Cavan
Comhairle Contae an Chabháin
Cavan County Council

Bonneagar Iompair Éireann
Transport Infrastructure Ireland

SWECO

N55 BALLINAGH TRAFFIC RELIEF SCHEME

Preferred Option - November 2026



Cavan County Council, in partnership with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), is progressing the N55 Ballinagh Traffic Relief Scheme.

Sweco Ireland, as Consulting Engineers to Cavan County Council, has completed the Phase 2 Options Selection Process in accordance with the TII Project Management Guidelines.

Following detailed engineering, environmental, economic and transport assessments, the Preferred Option has now been identified for further development.

Overview of the Scheme

The N55 Ballinagh Traffic Relief Scheme seeks to address existing traffic congestion and road safety issues within Ballinagh while improving connectivity along the wider N55 national route corridor between Cavan and Athlone.

The objectives of the scheme are to:

- Improve road safety for all road users.
- Reduce through traffic within Ballinagh.
- Improve journey time reliability on the N55.
- Enhance the environment within the town centre.
- Improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Support the future growth and development of Ballinagh.
- Strengthen regional and national connectivity.

Benefits of the Scheme

The Emerging Preferred Option is expected to deliver significant benefits for Ballinagh and the wider region.

Reduced Traffic Through Ballinagh
Traffic modelling indicates a substantial reduction in through traffic on Main Street, helping to alleviate congestion and improve conditions for local residents, businesses and visitors.

Improved Road Safety
The scheme will reduce conflicts between strategic through traffic and local traffic, while providing improved infrastructure for all road users.

Enhanced Town Centre Environment
Reducing traffic volumes within the town centre will create opportunities to enhance the public realm, improve accessibility and support future active travel initiatives.

Improved Regional Connectivity
The scheme will strengthen the N55 as an important strategic link between Cavan, Athlone and the wider Midlands region.

Project Development Process

The project is being delivered in accordance with the TII Project Management Guidelines.

Phase 0	Scope and Strategic Assessment	
Phase 1	Concept and Feasibility	
Phase 2	**Options Selection**	**We are here**
Phase 3	Design and Environmental Evaluation	Next phase
Phase 4	Statutory Processes	
Phase 5	Enabling and Procurement	
Phase 6	Construction and Implementation	
Phase 7	Close out and Review	

Next Stage

During Phase 3, the Preferred Option will be further developed through:

- Detailed engineering design
- Environmental assessment
- Ground investigations and surveys
- Stakeholder engagement
- Development of the statutory approval strategy

What Happens Next?

The Preferred Option will now be advanced into Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation. This phase will involve further studies, environmental assessment and route refinement prior to seeking statutory approvals for the scheme. Land requirements necessary to facilitate the project will also be identified as the design develops.

Cavan County Council and Sweco Ireland will continue to engage with affected landowners, local residents, businesses and stakeholders as the project progresses.

Further Information

To view the digital version of the Preferred Option on the mapping backgrounds please visit the Cavan County Council website:

