



Reading
Borough Council
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DECISION BOOK

Issue: 582 Date: 10 JANUARY 2020

Decisions set out in the book have been made under delegated powers by the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors or the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, in consultation either with the relevant committee or Lead Councillor.

This issue of the decision book will be in public circulation up until Monday 20 January 2020. During that period three Councillors may request in writing to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services that a decision should be referred either to a committee, or to the Council (as appropriate) for formal resolution.

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The officer reports accompanying the decisions are attached.

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DECISION BOOK - ISSUE 582 - 10 JANUARY 2020

1. SOUTH READING MASS RAPID TRANSIT PHASE 4B - SCHEME UPDATE

| <u>DECISION</u> | <u>LEAD COUNCILLOR(S)</u> | <u>WARDS AFFECTED</u> | <u>PAGE NO.</u> |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. SOUTH READING MASS RAPID TRANSIT PHASE 4B - SCHEME UPDATE | COUNCILLOR PAGE | WHITLEY & MINSTER | 1 |

This report sets out the decision to amend elements of the South Reading Mass Rapid Transit (SRMRT) Phase 4b scheme, approved by Policy Committee in January 2018, in accordance with updates to the Local Enterprise Partnership business case

It is the decision of the Executive Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport, that the scope of works committed under SRMRT Phase 4b is altered to take account of ongoing land issues.

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC GROWTH & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

| | | | |
|------------------|---|---------|-----------------------------|
| LEAD COUNCILLOR: | COUNCILLOR TONY PAGE | | |
| DATE: | 10 JANUARY 2020 | | |
| TITLE: | SOUTH READING MASS RAPID TRANSIT PHASE 4B - SCHEME UPDATE | | |
| SERVICE: | TRANSPORTATION SERVICES | WARDS: | WHITLEY & MINSTER |
| AUTHOR: | STEPHEN WISE | TEL: | 0118 937 3735 |
| JOB TITLE: | SENIOR TRANSPORT PLANNER | E-MAIL: | Stephen.wise@reading.gov.uk |

1. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF REPORT

1.1 This report sets out the decision to amend elements of the South Reading Mass Rapid Transit (SRMRT) Phase 4b scheme, approved by Policy Committee in January 2018, in accordance with updates to the Local Enterprise Partnership business case and as illustrated in the below appendices.

- 1.2 Appendix A - A33/Island Road - Northbound bus lane and bus stop
- Appendix B - Bus stop serving Worton Grange
- Appendix C - Changes to existing bus lane north of B3270
- Appendix D - Bennet Road traffic signal upgrade

2. DECISION

2.1 It is the decision of the Executive Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport, that the scope of works committed under SRMRT Phase 4b is altered to take account of ongoing land issues.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

3.1 The South Reading MRT scheme is included within the Council's Corporate Plan 2018-21 and Local Transport Plan 2011 - 2026, and Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan 2015/16 - 2020/21.

3.2 The introduction of premium bus services along the A33 corridor have been developed, as part of the current and successive transport strategies, to make

public transport to key development sites more attractive. In conjunction with the town centre parking strategy it is a key way of managing demand for parking and promoting alternatives to the private car.

4. THE PROPOSAL

(a) Current Position

- 4.1 The Phase 4b scheme builds on the successful implementation of previous phases of the SRMRT scheme, including the installation of bus lanes on London Street and Bridge Street delivered as part of the Phase 3 scheme. Further works delivered as part of the Phase 4a section along the A33, approaching the Rose Kiln Lane/Fobney junction from the north, are almost complete.
- 4.2 The South Reading Mass Rapid Transit Phase 4 development programme was intended to include a section of MRT lane alongside the Southside development land and also to install MOVA traffic signal control at the Oracle roundabout junction.
- 4.3 Following a long period of discussions with the developer who has a long term lease on the Southside land it has proven impossible to reach an agreement to construct an MRT lane alongside, with associated bus stop, without infringing the developer's rights.
- 4.4 As a result of the above impasse the scope of works is proposed to be altered to allow several smaller sections of bus lane to be funded as detailed below.

(b) Option Proposed - altered specification of works

- 4.5 In order to provide a northbound bus stop adjacent to Island Road (to replace the previously proposed bus stop adjacent to Southside), a bus stop and short length of bus lane will be provided immediately north of Island Road, as set out in Appendix A. This will provide a pair of stops at 'Kennet Island Turn' allowing buses staying on the A33 to offer additional services to Kennet Island and Island Road developments.
- 4.6 In order to provide a bus stop serving the recent Worton Grange development site (Premier Inn and associated retail and residential developments), without the need to leave the previously constructed phase 1a MRT lane, a southbound bus stop will be provided on a new island approaching the Little Lea traffic lights as shown in Appendix B. In the longer term a northbound bus stop is proposed for a future phase of MRT to be constructed alongside the proposed Reading International Logistics Park development in association with the developer of that scheme.
- 4.7 To better serve greenwave rapid transit buses northbound from Junction 11 the existing bus lane north from the B3270 junction will be relocated to the nearside from the offside as set out in Appendix C. This will provide a better flow for buses heading towards Reading along the A33 and to Reading International Business Park and Green Park Station. Other buses which

continue along Basingstoke Road will continue to benefit from a short bus lane immediately at the traffic lights allowing the existing right turn across the A33.

