

## M32 Junction 2, northbound slip road

e-bulletin #4 – 19 March 2020

### One lane on northbound exit slip road to reopen for cars and motorcycles from Friday 20 March

The M32 junction 2 northbound exit slip road, damaged by fire last month, will be reopened to cars and motorcycles from Friday, 20 March.

A 3-tonne weight restriction, and a 2-metre vehicle width restriction will be in place when the lane reopens, which means that only cars and motorcycles will be able to use it.

**Buses, ambulances, fire engines and all lorries – be they light goods, or heavy goods vehicles – will be unable to use it**, and any of them trying to could get stuck in the narrow lane that will be put in place as part of the traffic management.

Signs will advise that all other vehicles, aside from cars and motorcycles, should continue to use the official diversion via junction 1 and the southbound junction 2 slip road, or take an alternative route entirely.

A [poster](#) for businesses to use, to share the information with their staff, has been created and can be found on the [M32 webpage](#).

It is necessary to put the weight and width restriction in place to ensure the safety of those travelling on the road itself, and to protect the bridged slip road from further damage.

Highways England will monitor the bridged slip road closely following the reopening of one lane, to ensure that should any issues arise they can be identified and dealt with appropriately.

The bridged slip road was severely damaged following an intensive fire underneath the structure at the end of February. Tests have been done to understand the extent of the damage. Models show that the bridged slip road, which sees around 14,000 vehicles use it every day, can withstand vehicles up to a 3-tonne individual weight limit. To prevent larger, or heavier vehicles, from using it the slip lane will be narrowed to just 2-metres along its entire length.

**Road users are asked to respect the guidance, and not attempt to use the slip road if they are travelling in anything other than a normal car or motorcycle.**

✓	✗
	
	
	
	
	

## **Next steps**

To allow the traffic management to be put in place there will be an overnight closure of the M32 from 9pm on Thursday (19 March) night, until 6am on Friday morning. This closure will affect the northbound M32, from junction 3 to junction 2. Northbound traffic leaving Bristol will be diverted via Stokes Croft, the A38 and Muller Road to the junction 2 entry slip road.

Work to establish how damage to the structure will be fixed in the longer term, is ongoing.

Local stakeholders may also wish to note that further resurfacing work – involving overnight closures of the southbound M32 – is currently being planned. This is currently expected to take place overnight on Friday 20 March and Tuesday 24 March, weather permitting. For up to date information about this, please visit [www.trafficengland.com](http://www.trafficengland.com) or follow our regional Twitter feed at [@HighwaysSWEST](https://twitter.com/HighwaysSWEST).

If you have any concerns or issues regarding M32 junction 2 northbound exit slip road please don't hesitate to contact us, by calling our customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.

Highways England also has a Facebook Page for the South West, which can be found at [www.facebook.com/HighwaysSWest](https://www.facebook.com/HighwaysSWest)

<ends>