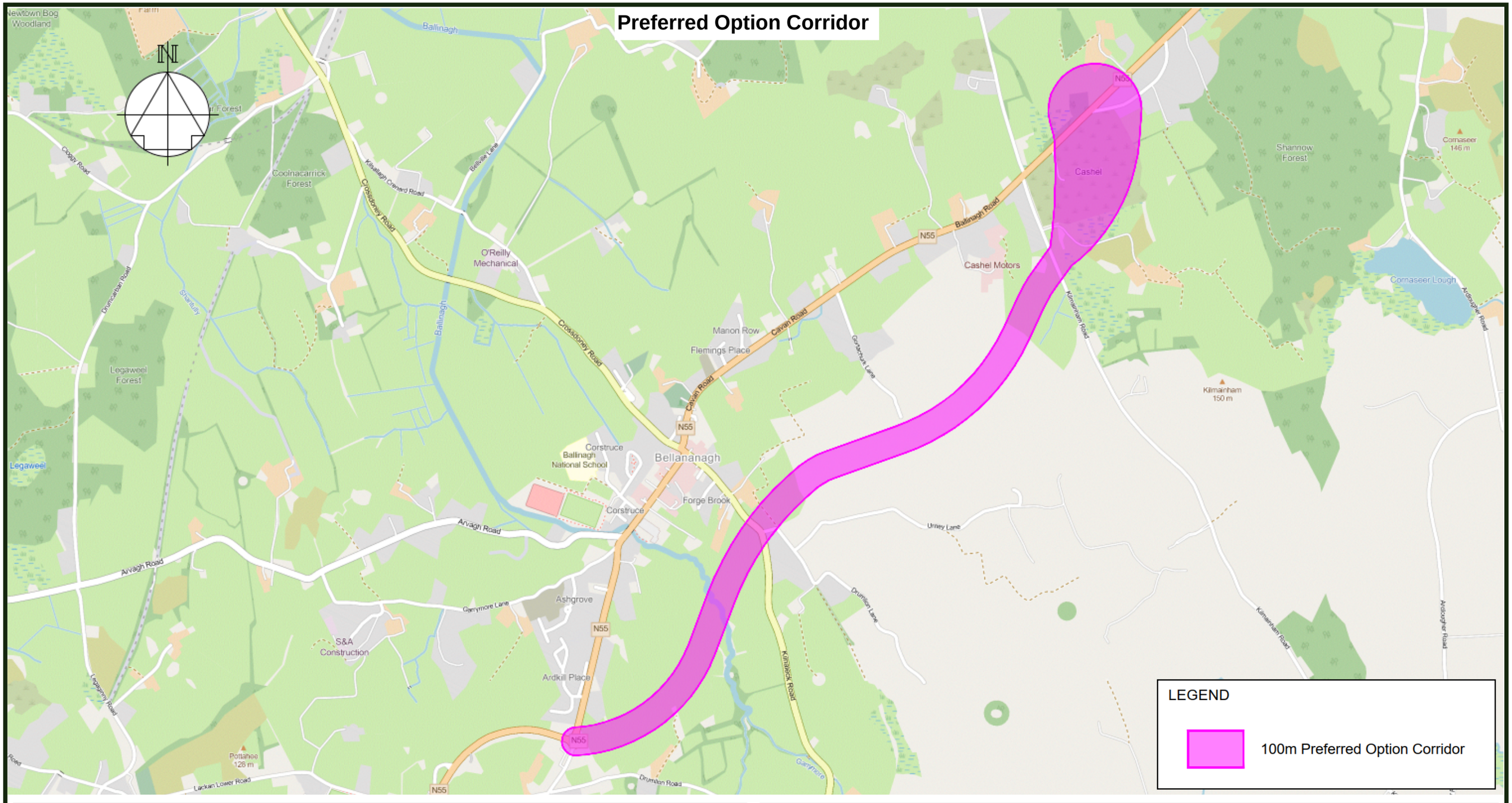
www.cavancoco.ie/N55BallinaghTRS

For further information regarding the N55 Ballinagh Traffic Relief Scheme, please contact:

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Cavan

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Preferred Option Corridor



Preferred Option

Following the assessment of a range of alternative route corridors, the **Pink Option (Eastern Bypass)** has emerged as the Preferred Option.

The route generally:

- Commences at the existing N55 roundabout south of Ballinagh.
- Passes to the east of the town.
- Crosses the Ballinagh River.
- Intersects with the R154 and L6568.
- Rejoins the N55 north of Cashel Cross.

The route shown remains indicative and will continue to be refined and developed during the next phase of the project.

Why was this Option Selected?

As part of the Options Selection Process, a number of potential route corridor options were developed and assessed.

The assessment considered:

- Engineering feasibility.
- Traffic performance.
- Road safety.
- Environmental impacts.
- Land and property impacts.
- Cost effectiveness.
- Overall value for money.

The Preferred Option demonstrated the strongest overall performance across these criteria and provides the best balance between transport, environmental and economic objectives.