- 4.8 Phase 3 and 4 funding previously included the introduction of MOVA signalised control at both The Oracle roundabout and Bennet Road gyratory. As the detailed construction requirements were worked up the cost of improving Bennet Road gyratory has increased substantially from the original estimate as to do this work properly now requires the full replacement of the life expired traffic lights and cabling at this junction and not merely a controller upgrade as illustrated in Appendix D. It is therefore proposed to concentrate only on the Bennet Road scheme at this time allowing a high quality job to be completed effectively. The proposed upgrade of the Oracle roundabout has been put on hold in order to take a more comprehensive look at the IDR junctions at both The Oracle and London Street as part of future proposed MRT works.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

- 5.1 The proposal set out in this report supports the following Corporate Plan priorities:

- Securing the economic success of Reading and provision of job opportunities
- Keeping Reading's environment clean, green and safe

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

- 6.1 Informal consultation on the scheme was undertaken as part of the public consultation for the Local Transport Plan 2011 - 2026.
- 6.2 Statutory consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Phase 4 work programme is subject to Public Contract Regulations 2015 and the Council's Contract Procurement Rules. Delegated authority to enter into a contract for the implementation of Phase 4 works was granted to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhood Services (now the Directorate of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services) by Policy Committee in January 2018.
- 7.2 The opportunity to undertake the works has now been advertised in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) as well as on the Council's electronic tendering portal and via 'Contracts Finder'. Tender returns are expected back in February 2020 and works are expected to commence from March 2020.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

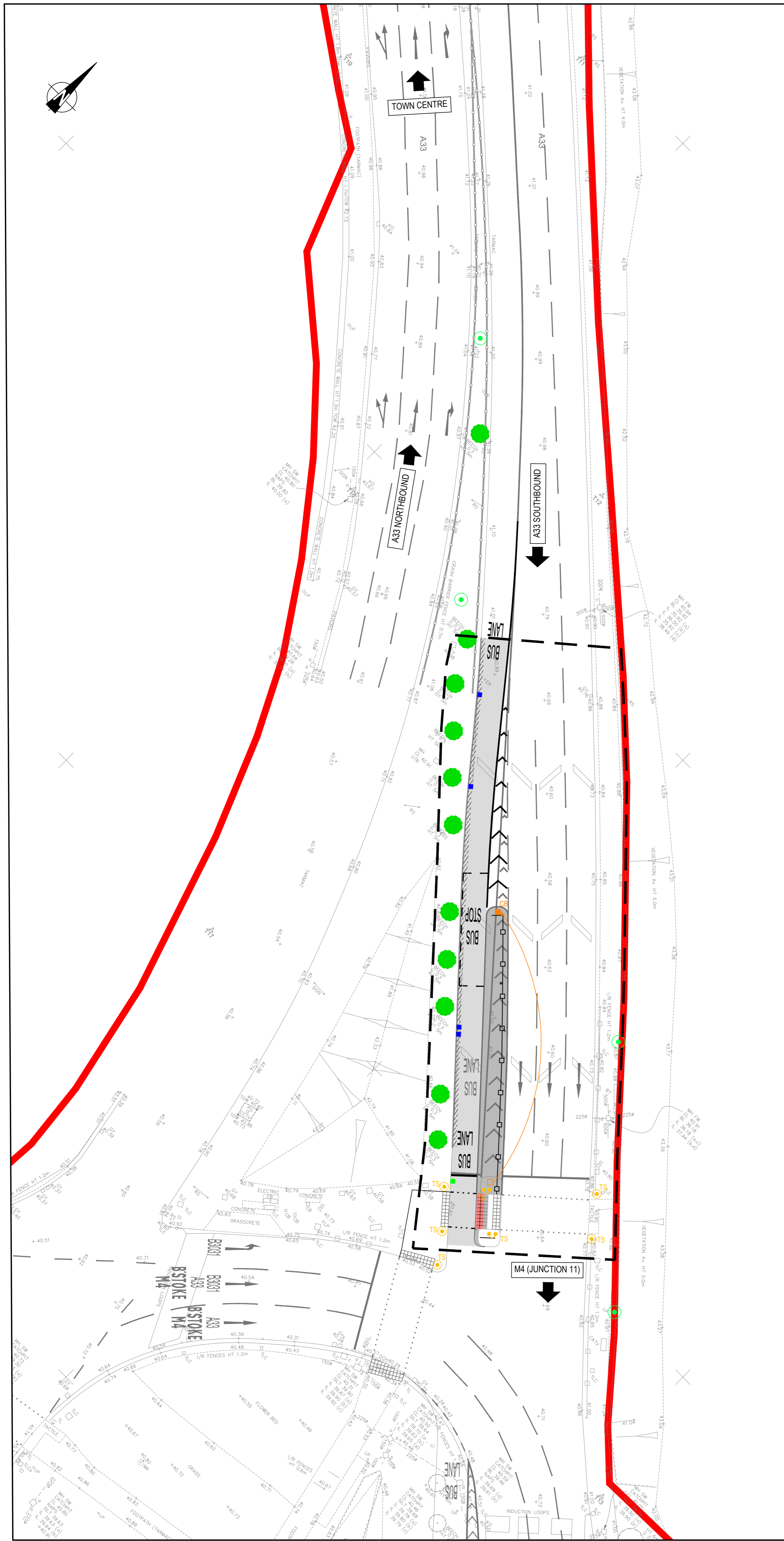
- 8.1 Our transport strategy is focused on encouraging the use of sustainable transport, walking and cycling as attractive alternatives to the private car. The delivery of the schemes as set out within this report form part of this overall strategy, which has achieved considerable success in recent years including bus usage in Reading being the third highest in the country outside of London, having increased by 23% since 2010, and around 35% of trips into Reading town centre being made by pedestrians and cyclists.
- 8.2 Transport is the biggest greenhouse gas emitting sector in the UK accounting for around 27% of total emissions. Therefore significant investment in sustainable transport solutions, including the schemes set out within this report, is vital in order to respond to the Climate Crisis declared by the Council in February 2019 and to help achieve our target of a carbon neutral Reading by 2030.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 South Reading MRT was granted full funding approval by Berkshire Local Transport Body in November 2017 to the value of £10.15m from the Thames Valley Berkshire Local Growth Deal and £2.45 local contribution as set out in the Council's Capital Programme. The local contributions comprise of existing Section 106 receipts which to date amount to £380k, £450k from the Councils Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Block funding and £1.62m borrowing.
- 9.2 South Reading MRT Phase 3 and 4 was granted scheme and spend approval from Policy Committee in January 2018. The proposed alterations set out in this report will be delivered within the agreed budget and set out in the Council's capital programme.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 South Reading MRT Phase 3 & 4 Scheme and Spend Approval, Policy Committee, 15th January 2018.
- 10.2 South Reading MRT Business Case Addendum:
<https://www.reading.gov.uk/article/11823/South-Reading-MRT>.



