

Co-operative Intelligent Transport Systems Project

Luton

The Project vision is to install Variable Message Signs (VMS) in and around Luton town centre that provides live information on availability of car parking spaces, along with information about congestion that is relayed to VMS signs on the main approaches to the town centre from the M1 junctions 10 and 11 in order to direct traffic to available parking spaces by the quickest and least congested route.

The VMS immediately around the town centre would direct drivers not only to the Councils larger off-street car parks (those with > 50 spaces), but also involves working in co-operation with the owners/operators of multi- storey car parks (MSCP's) for The Mall shopping centre, Luton station (Indigo) and Regent Street (NCP). Inter Digital has provided initial advice with regard to integration into the system of parking data from The Mall and discussions have been held with other car park operators in the town.

The project is now going to be implemented in phases, with the VMS on the main town centre approaches being implemented first, along with some car park signing. Dialogue with VMS suppliers is continuing, and formal procurement of the preferred supplier is due to commence soon.

The Council is planning to replace one of its surface level car parks with a MSCP in 2018/19 to replace other car parks being lost to development around the town (including car parks 11-15 that are being redeveloped as part of the HighTown Masterplan), most of the VMS car park signing will be implemented in 2019. The plan below shows the location of the town centre car parks along with the position and aspects of proposed VMS signs around the town centre.

