# Dover Fastrack Summer 2020









#### **About Dover Fastrack**

## A real alternative to the car for local journeys

Dover Fastrack is a proposed rapid bus transit (formerly known as the Bus Rapid Transit, BRT) system connecting Whitfield with Dover town centre and Dover Priory railway station.

Fastrack buses will have priority on the proposed express route which will include a new bus, cycle and pedestrian-only bridge across the A2 at Whitfield, and a new link road from the B&Q roundabout in Whitfield to Dover Road at Guston. The junction with Dover Road will be for buses and bicycles only.

Fastrack will provide reliable, high-quality bus services with frequencies increasing in line with the managed expansion of Whitfield.

Dover Fastrack also creates an effective transport interchange with Southeastern train services. The timetable will make it easy to access high speed train services from Dover Priory railway station, ideal for commuting and business trips to and from London. It will also provide a quick and easy way to reach the town centre and Dover Castle.

It will be good for the environment too, helping the Council to meet its ambition to see the district become carbon neutral by 2050. Dover Fastrack will provide a real alternative to the car for local journeys.

Dover Fastrack benefits

- Improved connectivity
- Reliable journey times
- Environmentally friendly
- Supporting housing development

Dover Fastrack is backed by central government with  $\pounds 16.1m$  from a funding programme designed to help stimulate new housing development. DDC was awarded the grant by Homes England and is working in partnership with Kent County Council as the Highways Authority. Highways England have also been involved in the development of the proposed Fastrack route.

Dover is the county's second Fastrack service, building on the success of the <u>Kent Thameside</u> <u>service in Dartford and Gravesham</u>.







#### Better connecting a growing community

Dover Fastrack is a key part of the managed expansion of Whitfield as a place to live and work.

Dover Fastrack supports the sustainable development of new housing in Whitfield and at the former Connaught Barracks site, along with commercial development on the White Cliffs Business Park in Whitfield.

The Whitfield Urban Expansion was established in principal in the Council's <u>Core Strategy</u> adopted in 2010, along with the redevelopment of the former Connaught Barracks site in Dover.

We are currently <u>reviewing the Local Plan</u> for the next twenty years to 2040. This will confirm our ongoing commitment to developing new homes, infrastructure and employment space in Whitfield. Construction is also underway on 60 new homes on the former Officer's Mess site at Connaught Barracks.

The Council is currently considering a planning application for up to 300 new homes on the main Connaught Barracks site. This site is owned by Homes England, the government's housing accelerator.

The new infrastructure will connect new housing in Whitfield with the recently constructed Dover District Leisure Centre. The wider route will pass through Market Square in the town centre, which is due to be redesigned soon.



## **Timetable for development**

Kent County Council, as the highways authority, will consider the planning application for the development of the Fastrack route. The application will be submitted in August 2020.

The planning application will include a new bus, cycle and pedestrian-only bridge across the A2 at Whitfield, and a new link road from the B&Q roundabout in Whitfield to Dover Road at Guston.

A decision on the application is expected in December 2020. Following further detailed design

work, construction is expected to start mid in 2021. Construction will take approximately 18 months.

Access to the bus, cycle and pedestrian only sections of the route will be managed using Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology, to ensure reliable bus journey times.





#### **Proposed development of the Fastrack route**



#### **Dover Fastrack Network**



<sup>\*</sup> Fastrack route in Whitfield will change as the Whitfield Urban Expansion develops. Interim Whitfield route shown.

## **Dover Fastrack visualisations**





 $^{\ast}$  All visualisations are indicative only and subject to change due to design refinement.









#### We'd like to hear from you

Due to the coronavirus outbreak we're unable to meet you in person to show you the plans. However, we'd like to hear your comments and suggestions on Dover Fastrack, and in particular your thoughts on the proposed route. We'd also like to know if you have any ideas or suggestions for what you would like to see from the service.

#### Please complete our short online questionnaire here.



#### Or you can write to us at:

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