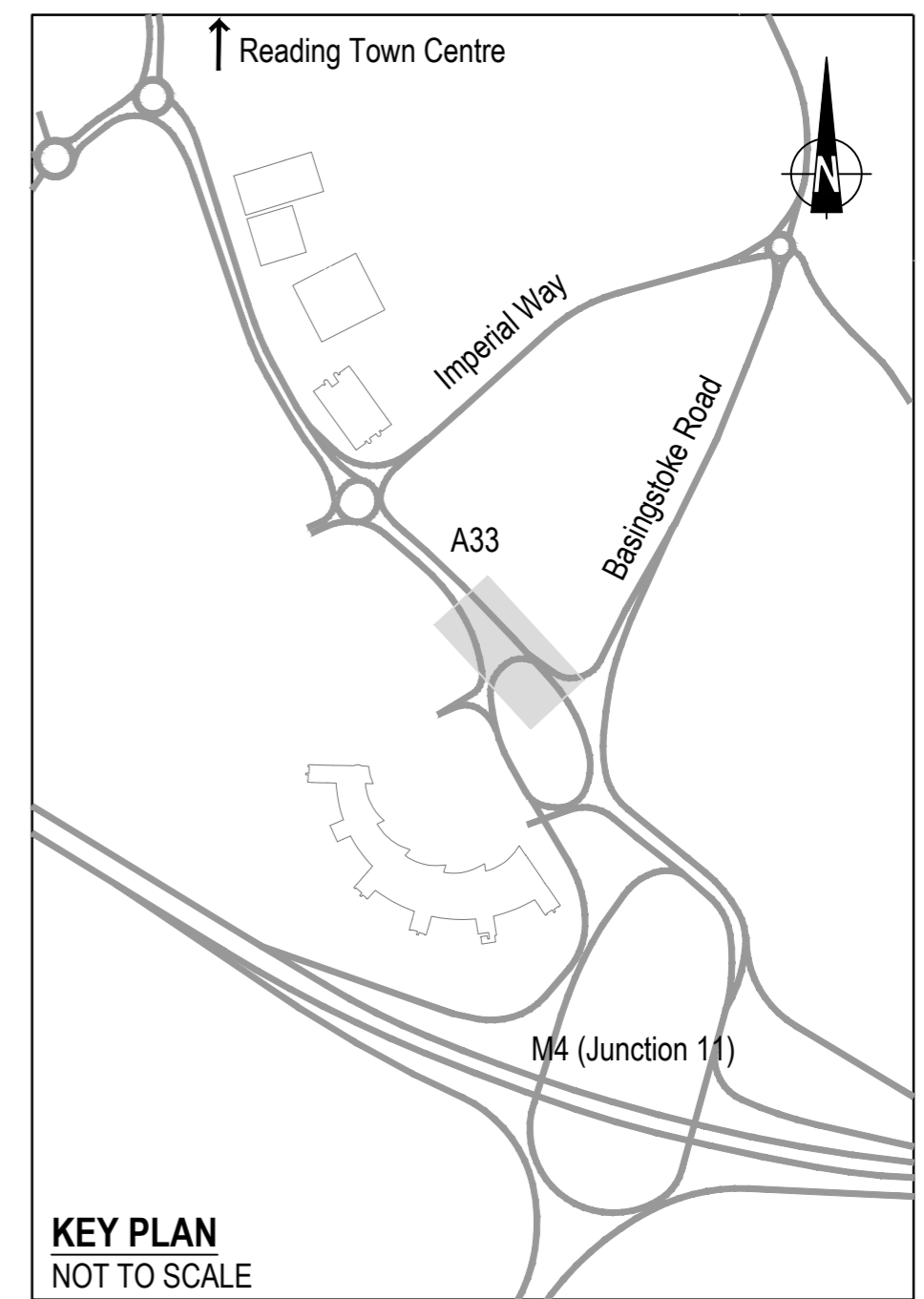
NOTES:

