

## Eastern Seaboard Corridor MI/AI Sprucefield By-Pass

### Need for Scheme

The MI and AI are part of the Eastern Seaboard Corridor (Larne through Belfast to the border at Newry leading on to Dublin), which is one of the five Key Transport Corridors identified in the Regional Development Strategy.

### Progress

A proposal for this scheme was included in the draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 (BMAP). The map identifies the corridor of land to be protected from development, within the plan period, to enable the future construction of this proposal.



### The Proposed scheme

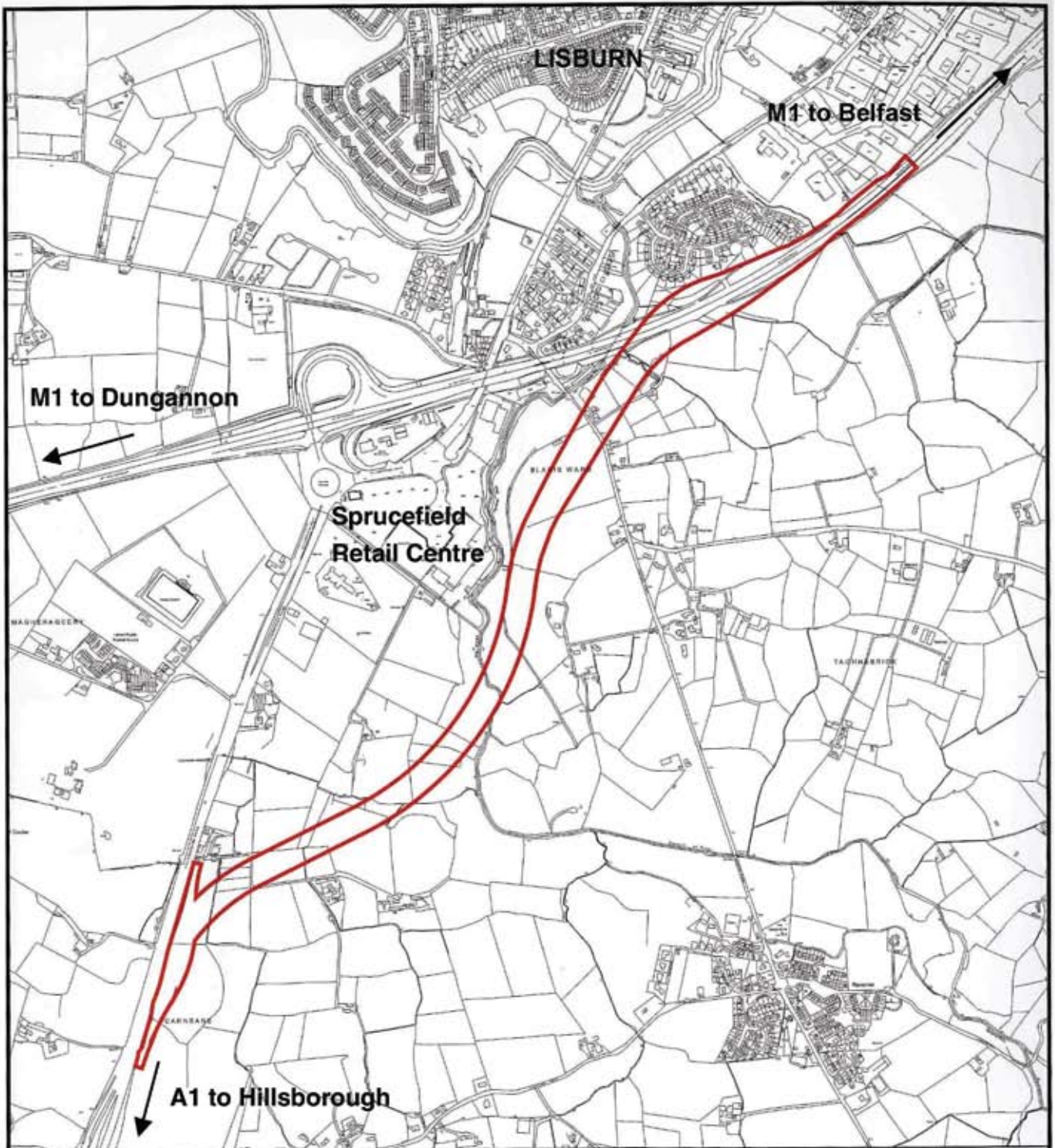
The proposed scheme will consist of approximately 4km of high standard dual carriageway from the MI motorway to the AI near Hillsborough. This dual carriageway will bypass the Sprucefield Retail Centre and will include a flyover at Hillsborough roundabout.

### Benefits

The scheme will separate the 'strategic traffic', travelling between the MI and the AI, from the 'local traffic' accessing Lisburn and the Sprucefield Retail Centre. This proposal will be of major benefit to the strategic traffic as their journey times will be reduced by avoiding congestion in the vicinity of the Sprucefield Retail Centre.

It was initially expected that implementation of this proposal would be after the 2015 BMAP period although development pressures may require it to be implemented earlier. The Planning Appeals Commission held a Public Inquiry into the draft BMAP proposals, during which they considered objections to this scheme proposal. The outcome of this is not yet known.

The proposed scheme is currently in the Roads Service 10year Forward Planning Schedule. The DRD Investment Delivery Plan for Roads estimates that the scheme will be delivered within the 2014-2018 period.



Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan (BMAP) 2015 - Plan Amendment No. 1

Plan Amendment No. 1 Clarification Map No. 37 -

A1 Link

 Road Protection Corridor



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