Upgrading the M4 between Junction 3 to 12

June 2021 News Bulletin

Technology Upgrades Begin

Earlier this year we raised the speed limit to 60mph between junction 8/9 to 12 because most of our upgrade construction activity has been completed in this section.

We've kept lane one behind cones and the speed limit at 60mph whilst we install some additional technology called 'stopped vehicle technology'. This month we will begin installing this technology during overnight lane and carriageway closures.

The installation and testing will take place through to 2022, after which the speed limit will be raised to 70mph and the new gantries and signs will be permanently on. Find our more about Stopped Vehicle Detection here: https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/stopped-vehicle-detection-upgrades/

M4 Recycled Material

One of the ways the M4 project reduces it's environmental is through recycled material. To date we have:

Diverted 99.5% material diverted from landfill

Reused 486,000 tonnes of material on site

Natural England CEO Visits M4

The M4 Junction 3-12 motorway upgrade team recently hosted a group from Natural England including CEO Marian Spain. Natural England said:

'It is clear that Highways England share Natural England's ambitions for the strategic road network to do its bit to contribute to enhancing nature for the future.'

The group visited the Balfour Beatty VINCI Thames Bray river site where we have widened the motorway bridge over the River Thames.

'We were thoroughly impressed with the attention to detail to get the M4 scheme right for environment and communities. It is clear that for the team it is not just about making sure they meet regulations and legislation but about doing things to the highest quality and going beyond the expectation.'

Weekend Closures

On the right are the weekend closures planned up to the start of August 2021. Weekend closures are used to complete work that can only be done safely when the whole carriageway or motorway is closed e.g. extensive surfacing, complex work across multiple lanes and switching traffic management layouts. Closures keep drivers and our workers safe while upgrades take place. These closures are subject to change so please always check before you travel.

www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m4j3to12

Junctions 5-6	25-28 June
Junctions 4b-5	2-5 July
Junctions 6-7	9-12 July
Junctions 3-4b	16-19 July
Junctions 6-8/9	23-26 July
Junctions 5-6	30 July – 2 August

Charity Fundraising

The project team have raised £3,462 through the month of May for the Anthony Nolan Trust. The charity make lifesaving connections between people with blood cancer and incredible strangers ready to donate their stem cells. The team walked, ran and cycled the length of the UK in memory of one of our engineers who sadly passed away last year.

Find out more

You can find out more about the project by visiting our website at: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m4j3to12. You can keep up to date with live traffic information by following the regional twitter feeds @highwaysEAST and @highwaysSEAST or by visiting Traffic England. If you have a question that you would like a response to please continue to email us at: M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk, call 0300 123 5000 or write to: M4 J3-12 Motorway Upgrade, Highways England, 2 Colmore Square, Birmingham B4 6BN.