1. THIS DRAWING SHOULD BE PRINTED IN COLOUR.
2. THIS DRAWING IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALL OTHER CONTRACT DRAWINGS AND DOCUMENTS.
3. ALL WORKS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HIGHWAY ENGLAND SPECIFICATION FOR HIGHWAY WORKS VOLUME 1 AND CONTRACT SPECIFIC APPENDICES.
4. FOR DETAILS OF PROPOSED DRAINAGE, REFER TO DRAWING NUMBER 36234/2036/04B1/500/10.
5. FOR DETAILS OF PROPOSED CARRIAGEWAY FOOTWAY AND KERBING CONSTRUCTION, REFER TO DRAWING NUMBERS 36234/2036/04B1/700/10 AND 36234/2036/04B1/SD02
6. FOR DETAILS OF TRAFFIC SIGNS AND ROAD MARKINGS, REFER TO DRAWING NUMBERS 36234/2036/04B1/1200/11.
7. FOR DETAILS OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS REFER TO DRAWING NUMBERS 36234/2036/04B1/1200/010.

KEY:

- SITE BOUNDARY
- HIGHWAY BOUNDARY (EXISTING)
- PROPOSED CARRIAGEWAY RESURFACING
- PROPOSED CARRIAGEWAY (FULL DEPTH CONSTRUCTION)
- PROPOSED CENTRAL RESERVE CONSTRUCTION
- EXISTING SIGN TO REMAIN
- PROPOSED SIGN
- PROPOSED ROAD MARKINGS
- EXISTING GULLY TO REMAIN
- EXISTING LIGHTING COLUMN TO REMAIN
- PROPOSED GULLY
- EXISTING TREE TO REMAIN
- EXISTING PEDESTRIAN GUARD RAIL
- PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN GUARD RAIL
- EXISTING COLLAPSABLE BOLLARD TO BE RELOCATED
- EXISTING VEHICLE RESTRAINT SYSTEM (VRS)
- EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNAL TO BE RELOCATED
- EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNAL TO REMAIN

CONTRACTOR TO NOTE:
 GENERAL ARRANGEMENT LAYOUT IS DIAGRAMMATIC
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 PRECEDENCE.



