

M3

junction 9–14 smart motorway Newsletter – summer 2019



Welcome to the M3 junction 9–14 smart motorway newsletter. This provides information about the scheme itself, an update on progress and our next steps going forward.

About the M3 junction 9–14 smart motorway project

The M3 motorway provides a vital economic link between London and the Midlands to the major ports of Southampton and Portsmouth on the south coast. The upgrade to a smart motorway between junctions 9–14 will deliver the following benefits for road users:

- An additional motorway lane to increase traffic capacity and reduce motorway congestion
- More reliable journey times
- Additional technology on the road to manage incidents and to prevent and reduce delays



What is a smart motorway and how does it work?

A smart motorway uses technology to monitor and control the speed and flow of motorway traffic. By using CCTV, sensors and electronic signage, Highways England can keep vehicles moving more smoothly, reduce congestion and maintain safety.

By introducing this technology and extra safety features, the hard shoulder can be converted into a permanent running lane providing additional capacity in both directions. Emergency areas for vehicles will be installed at regular intervals on the side of the carriageway.

As well as improving journeys for road users, no additional land is required either side of the motorway despite gaining an extra lane in each direction. It is less costly and there is less impact than when a motorway is conventionally widened.

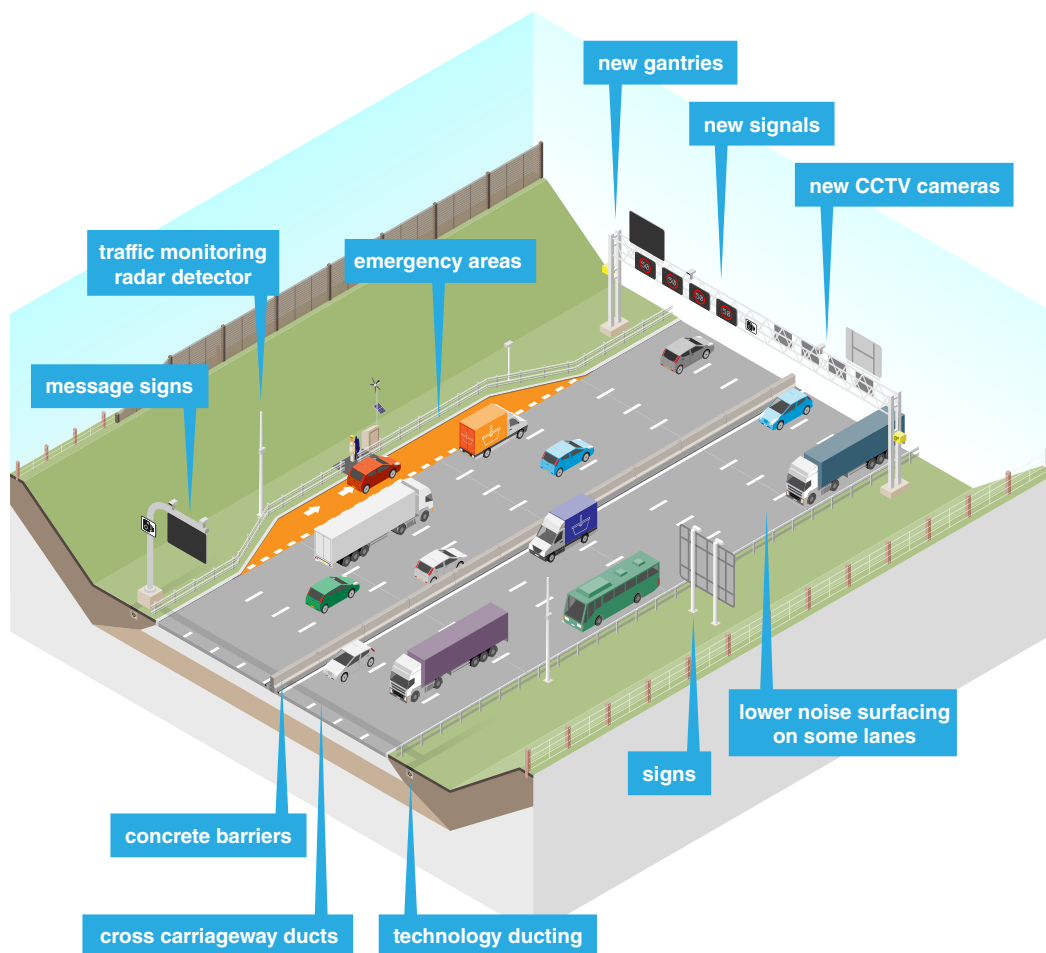
For more information about driving on a smart motorway, please visit: www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-drive-on-a-smart-motorway

Progress update

As our design for the scheme progresses, a range of roadside surveys are taking place between junction 9-14 now and over the coming months. These surveys help us gather information needed to convert this section of the M3 to a smart motorway. This includes drainage, environmental factors and the condition of the road surface amongst others. This phase of survey work will be finished by the end of Summer 2019.

Some of the surveys require traffic restrictions to protect our workforce and road users. That means we must temporarily close part of the motorway, close a lane or close entry and exit slip-roads. Where the motorway or a slip-road is closed, a diversion is put in place. We have scheduled these traffic restrictions for week nights to minimise disruption. More information about these restrictions can be found on our scheme website (see details opposite).

We are planning to undertake advanced works early next year. This will include site vegetation clearance and repairs to ensure the hard shoulder is fit for purpose and suitable for traffic when the main works commence.



Next steps

- **Summer 2019**
Complete design surveys
- **Autumn 2019**
Hold public information events about driving on smart motorways and provide scheme update
- **Winter/Spring 2020**
Undertake site clearance and preparation works for construction
- **2020-2022**
Construction of new M3 J9-14 smart motorway

Update on other schemes in the area

Highways England is making a significant investment into the strategic roads in south Hampshire. As well as the M3 junction 9–14 smart motorway, construction is now underway to convert the M27 into a smart motorway between junctions 4–11. This is due to be completed by Spring 2021. Information about this scheme is available at: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m27-j4-11-smart-motorway

A scheme to improve the M3 junction 9 connection to the A34 at Winnall is also progressing through the planning system. Information about this scheme is available at:

www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m3j9

Although these are three separate road improvement schemes, Highways England is ensuring the project teams work together so that work is progressed in an integrated way.

Contact us

We encourage road users, community groups and other interested parties to get in contact with us with any enquiries.



0300 123 5000 and ask for the M3 Junction 9-14 smart motorway programme



M3J9-14SmartMotorway@highwaysengland.co.uk



@highwaysseast

Information about the scheme is also available on the scheme website www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m3j9to14

About Highways England

Highways England is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving motorways and major (trunk) roads across England. Locally this includes the M3 and M27 motorways and the A34 and A303 trunk roads.

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