Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP)

Big North West Upgrade

Between 2025 and 2030, United Utilities are delivering one of the biggest infrastructure upgrades in over a century, helping to create a more resilient North West.

The programme is one of the most ambitious the region has ever seen, bringing an environmental transformation that improves 500km of the region's rivers and enhances the resilience of water services whilst helping one in six families struggling with their bills.

This five year, £13bn programme addresses the challenges of climate change, population growth, and rising demand. Transformative investment in infrastructure that boosts the reliability of supply and reduces spills from storm overflows; that introduces nature- based solutions and rainwater management; that supersizes metering and slashes leakage; and investment that creates new jobs and supports local businesses.

Building a stronger network

At the heart of this upgrade is the jewel in the North West network, the 110km Haweswater Aqueduct, a vital artery supplying 570m litres of top-quality drinking water to over 2.5million customers across the region.

Over the next 8 years, the Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP) - the largest ever water infrastructure scheme to be delivered in the North West - will see nearly £3 billion invested in building long-term reliability, ensuring a more resilient water supply for now and generations to come.

Working in partnership

Core to this renewal programme, construction partners Cascade infrastructure and Strabag have been appointed to design, build and deliver the project. To construct over 50km of new underground tunnels – much of them big enough to drive a vehicle through – the consortium will use state of the art boring machinery to tunnel 100m below the surface to replace six sections of the existing aqueduct in locations across Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester.

Operational by 2033, the upgraded aqueduct will ensure we have a water system that supports the ambitions of the North West, one that safeguards drinking water supplies for generations to come and one that benefits both our communities and our environment.

Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP)

Part of the Big North West Upgrade and our biggest ever investment in water and wastewater infrastructure, HARP will maintain drinking water supplies across Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester for future generations.

It will see c.50km of tunnels replaced within the 110km long Haweswater Aqueduct replaced by Cascade Infrastructure who have been appointed to design, build, finance and maintain the new infrastructure. STRABAG UK are delivering the design and build of the tunnels on behalf of Cascade Infrastructure.

110km
pipeline built between 1933 and 1955

570 million
litres of drinking water transported daily

2.5 million
customers supplied in Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester

c.50km
of tunnels, across six sections, replaced through HARP

HARP in your area

From our Haslingden Road compound, we will bore two tunnels, one heading north to Huncoat and the other south to Bury. A smaller tunnel, running to New Hall Hey and then onto Townsend Fold will also be constructed from this compound.