| Mark | Revision | Date | Drawn | Chkd | Appd |
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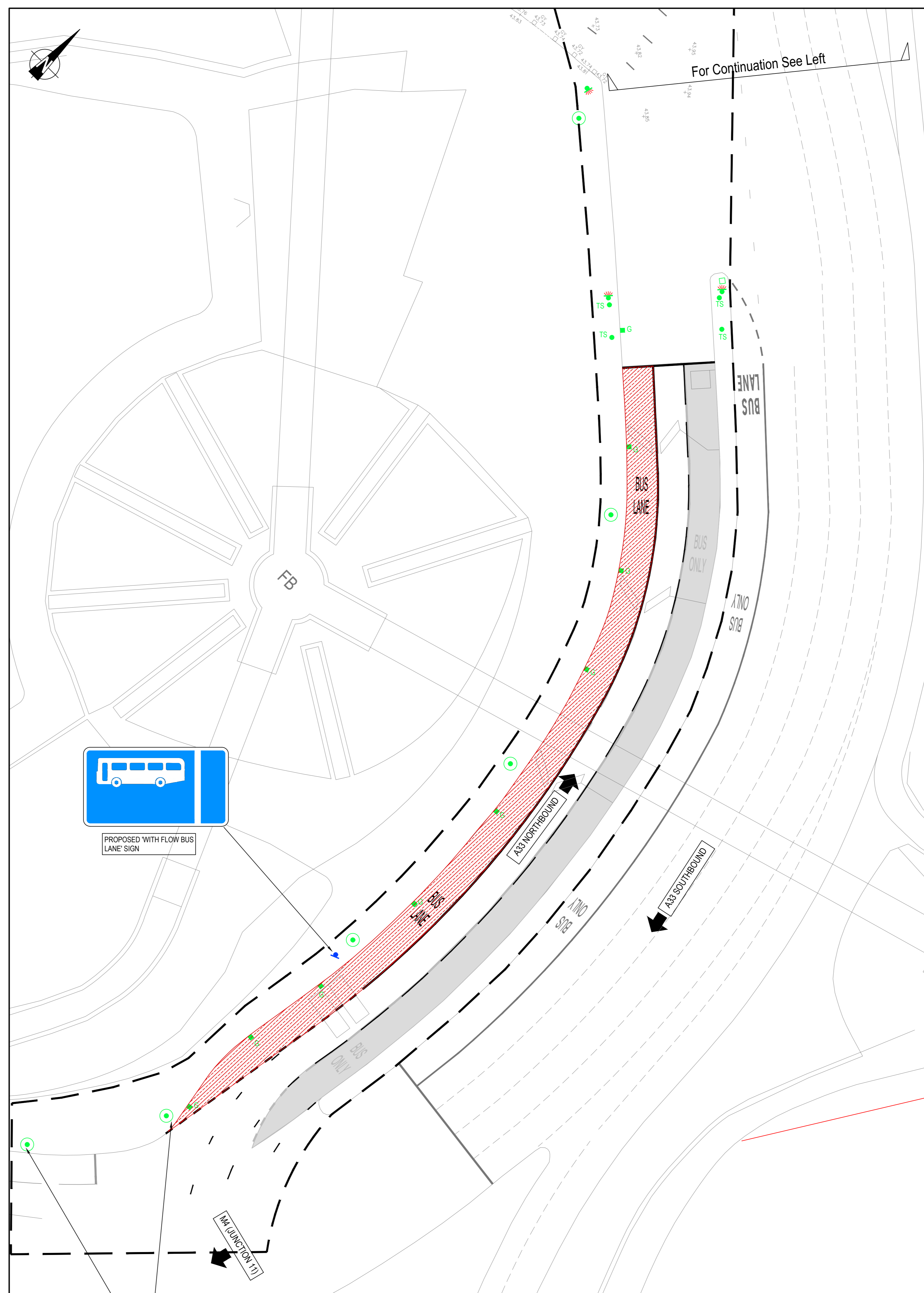
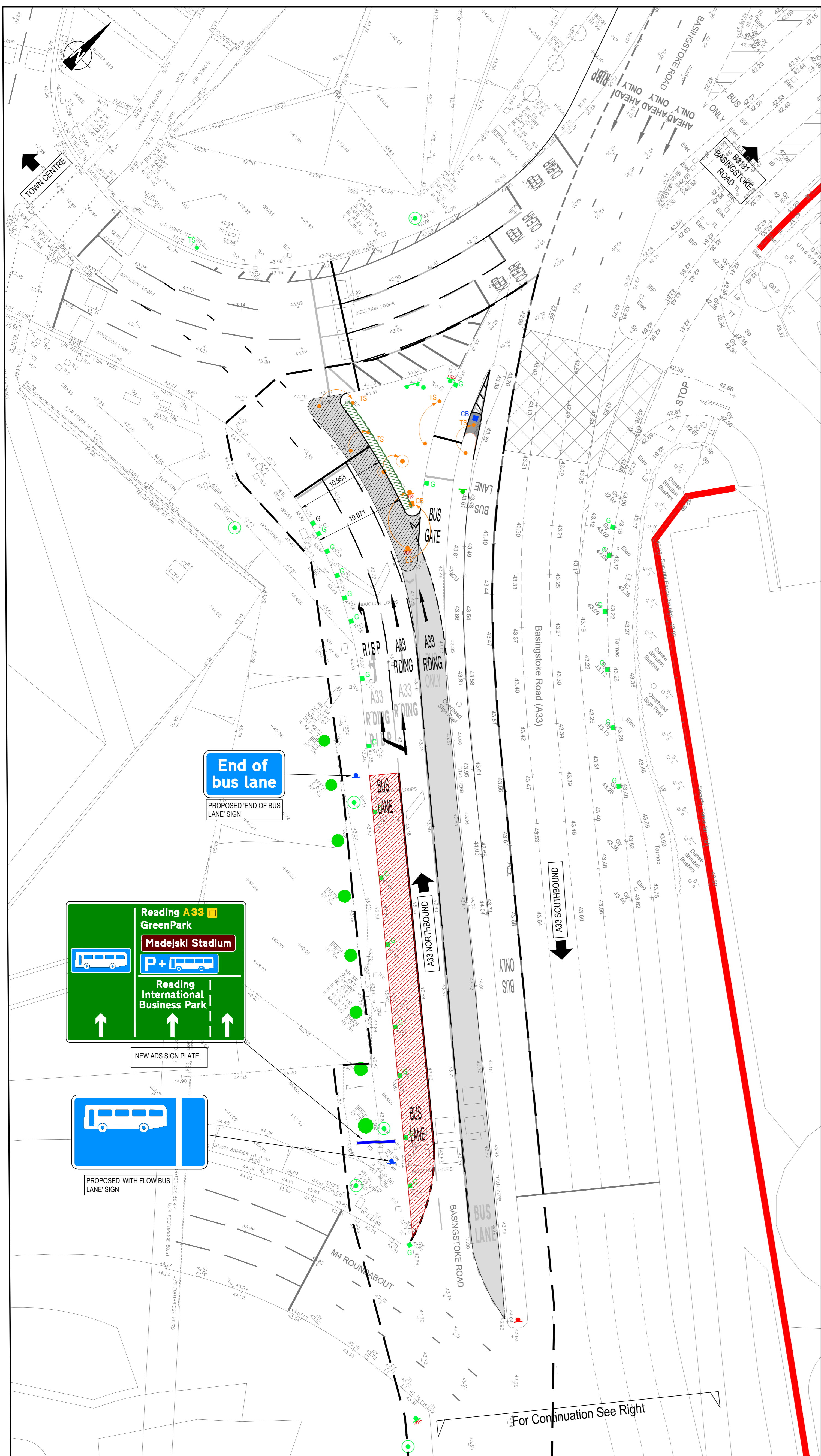
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Drawing Issue Status
FOR TENDER

