

A12

**Road closures, ground
investigations and surveys**

Junctions 18 to 25



A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening

Highways England is planning to improve the A12 between Chelmsford (junction 19) and the intersection with the A120 near Marks Tey (junction 25).

We have announced our preferred route between junctions 19 and 23, and are considering several route options between junctions 23 and 25 that will take into account feedback from public consultations.

We are now about to do some important surveys and ground investigations in the area between junctions 19 and 25, and this may require lane restrictions from junction 18 for safety reasons.

Ground surveys

Our survey work will give us a clearer picture of the existing road condition, as well as the type of soils, rock types and groundwater levels where we're proposing to build the new road or considering route options.

You can expect to see survey vehicles and equipment in operation on and close to the A12. This is not the start of any construction work: the survey findings will help us develop our road designs, including junctions and structures.

The survey will also help assess and reduce environmental concerns and help us plan how to build the road safely and keep costs down.

Most of the work will take place overnight on the existing road. Some of the surveys will also take place on private property, such as farmland and industrial sites.

Many of our survey locations will not be visible from the road, but you may see our vehicles and equipment working in local fields.

How will this affect local residents?

Unfortunately, some of the equipment we need to do the surveys will be noisy for those within approximately 50 metres of it. There may be some nights where you may hear the work we are doing. We will try to limit the noise as much as we can by:

- completing the noisiest work as early in the night as possible
- using the least noisy equipment
- using an innovative reversing system on vehicles that doesn't use beeps. This does not have to be as loud to be heard over background noise, and people can better tell where the reversing signal is coming from, so they are also safer
- using a temporary acoustic barrier which will help absorb the noise

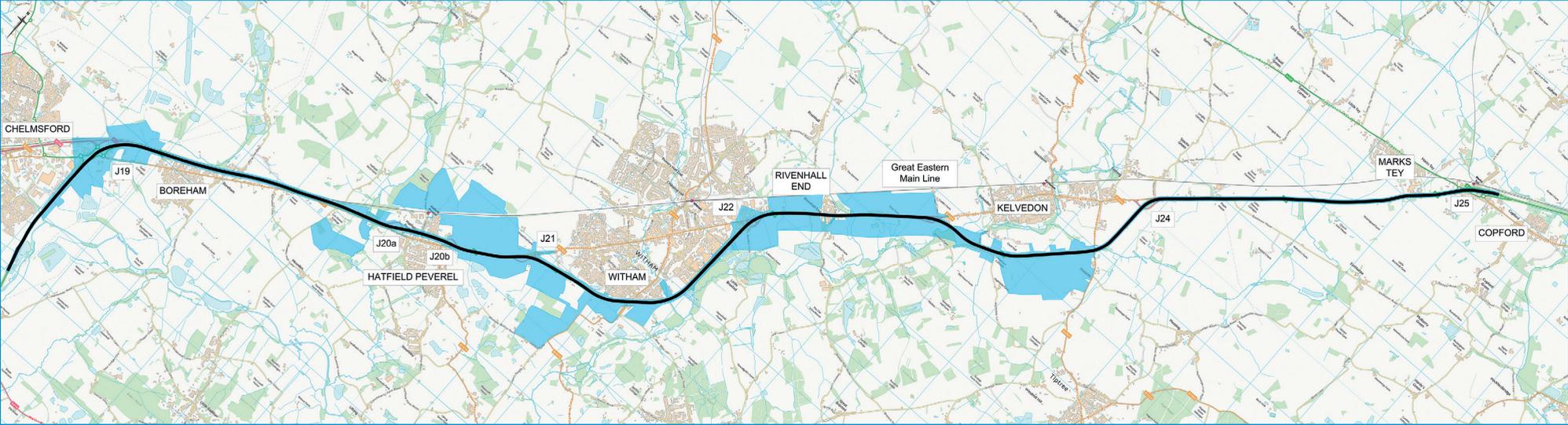
Types of survey

The following surveys will take place:

Type of survey	Why?	What does it entail?
Road surveys	To better understand the existing road's construction and its condition where the proposed sections of new road are likely to link into it	Taking samples of material from the road surface for testing
Drainage surveys	To understand the existing drainage layout and flow	Jetting and camera surveys on existing drainage pipes
Topographical surveys	To find out more about the ground levels	Walkover surveys with electronic equipment to measure levels
Environmental surveys	To get more data for our environmental assessments	Walkover surveys to gather data on specific protected species
Archaeology geophysical surveys	To get more data for our archaeological assessments	Walkover surveys to map potential archaeological features to investigate in future phases
Ground investigation	To better understand the local soil, rock and groundwater levels	Drilling boreholes and digging trial pits to obtain soil samples and identify ground conditions

Location of ground investigations and surveys

The map shows the main areas where we will be carrying out our investigations and surveys (shaded blue) in relation to the existing A12. There will also be some additional environmental surveys in the wider area which, for example, will be looking for bats and owls.





What's happening when?

Junctions 19 to 23	Eastbound carriageway	Completed 24 January 2020
Junctions 22 to 19	Westbound carriageway	27 January 2020 to 13 March 2020
Junctions 23 to 25	Eastbound carriageway	16 March to 3 April 2020
Junctions 25 to 22	Westbound carriageway	6 April to 1 May 2020

Please note: these dates may be subject to change.

Additional surveys will take place until the end of August 2020, and during 2021. Information and dates will be available at www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A12.



Check before you travel on the A12

We aim to minimise disruption to motorists and residents as far as possible. However, at times we will need to temporarily close the road overnight between 9pm and 5am from Monday to Friday, and provide temporary diversions. Please make sure you plan ahead and allow more time for your journey.

Details of these road closures and diversion routes will be published on our website.

 www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A12

 Live traffic information: www.trafficengland.com

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This document is also available on our website at www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A12

For an accessible version of this publication please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

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Highways England creative job number
BED19 0195

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Registered office Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford GU1 4LZ

Highways England Company Limited registered in England and Wales number 09346363