What's been happening in your area

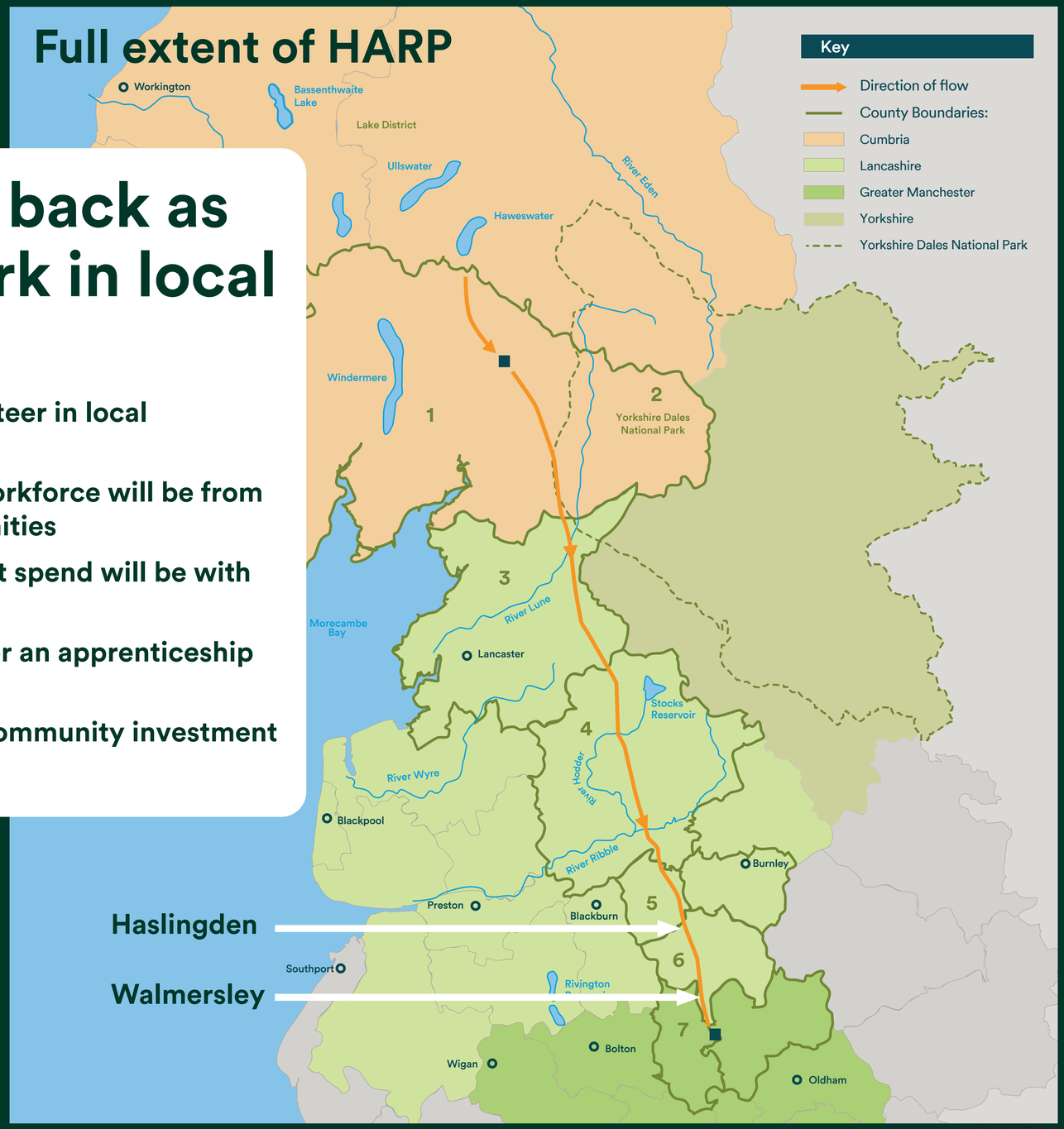
We've been undertaking ground investigation and survey works to inform the detailed design of the tunnels prior to the main construction works beginning.

What's happening next

To keep traffic flowing whilst we deliver our works, we will deliver alteration works to the Haslingden Road Roundabout and create access to our Haslingden Compound.

Giving back as we work in local areas

- We will volunteer in local communities
- 30% of our workforce will be from local communities
- 25% of project spend will be with SMEs
- We will deliver an apprenticeship programme
- Launch of a community investment fund



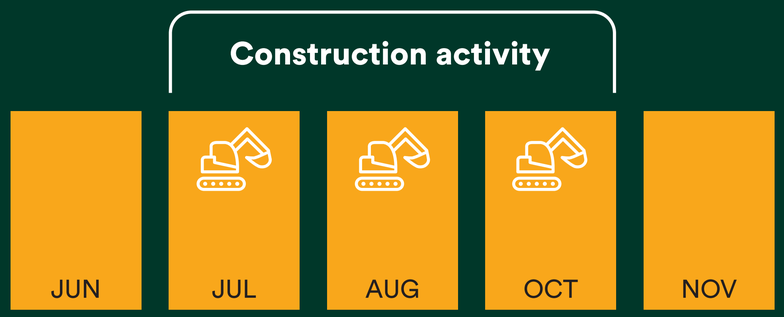
Haslingden Road roundabout improvement and site access works

