Why we’re doing the work

M6 junction 10 is of strategic importance within the Black Country and the wider region. The congestion at the junction affects the local community and businesses on a daily basis, particularly during morning and evening peak times. The congestion includes queuing on the roundabout and the motorway slip roads, the Black Country Route and other roads leading to the junction.

The improvements will ease congestion and reduce journey times for the thousands of drivers who use it every day.

What we’re doing

As part of the improvement work we’ll:

- replace the two existing bridges with two new, four-lane bridges to increase capacity
- widen the existing junction slip roads
- improve the slip roads and approaches on the local road network
- widen the westbound A454 Black Country Route

Work will start in February and we expect to complete it by spring 2022.
What are the benefits?

1. Provide a freer flowing network by:
   - reducing congestion on the A454 (Black Country Route and Wolverhampton Road) and other roads linking to the junction
   - reducing ‘rat-running’ traffic on nearby routes
   - reducing queuing on the motorway slip roads

2. Support economic growth by:
   - improving access to the strategic road network
   - attracting new business and development to the area
   - improving links to nearby Enterprise Zone sites and other development sites

3. Provide a safe and maintainable network by:
   - replacing the bridges, avoiding major disruptive maintenance work in the future
   - improving conditions for cyclists, pedestrians and horse-riders for crossing the junction safely

Roadworks

We recognise that there’s never a good time to carry out such significant improvement work at this busy location. Please be assured that we’ll work hard to complete this work as quickly and as safely as possible.

In February 2020 we’ll start removing and trimming back vegetation to create the space needed to safely complete the work. We’ll also carry out work to prepare the ground, which is expected to complete in spring 2020. Following this, we’ll start construction to widen the junction in summer 2020.

We’ve carefully planned the work to keep the junction open during the construction period.

On the local roads like the A454 and B4464, we’ll maintain the existing number of lanes during the day to keep the traffic flowing. We’ll need some lane closures to complete the work, we’ll do this overnight when there are fewer vehicles on the road to minimise disruption.

In early February 2020, we’ll close lane 1 of the M6 in both directions through junction 10. We’ll also put a 60mph speed limit in place for the safety of motorists and workers. Lane 1 will be closed for the duration of the works, the other three lanes will remain open during daytime hours to keep traffic flowing. We’ll also need some overnight lane closures on the slip roads at junction 10, and occasional overnight lane closures on the M6.

During the work, we’ll have free recovery in place around the junction to safely assist and clear any vehicles that may break down within the scheme boundary.

The existing bridges will remain open to traffic until we have built the new ones. Once ready, we’ll switch traffic onto the new bridges and remove the existing ones. We’ll keep you updated about any planned closures and restrictions in advance.

This project is being delivered through a partnership of Highways England and Walsall Council. It is jointly funded by Highways England, Walsall Council and the Local Growth Fund provided by the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership, part of the Midlands Engine.
Contact us

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