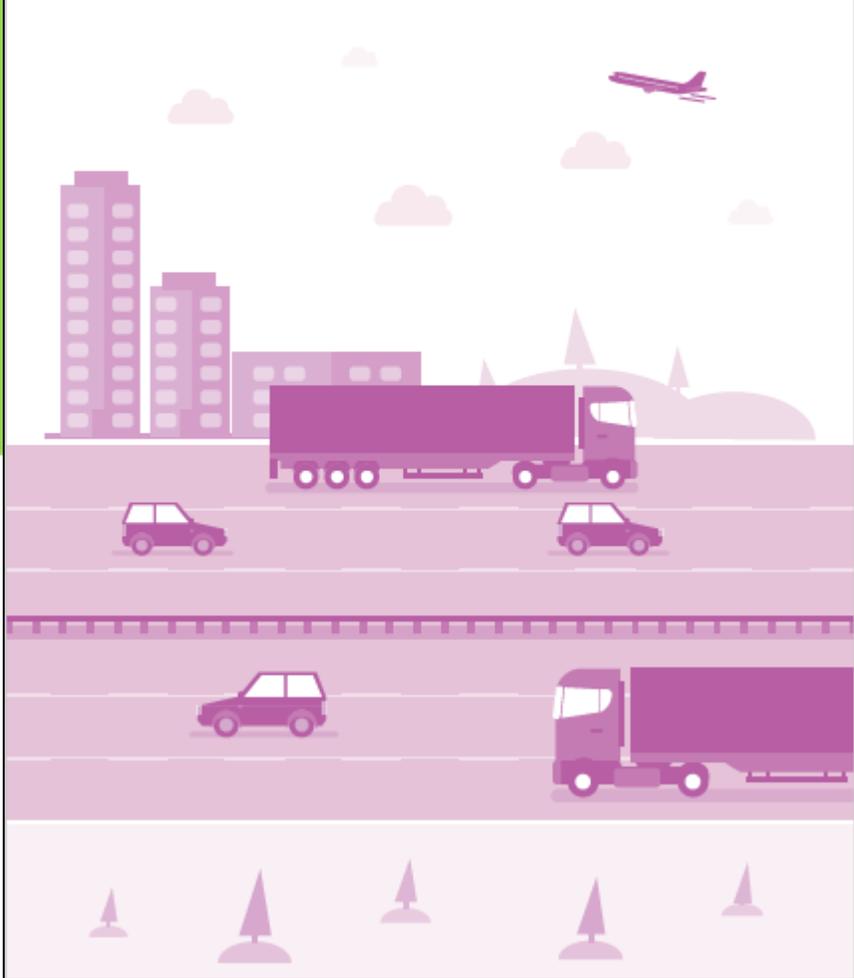


Long Term Midlands
Motorway Hub Study
Summary Report



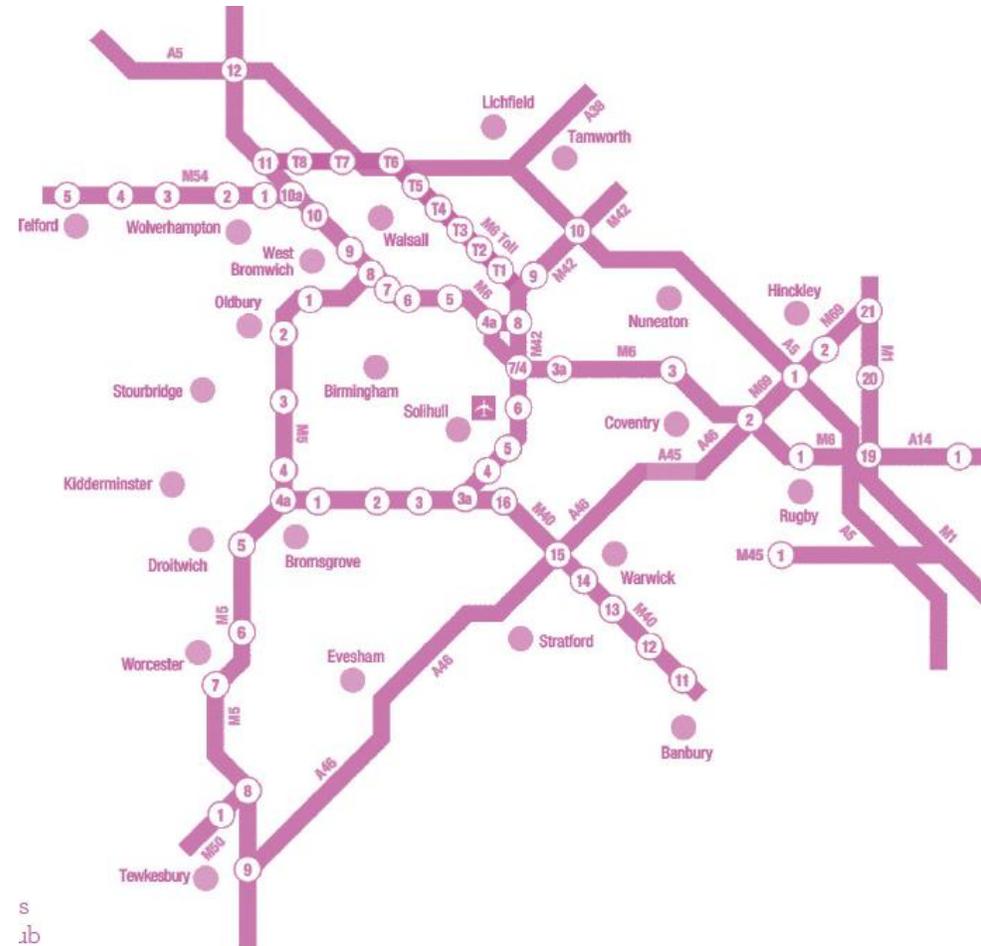
Midlands Connect TDC Update September 18 Midlands Motorway Hub Study



