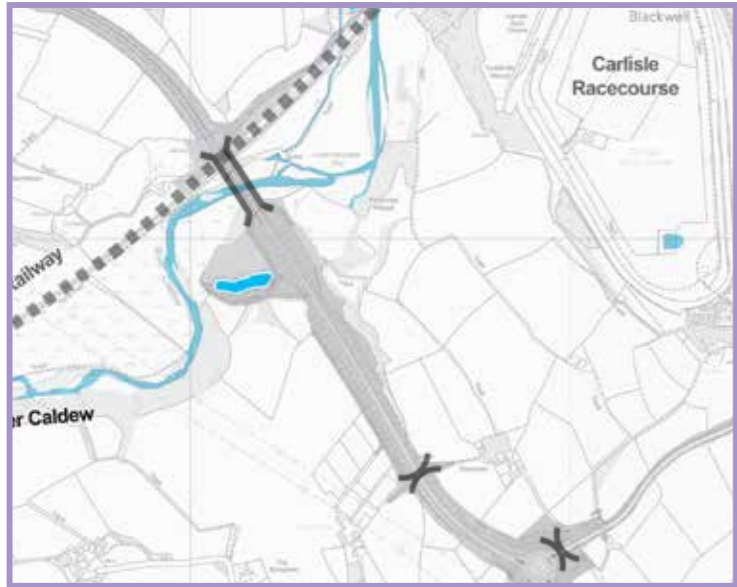
Map Key
 Paths around Cummersdale in a signage style as:



Paths around Cummersdale: Fingerpost and gate locations

7 Signage & Footpaths

Caldew Paths



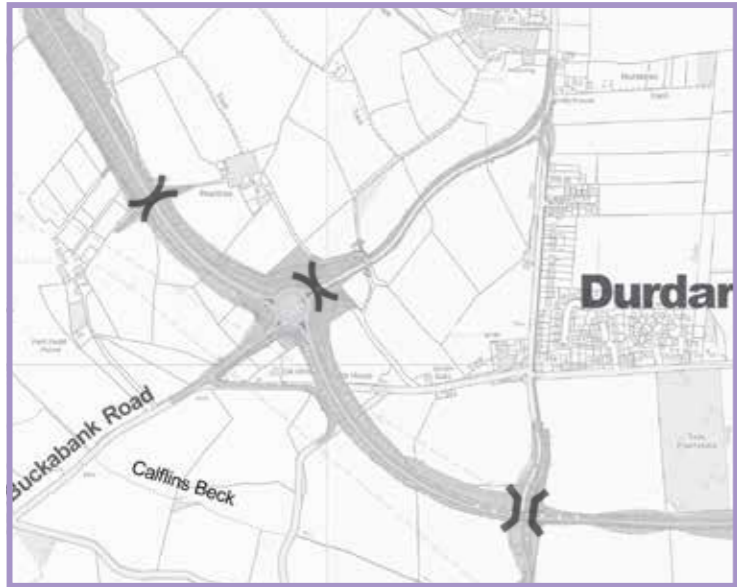
Map Key
 Paths around the River Caldew in a signage style as:



Paths around the River Caldew: Fingerpost and gate locations

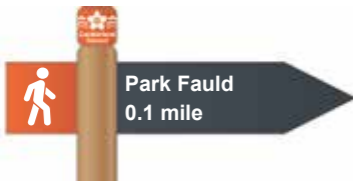
7 Signage & Footpaths

Paths around Peastree Farm



Map Key

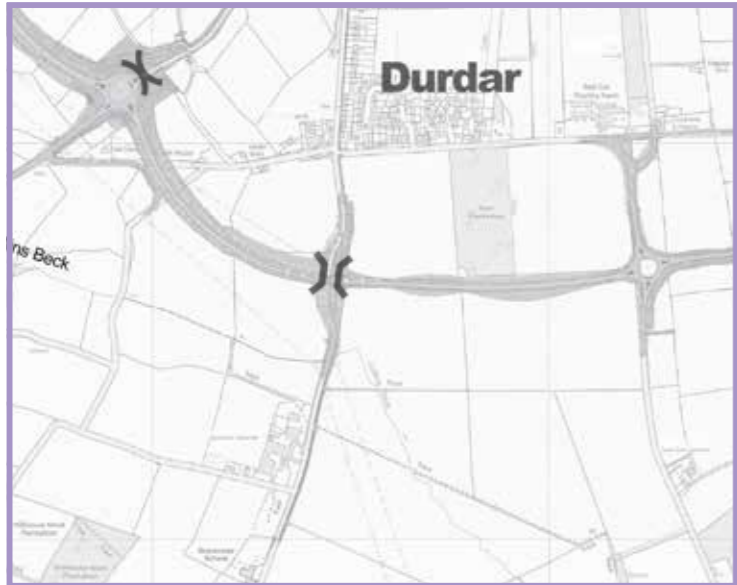
Paths around Peastree Farm with a signage style as:



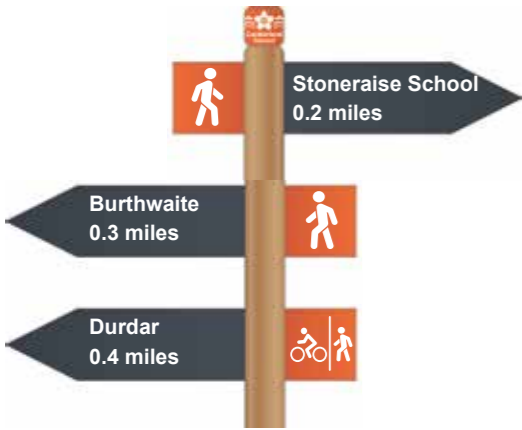
Paths around Peastree Farm: Fingerpost and gate locations

7 Signage & Footpaths

Paths around Durdar Bridge



Map Key
 Paths around Durdar will be with a signage style as:



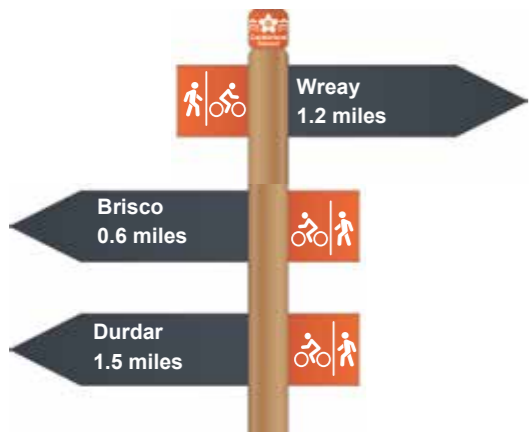
Links around Durdar, towards Stoneraise School: Fingerpost and gate locations

7 Signage & Footpaths

Paths around Brisco



Map Key
 Paths around Brisco Roundabout will be with a signage style as:



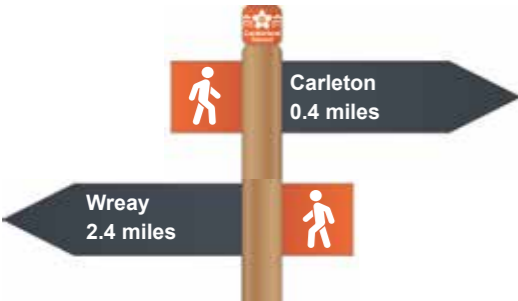
Paths around Brisco: Fingerpost and gate locations

7 Signage & Footpaths

Petteril Footpath



Map Key
 Paths around Petteril will be with a signage style as:



Paths around River Petteril: Fingerpost and gate locations



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