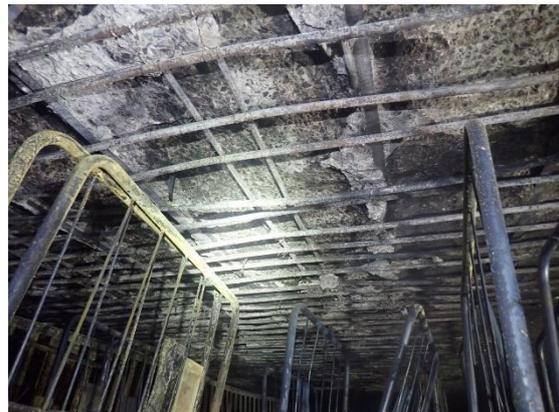


M32 Junction 2, northbound slip road

e-bulletin - 26 February 2020

Following a fire on Sunday 23 February underneath the M32 junction 2 northbound exit slip road, which caused significant damage, we have had to close the exit slip road to all vehicles.

The slip road will need to remain closed for the foreseeable future. This is because the structure of the bridged slip road may have been affected by the extreme temperatures reached during the fire.



Caption: The fire caused significant damage to the underside of the bridged slip road.

We have a team of structural experts assessing the impact of the fire on the slip road. We will reopen it as soon as we believe it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we'd like to thank drivers for their continued patience while we carry out this essential work.

Chris Regan, Head of Service Delivery for Highways England in the South West said:

“We have carried out an initial inspection and can confirm there is structural damage to the bridge. Further inspections are continuing to fully evaluate the extent of the damage and what repairs will be required.

“Safety is always our priority and while we know that the structure itself remains safe we will not be able to give any firm timescales for re-opening until a full structural assessment has been completed.

“The site presents challenges and the tight working space beneath the bridge, on the bank of the river, mean it will be a complicated project. We have a team of highly skilled engineers, who are working hard to resolve this issue as soon as possible.

“We are grateful to drivers for their patience while we carry out this essential work and will do everything we can to get the road open again as soon as possible.”

While the slip road is closed, the following advice is being offered to motorists:

Drivers using the northbound M32, from Bristol City Centre, wanting to access junction 2 (for Eastville, Fishponds, Horfield etc) should remain on the M32 northbound, exiting at junction 1 (Hambrook) and return via the M32 southbound to junction 2 (Eastville). The exit slip road on the southbound carriageway is unaffected.

Drivers should leave additional time for important journeys as the entire M32, the junction 1 (Hambrook) exit and entry slip roads, and the southbound exit for Eastville and Fishponds are expected to face increased congestion, especially at peak times. The impact may also be felt on the local road network as people find alternative ways to make local journeys.

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

Further information can be found by visiting www.trafficengland.com or by following Highways England's regional Twitter feed at [@HighwaysSWEST](https://twitter.com/HighwaysSWEST).

Highways England also has a Facebook Page for the South West, which can be found at www.facebook.com/HighwaysSWest

<ends>

This e-bulletin has been sent to you because we believe you may have an interest in the closure of the M32 junction 2 northbound exit slip road. If you wish to receive updates in future please use this [short survey](#) to opt in to this form of communication.