Midlands Motorway Hub



1. Study co-funded by HE and Midlands Connect Partnership
2. Reported back in December 2017



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Study Objectives



Midlands Connect
Powering the Midlands Engine

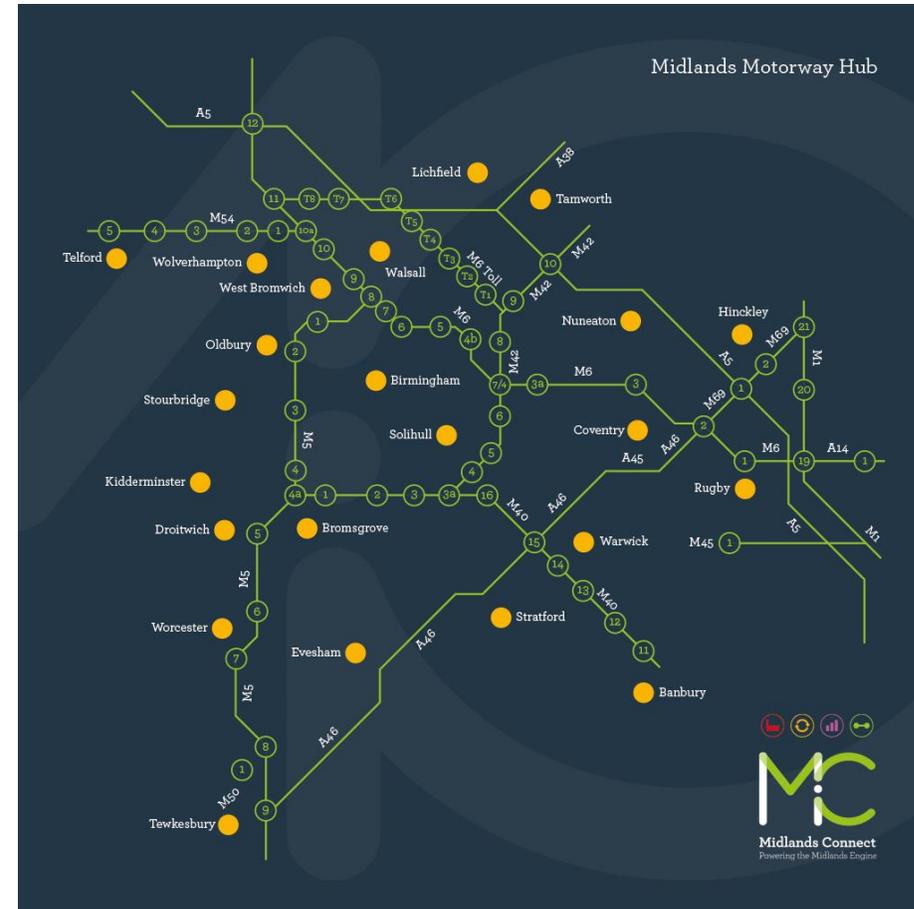
CORE OBJECTIVES	Economic growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To maximise economic growth in line with Government, Midlands Connect and LEP aspirations across the Midlands over the next 20 years.• To support sustained growth of existing economic activity: increasing productivity and through creating higher value jobs which will unlock the employment potential being identified and evidenced by Midlands Connect.• To support the delivery of strategic housing growth.
	SRN performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve the strategic transport flow both within, to, from and through the Midlands supporting the UK economy as a whole.• Improve the reliability and capacity of freight movements.• Contribute to improving journey times and journey time reliability for trips, including to/from UK Central & HS2.• Providing a resilient road network that can support future growth in traffic and enable improved traffic management during planned major maintenance activities.
	Wider objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contribute to better integration between the SRN and other major roads.• Improve road safety, during design, construction, operation and maintenance for all, including road users, non-motorised users, road workers and local residents.• Minimise adverse impacts on health, the built and natural environment.• Reduce the impact of traffic on local communities.