**READING MRT SOUTH HIGHWAY WORKS
 LITTLE LEA BUS STOP**

GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN

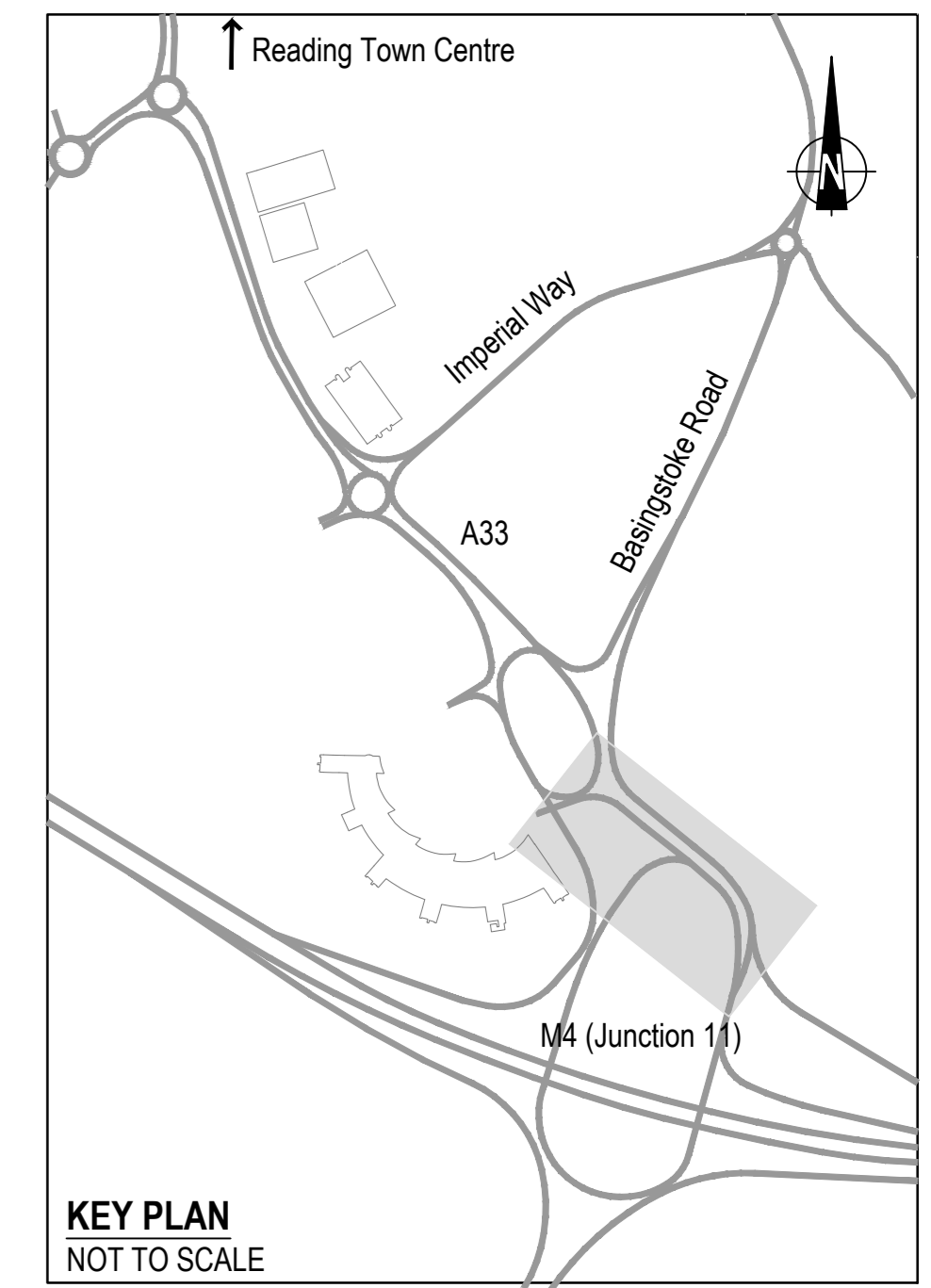
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| Client | | | |
| Date of 1st Issue 21.11.19 | | Drawn JHW | |
| A1 Scale 1:250 | | Approved SE | |
| Drawing Number 36234/2036/04B1/100/10 | | Revision - | |
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 4. FOR DETAILS OF PROPOSED DRAINAGE, REFER TO DRAWING NUMBER 36234/2036/04B160001.
 5. FOR DETAILS OF PROPOSED CARRIAGEWAY CONSTRUCTION, REFER TO DRAWING NUMBERS 36234/2036/04B170001 TO 02.
 6. FOR DETAILS OF PROPOSED KERB TYPES, REFER TO DRAWING NUMBERS 36234/2036/04B1110001 AND 36234/2036/04B18002.
 7. FOR DETAILS OF TRAFFIC SIGNS AND ROAD MARKINGS, REFER TO DRAWING NUMBERS 36234/2036/04B1120001 TO 04.