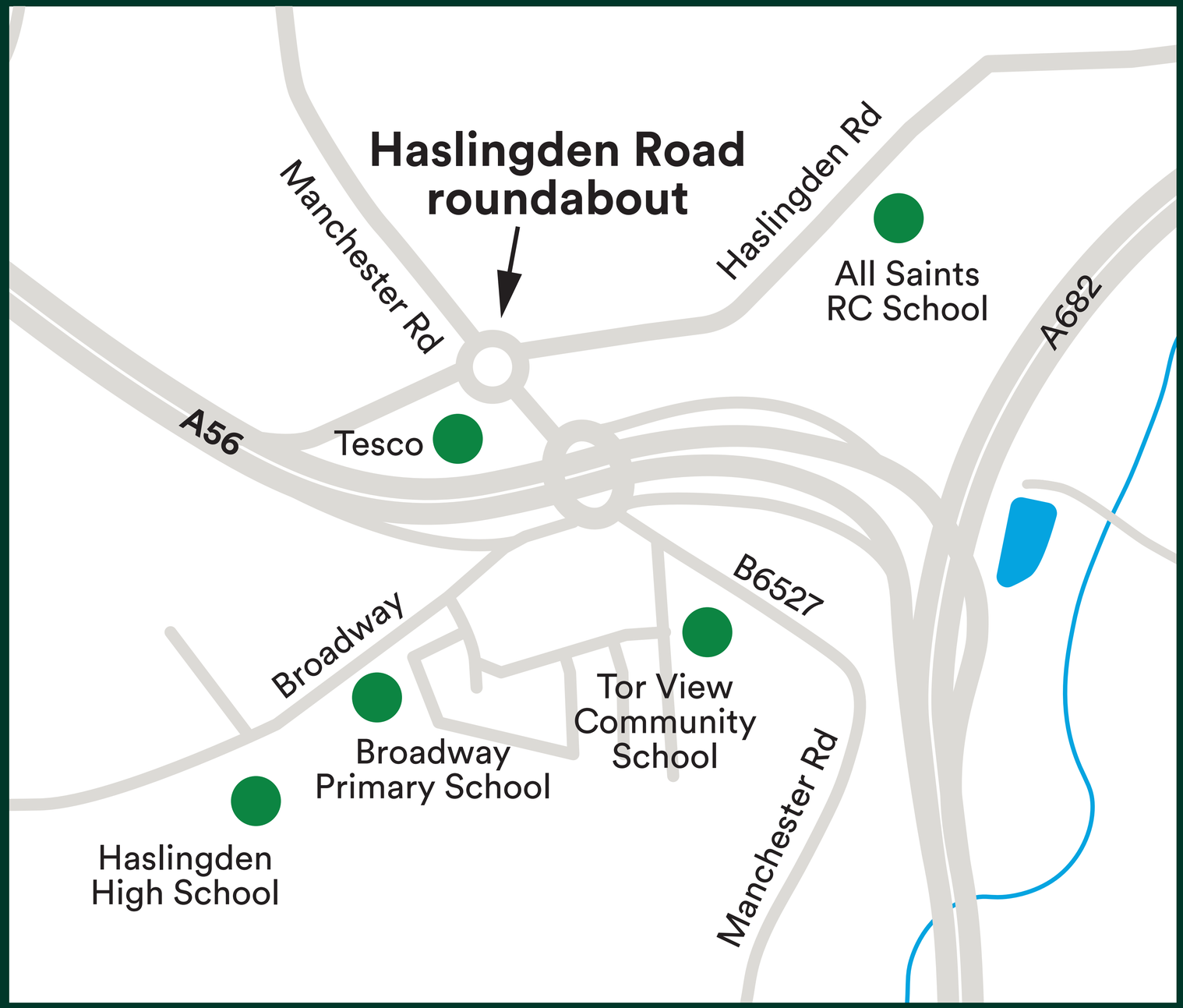
To keep traffic flowing whilst we deliver our works, we need to:

- Widen the junctions on the Haslingden Road roundabout,
- Create a temporary access point to our site from Haslingden Road
- Create the main access road to our site from the Manchester Road

We will keep people moving by:

- Keeping a single lane open on all junctions of the roundabout at all times
- Putting in place a fully signposted pedestrian diversion route





Haslingden compound set up

How we will access the compound

- Access to the Haslingden Road compound will be from Manchester Road.

When we will start working

- Construction of the compound will begin in early Summer 2026.