Recommendations from Midlands Motorway Hub



There are four intervention approaches to the Hub Strategy:

- Making best use of existing networks – maximise the potential of our existing infrastructure to improve travel conditions
- Creating modal shift – encourage the use of public transport modes to reduce congestion on the Hub
- Major investment in the Hub – significantly improve key infrastructure to provide additional capacity
- Invest in strategic alternatives to the Hub – identify alternative routes to provide relief and resilience to the Hub



Next Steps for M'way Hub

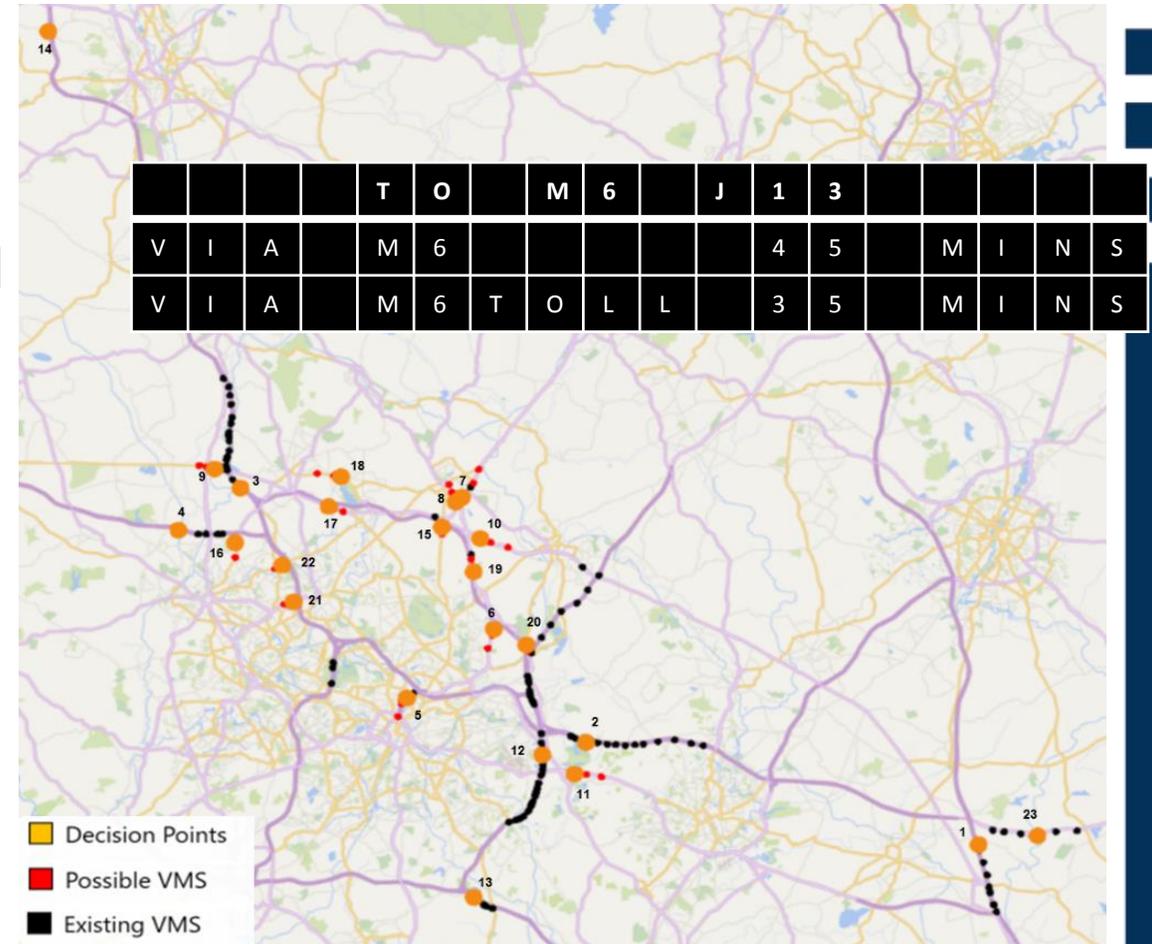


Midlands Connect working on four of the specific recommendations of the Hub study in 18/19:

1. Making Best Use of M6Toll
2. Opportunities for Strategic Park and Ride
3. Improved Operation of M6 Jct 3-11
4. Further Understanding of Wider Economic Benefits and Environmental Impacts of Western Strategic Route

Making Best Use of M6 Toll

- Analysis identified a significant market of people not using M6Toll who could derive some benefit from doing so.
- Hub study recommended more and improved information to drivers could increase use of M6Toll.
- Further work has identified:
 - Decision point locations for new signs
 - Types and costs of new signs
 - Information to provide to drivers
 - Alternative ways to provide information



Improved Operation of M6 Jct 3-11



Hub Study's Preferred Strategy – identified specific potential options around M6 north of Birmingham:

- M6 Junction 9 restrictions;
- Ramp metering at Junctions 5 and 7;
- HGV platooning trials and demand management strategy

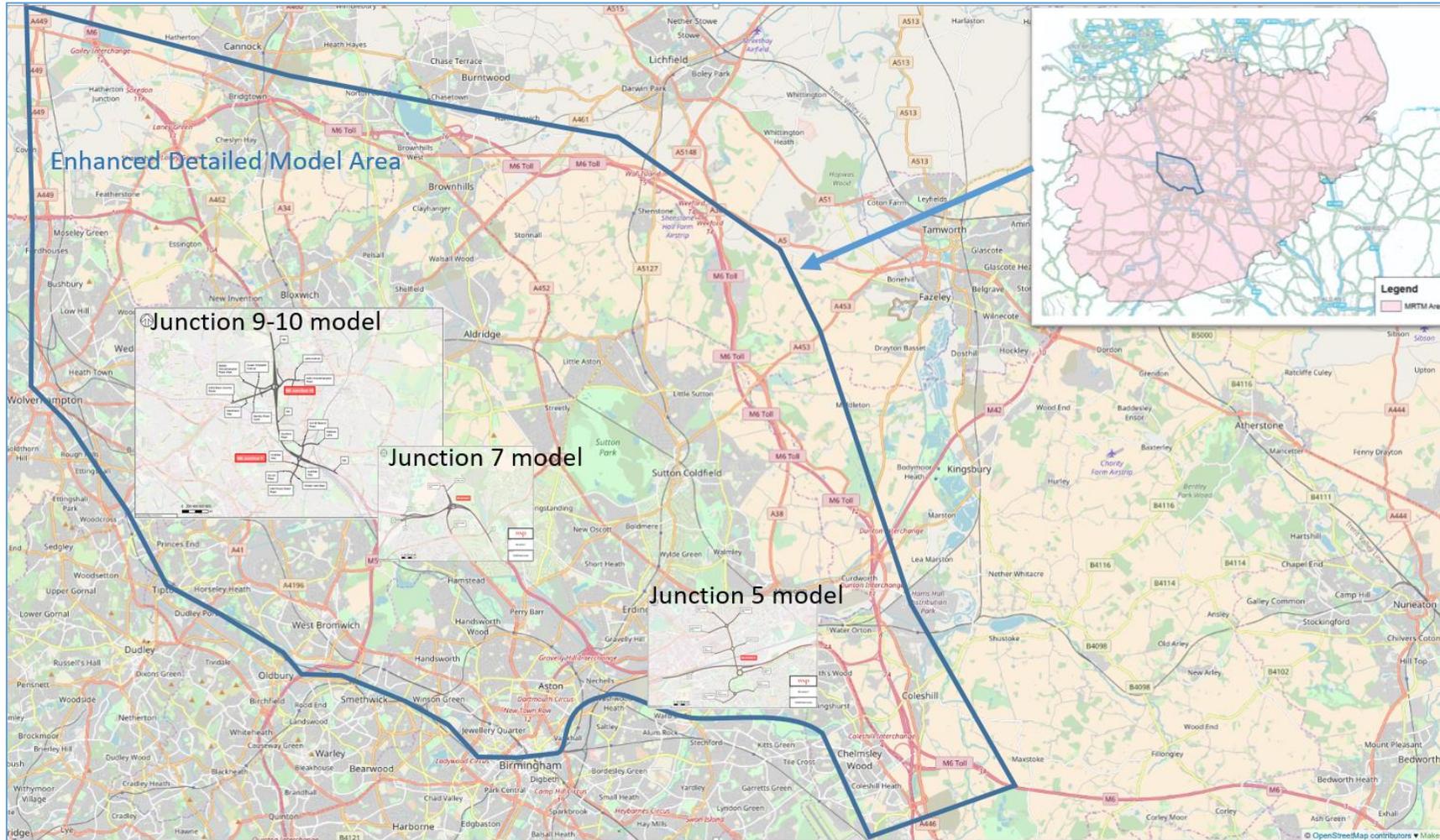
Improved Operation of M6 Jct 3-11



Study will need to consider:

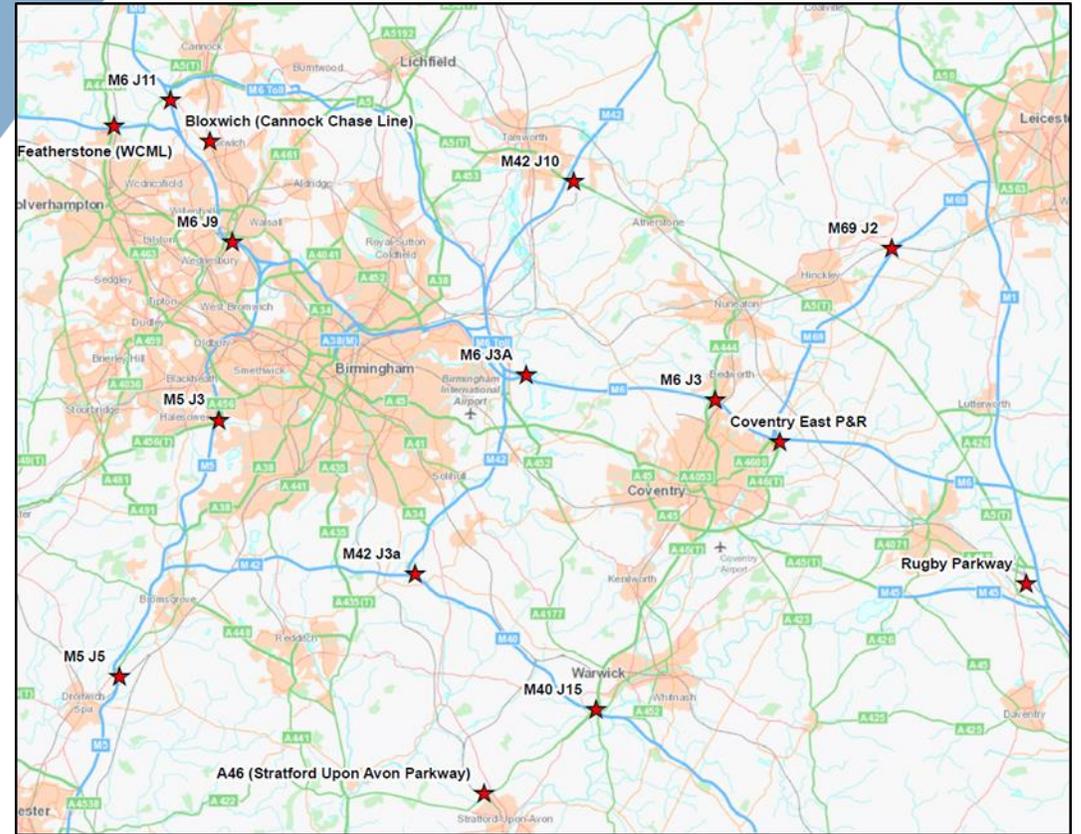
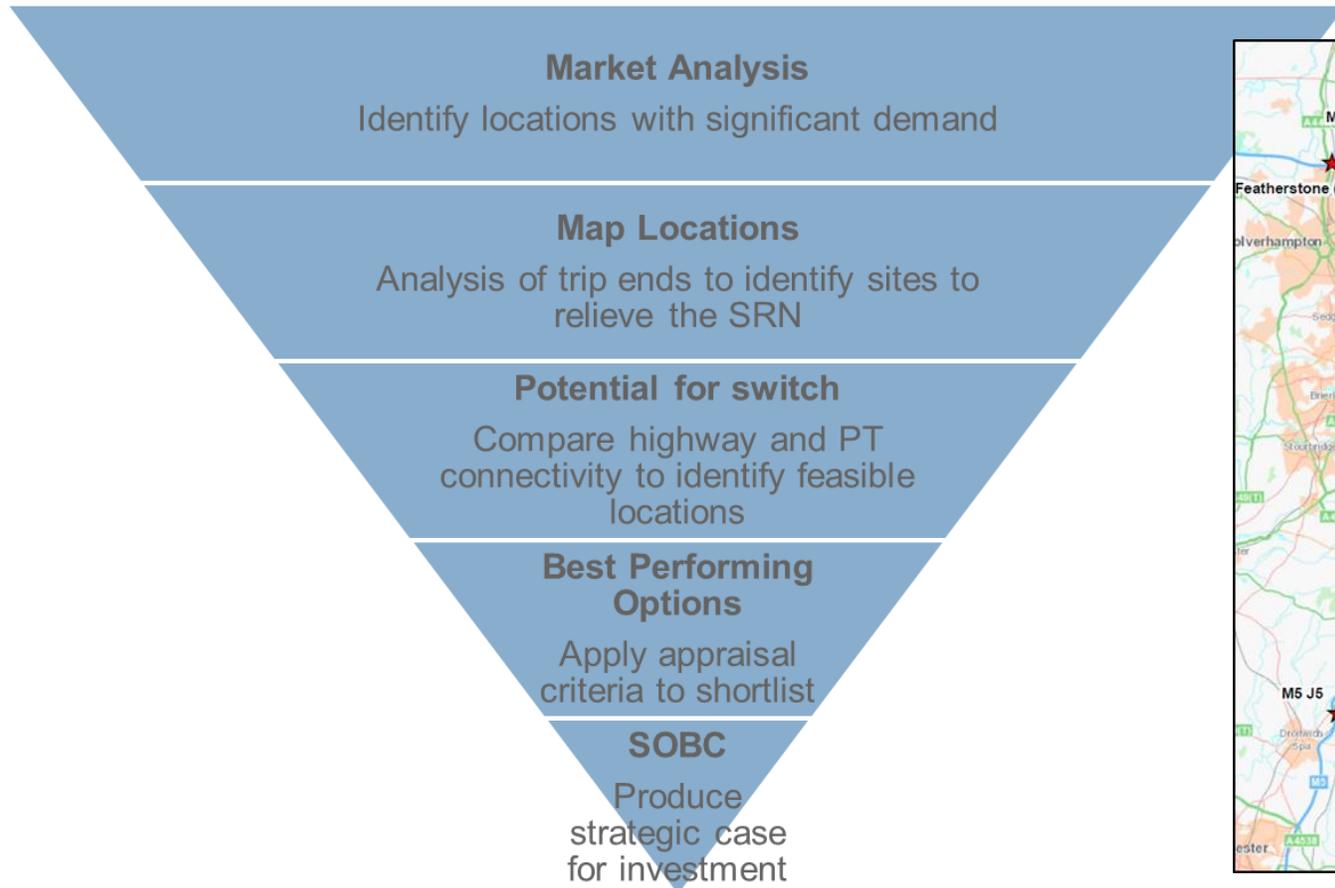
- How options might improve flow.
- If improvements are achieved then how can benefits be 'locked in' for specific users:
 - Freight – HGV lanes, future HGV platooning?
 - High occupancy vehicles?
- What are the impacts on the Major and Local Road networks and how can these be mitigated?

Study Area



Opportunities for Strategic P&R

Sequential approach:



Could P&R at these locations provide relief to the SRN?

Further Understanding of Western Strategic Route

- Hub Study demonstrated that improved strategic road connectivity to the West of Birmingham would benefit the operation of the M5 and M6. That study did not define a specific route.
- Midlands Connect is **not** examining any route alignments, nor saying explicitly that the 'strategic road connectivity' has to be a new motorway; options could include upgrading existing routes, or a combination of the two.
- We wish to examine the wider economic opportunities in the local area where a route may go (i.e. in Black Country and South Staffs) to deliver jobs, improve productivity, attract new investment and to deliver housing.
- At the same time we feel it imperative to also identify and highlight the potential environmental impacts and disbenefits from any major road building in the area.
- We're seeking to bolster the evidence to determine whether there is merit in the future to consider more specific options in detail.





Any questions?