

ROUTE 4

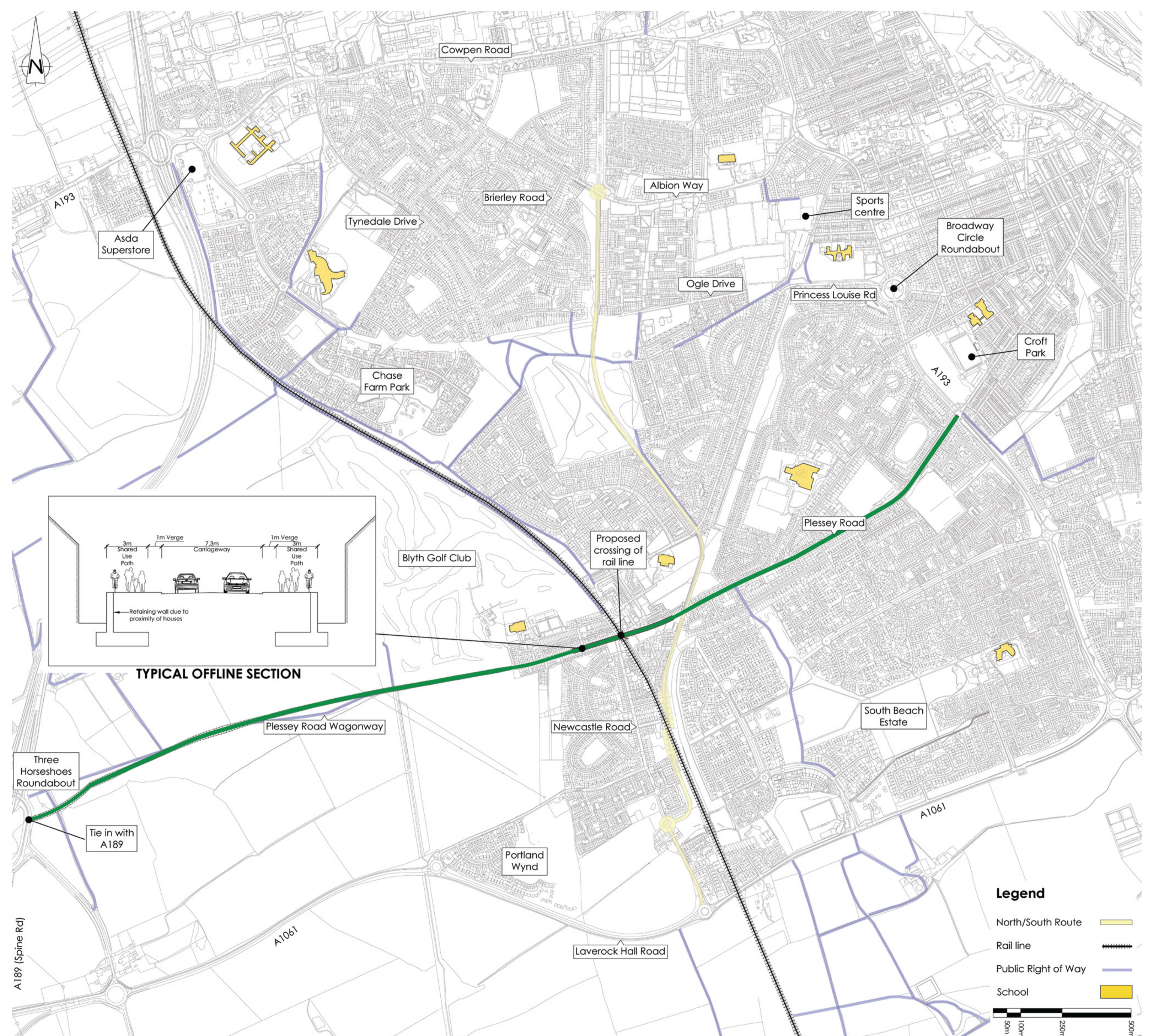
Plessey Road to A189 Spine Road

The main buildability issue with this route is the new rail line crossing. The line is currently used by freight trains, approximately ten trains per day. The proposal to re-open the rail line will provide a passenger rail service with a 30 minute frequency. This will increase use of the level crossing barriers therefore increasing traffic delays. Combining this with the increased traffic on Plessey Road resulting from the new connection to the A189 requires this level crossing to be upgraded.

This route is currently designed with a road bridge to take Plessey Road over the rail line. The existing level crossing would still be used for vehicles travelling to and from Winship Street and Newcastle Road.

If the above proposal is not deemed as acceptable by Network Rail, new ramps of 200 metres in length are required to lift Winship Street / Carr Street and Newcastle Road.

Retaining structures would be required to minimise the number of properties directly impacted by the elevated road. There will be significant visual, noise, vibration and air quality impact for the properties within the area.



ROUTE APPRAISAL

ESTIMATED COST £21.2M



Improved internal connectivity within Blyth.



Significant diversion of traffic from the A1061 Laverock Hall Road.



Adjacent properties to be directly impacted.



Visual, noise and air quality impact for frontage properties.



Introduction of large structures in a residential area.



Land and property acquisition.