What we will be doing

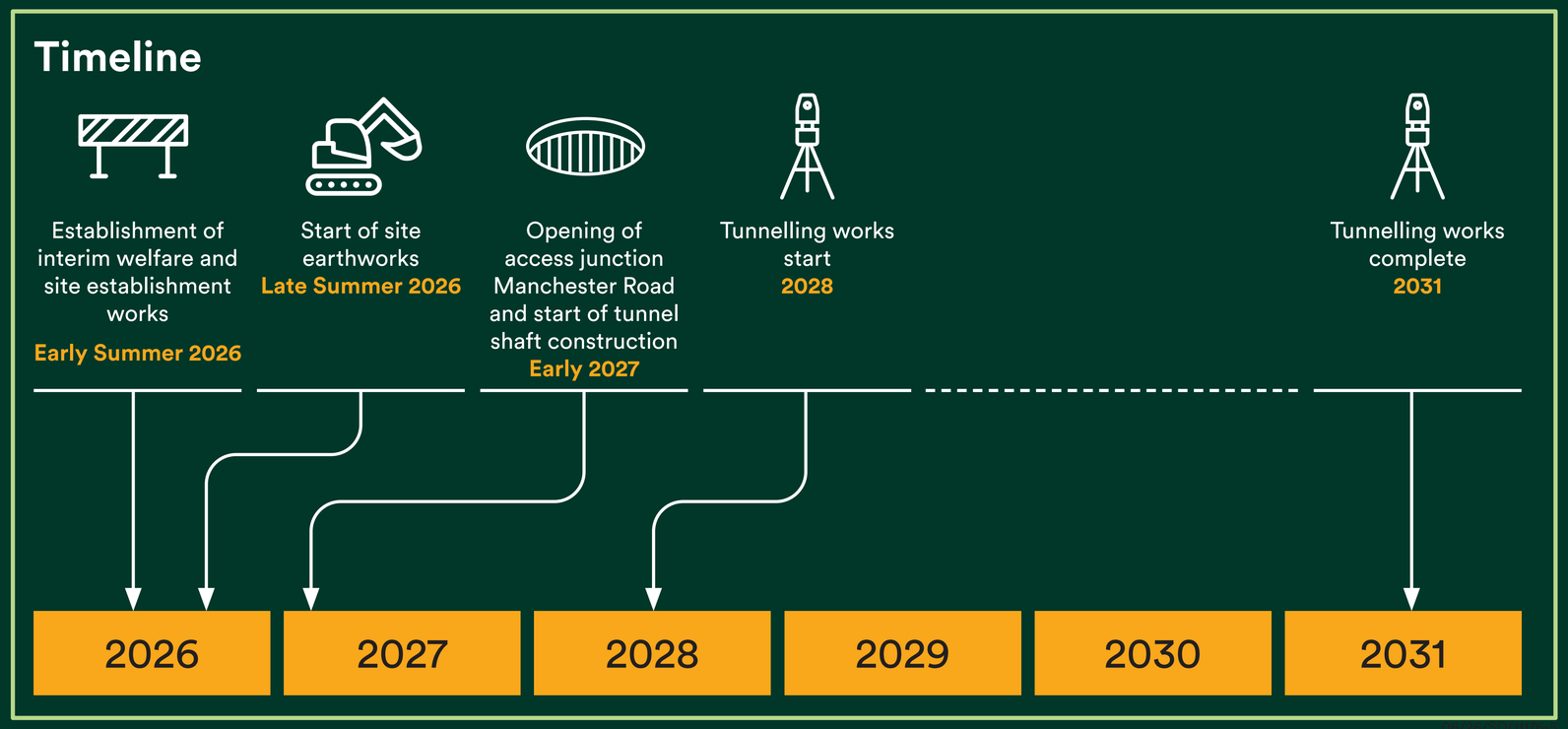
- We will set up interim welfare units for our workforce, create internal haul roads to travel around the site, carry out earthworks to clear the site and create the shafts where the Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) will start boring from.

What to expect as we set up

- **Traffic management on local roads**
- **HGV movements to and from site**
- **Plant and equipment on roads**

How we will use the compound

- The 19km-long Tunnels will be constructed using TBMs starting from the Haslingden Compound and tunnelling to Huncoat to the north and Bury to the south. A smaller TBM will start at our Townsend Fold compound and finish at Haslingden.
- We will tunnel approximately 100 metres below the ground.
- The TBM will run 24-hours a day. This will require some activities to be carried out during the night within the site compound area.
- Vehicle movements to and from site will be limited to between 7am - 7pm during the week and 7am - 1pm on Saturdays