- KEY:**
- SITE BOUNDARY
 - HIGHWAY BOUNDARY (EXISTING)
 - PROPOSED CARRIAGEWAY RESURFACING
 - PROPOSED CARRIAGEWAY (FULL DEPTH CONSTRUCTION)
 - PROPOSED CENTRAL RESERVE CONSTRUCTION
 - PROPOSED RED SURFACE DRESSING
 - EXISTING SIGN TO REMAIN
 - EXISTING ILLUMINATED SIGN TO REMAIN
 - PROPOSED SIGN
 - PROPOSED ILLUMINATED SIGN
 - EXISTING SIGN TO BE RELOCATED (ON NEW POST)
 - EXISTING ILLUMINATED SIGN TO BE RELOCATED (ON NEW POST AND ILLUMINATION UNIT REPLACED, REFER TO APPENDIX 121 FOR DETAILS)
 - EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNS TO BE RELOCATED
 - EXISTING COLLAPSIBLE BOLLARD TO BE RELOCATED
 - PROPOSED NEW COLLAPSIBLE BOLLARD
 - PROPOSED ROAD MARKINGS
 - EXISTING GULLY TO REMAIN
 - EXISTING LIGHTING COLUMN TO REMAIN
 - EXISTING TREE TO REMAIN

CONTRACTOR TO NOTE:
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Drawing Issue Status: **FOR TENDER**

**READING MRT SOUTH HIGHWAY WORKS
RIBP AREA, NORTHBOUND BUS LANE**

GENERAL ARRANGEMENT PLAN

Client

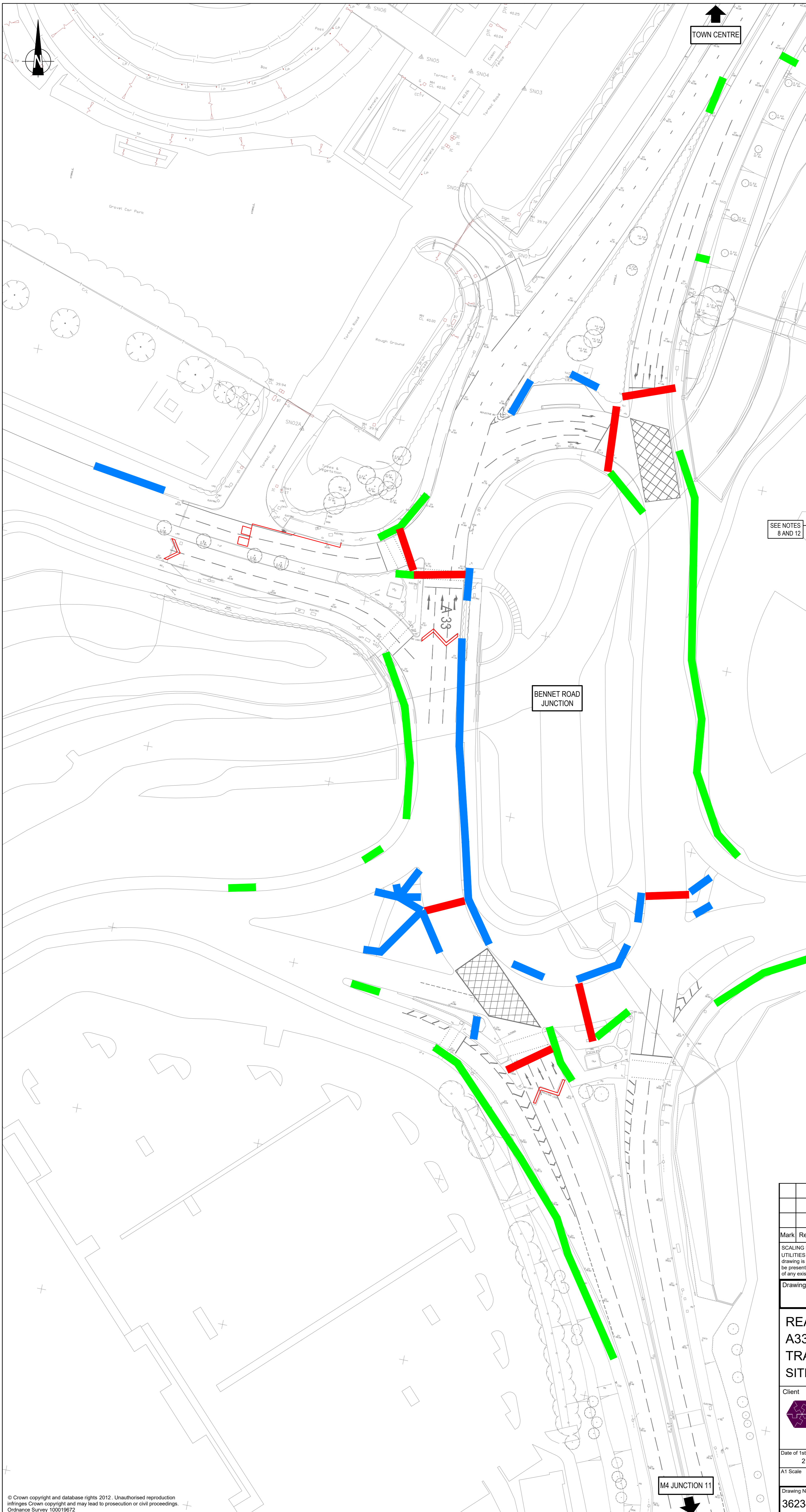
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Date of 1st Issue: 21.11.19
Designed: SPR
Drawn: JHW
Checked: SPR
Approved: SE
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Revision: -