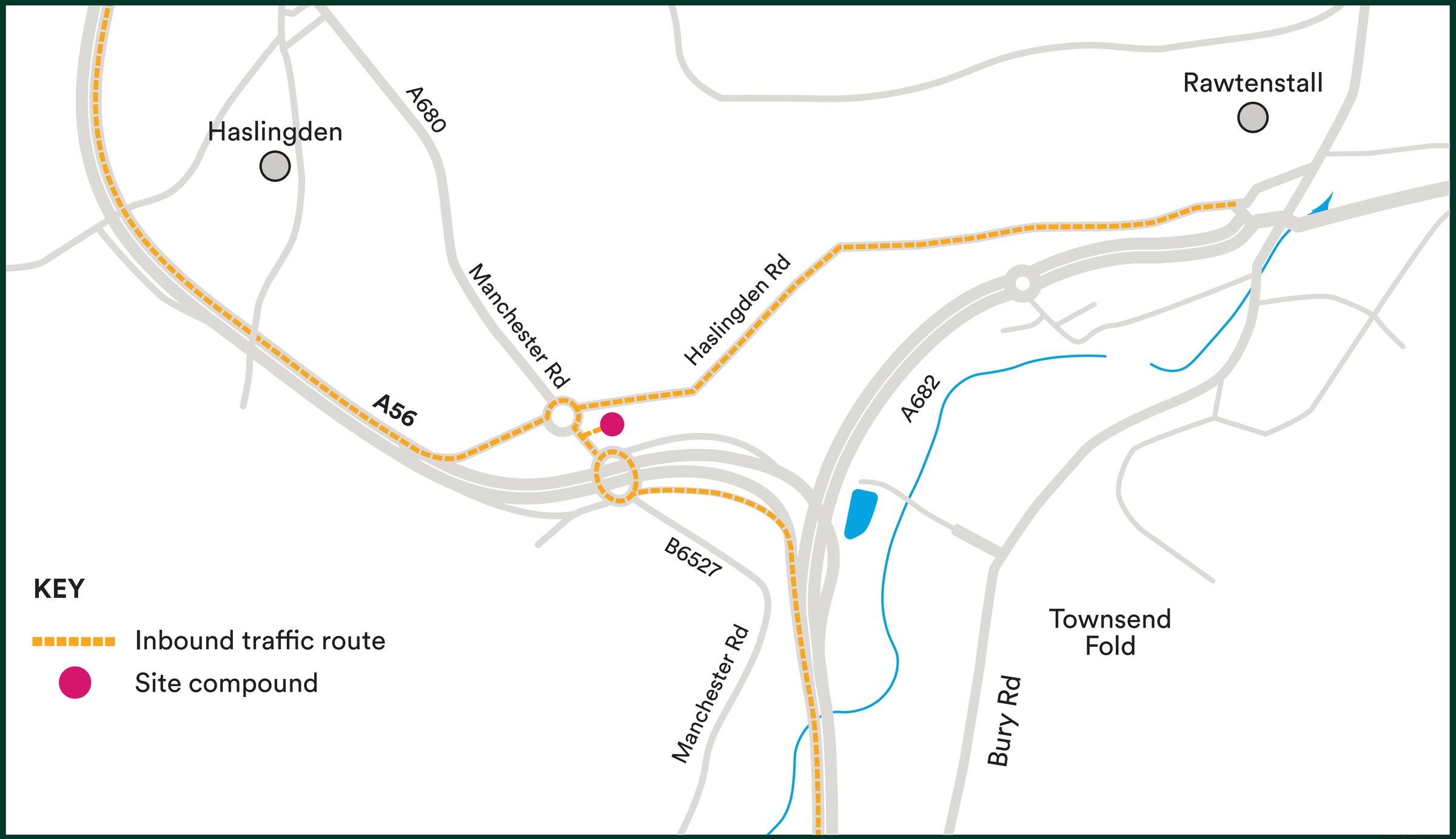


Being a good neighbour

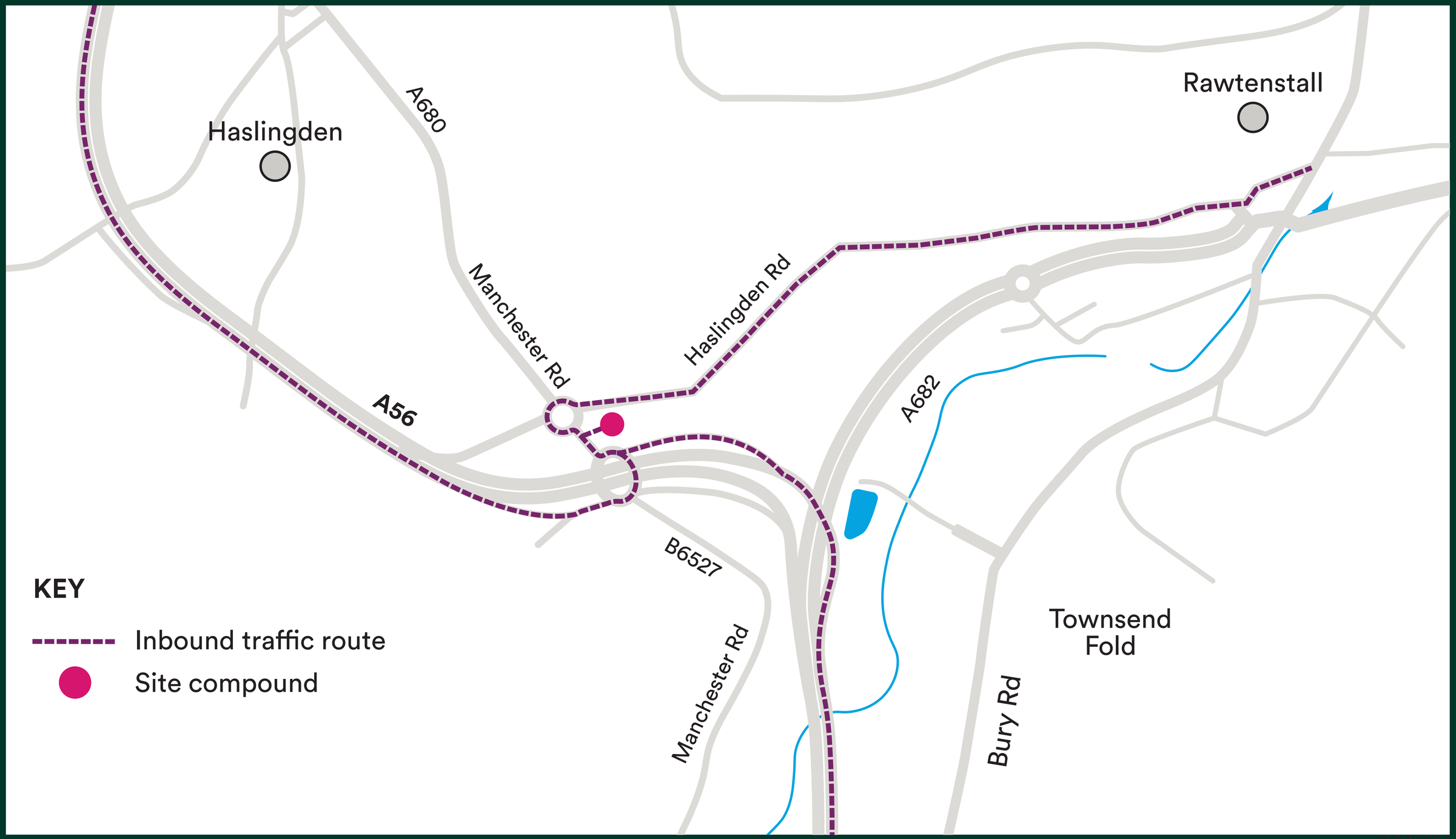
We have carefully planned our activities to minimise any impact on local residents, businesses and the environment, and will implement measures including:

- Carrying out noise, vibration and ecology surveys
- Reducing our impact on air quality by ensuring all our plant complies with Stage 5 emissions standards
- Ensuring safe and efficient logistics with minimal environmental impact by enforcing the National Construction Logistics and Community Safety (CLOCs) standard
- Employing dust suppression measures
- Managing site lighting so we don’t cause disturbance
- Using wheel washes to prevent muck from going on to the roads

Moving around the area – accessing the compound



Moving around the area – exiting the compound



Keeping you informed

To ensure no one misses out on the latest HARP news, we'll keep you up to date in a variety of ways:

- Direct mail newsletters
- Door knocking ahead of disruptive works
- Social media posts aligned to construction milestones
- Advance traffic notifications on roads
- Local press releases
- Sharing information on site signage and hoardings
- Setting up dedicated Community Liaison Groups to share information and gather feedback
- Events and roadshows
- Updates to **www.unitedutilities.com/harp-updates** or scan the QR code