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 - ALL WORKS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HIGHWAY ENGLAND SPECIFICATION FOR HIGHWAY WORKS VOLUME 1 AND CONTRACT SPECIFIC APPENDICES.
 - ITEMS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN REFERRED FOR SITE CLEARANCE ARE TO REMAIN IN-SITU UNLESS SPECIFIED ELSEWHERE IN THIS CONTRACT.
 - SITE CLEARANCE ITEMS TO INCLUDE THE REMOVAL OF ASSOCIATED FOUNDATION MATERIAL NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE ALL PROPOSED WORK.
 - ALL MATERIALS ARISING FROM SITE CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES SHALL BE DISPOSED OF TO A LICENSED TIP OFF SITE, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
 - IF ENCOUNTERED, THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEALING WITH CLASS U18 AND CLASS U2 (HAZARDOUS OR NON HAZARDOUS) UNACCEPTABLE MATERIAL AND PRESCRIBED CHEMICAL TESTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS SET OUT IN APPENDIX 6/1 AND 6/2 OF THE SPECIFICATION.
 - REFER TO DRAWING NUMBERS 36234/2030/BR/1200/01, 02, 03 AND 04 FOR PROPOSED TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE WORKS.
 - REFER TO DRAWING NUMBER 36234/2030/04B/1/100/00 FOR BENNET ROAD JUNCTION TRAFFIC SIGNALS UPGRADE SITE BOUNDARY.
 - TEMPORARY FOOTWAY / CYCLEWAY CLOSURES ARE EXPECTED TO BE NECESSARY DURING CONSTRUCTION. HOWEVER, EXISTING ROUTES CAN REMAIN OPEN IF THE CONTRACTOR CAN PROVIDE ACCEPTABLE PEDESTRIAN / CYCLIST PROPOSALS ENSURING 1.5m MINIMUM FOOTWAY WIDTH REMAINS AND SAFETY ZONE IS IN PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 8 OF THE TRAFFIC SIGNS MANUAL. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR FOOTWAY / CYCLEWAY CLOSURES AND APPROPRIATE DIVERSION ROUTES TO THE OVERSEEING ORGANISATION / READING BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.
 - THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN ALL THE NECESSARY SIGNAGE, ETC. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PROPOSED DIVERSION ROUTES, INCLUDING APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE FOR CYCLIST DIVERSIONS (CYCLIST DISMOUNT, ETC).
 - ALL REINSTATEMENT WORK (FOLLOWING EXCAVATIONS AND INSTALLATION OF DUCTING) SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD DETAIL DRAWING NUMBER 36234/2030/04B/1/SD06.
 - REFER TO APPENDIX 12/5 OF THE SPECIFICATION FOR FURTHER DETAIL.
 - DRAWING NUMBERS 36234/2030/BR/1200/01, 02, 03 AND 04 SHOW REPLACEMENT SIGNAL POLE AND SIGNAL HEADS TO FACILITATE THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE WORKS. ALL EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNAL POLES SHALL BE DISCONNECTED AND DISPOSED OF OFF-SITE TO CONTRACTORS TIP.
 - REFER TO VOLUME 5: WORKS INFORMATION (UTILITIES) FOR EXISTING UTILITY INFORMATION.

- KEY:**
- EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNAL INDUCTION LOOPS TO BE REMOVED
 - EXCAVATE WITHIN EXISTING HARDSTANDING (CARRIAGEWAY) 800mm (APPROX.) TO ACCOMMODATE NEW DUCTING
 - EXCAVATE WITHIN EXISTING HARDSTANDING (FOOTWAY) 600mm (APPROX.) TO ACCOMMODATE NEW DUCTING
 - EXCAVATE WITHIN EXISTING SOFT LANDSCAPING 800mm TO 900mm (APPROX.) TO ACCOMMODATE NEW DUCTING

SEE NOTES 8 AND 12

| Mark | Revision | Date | Drawn | Chkd | Appd |
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Drawing Issue Status
FOR TENDER

**READING MRT SOUTH HIGHWAY WORKS
 A33 CORRIDOR - BENNET ROAD JUNCTION
 TRAFFIC SIGNALS UPGRADE
 SITE CLEARANCE AND REINSTATEMENT PLAN**

Client
Reading Borough Council
 Working better with you

Date of 1st Issue: 21.11.19
 Designed: RK
 Drawn: RG
 A1 Scale: 1:500
 Checked: LC
 Approved: SE
 Drawing Number: 36234/2030/BR/200/01
 Revision: -

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