

# M62 junctions 10 to 12 motorway upgrade project newsletter

January 2021



## Introduction

**Welcome to the final M62 junctions 10 and 12 smart motorway project newsletter. Before we provide you with the latest news, we want to take this opportunity to show our appreciation to the local community, our customers and stakeholders for bearing with us while delivering this complex project. We faced many challenges along the way and thank you for your patience during this time.**

Highways England Project Manager, Arasu Gurusamy said, “We thank the residents, motorists, and businesses for their patience. We understand that you’ve had to endure with the disruption from our work and thank you for bearing with us. I’m sure the next time you use this part of the M62, you will notice the benefits of the project. During these unprecedented times, we hope you are all well and please stay safe.”

## Technology is live

The new technology is now fully up and running. Construction work on this 9.8-mile section of the M62 between Liverpool and Manchester is complete and has been upgraded to an all-lane running motorway.

The upgrade will lead to better, more reliable journeys. The technology will monitor the flow of traffic, and is managed from our Regional Operations Centre, where we're able to change the signs and apply variable speed limits. This will help to keep the traffic flowing, giving you safer and more reliable journeys.

Whatever part of England's motorway network you're using, we want you to stay safe, follow the signs and keep us all moving. Our motorways connect people to families and friends, workers to jobs and businesses to their customers, which helps our nation thrive. Here are some quick, useful tips on the upgrades:

- Never drive in a lane closed by a red X signal.
- Keep to the speed limits shown on the signs.
- A hard shoulder is always identified by a solid white unbroken line – if there's no speed limit displayed above it or a red X signal is displayed, do not use it except in an emergency.
- A broken white line indicates a normal live lane.
- On a motorway with no hard shoulder, use the emergency areas for emergencies.
- If your vehicle experiences difficulties, for example - warning light, exit the motorway immediately, if you can.
- If you break down, put your hazard lights on.
- Most breakdowns are preventable – keep your car well maintained, check your tyres and make sure you have enough fuel for your journey.

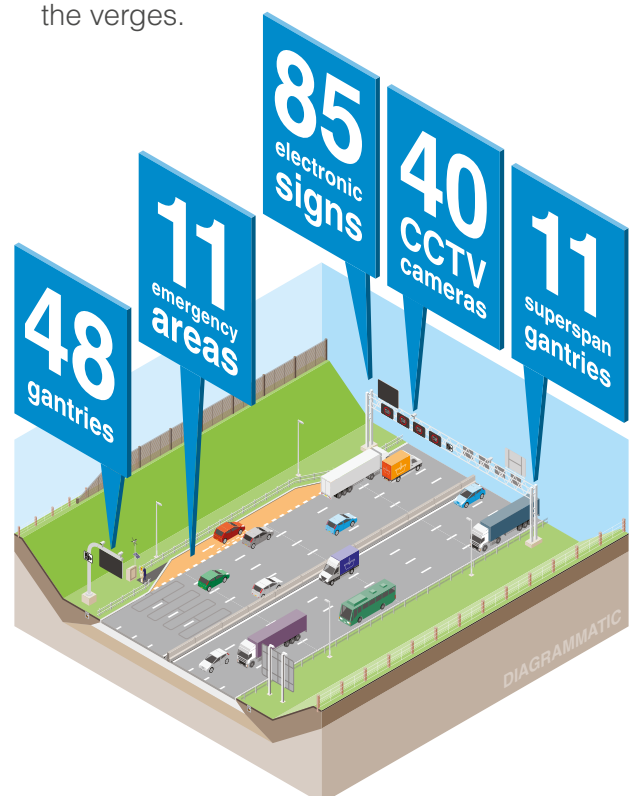
For more information, please visit: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/road-safety/safer-driving-on-motorways/>

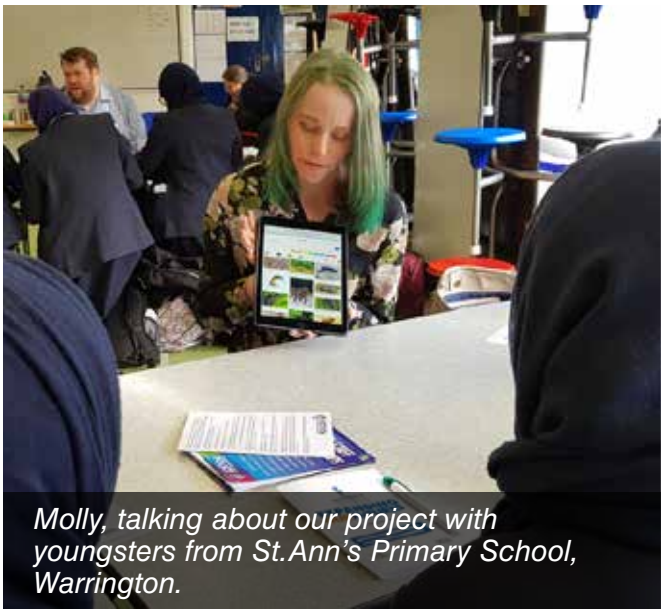


## What we have delivered

Here are some of the upgrades we've delivered along this stretch of the M62:

- Replaced five miles of safety barrier within the central reservation with concrete barrier.
- Installed 59 new gantries; 11 of these are 'super-span' gantries, stretching across the entire width of carriageway.
- Constructed 11 new emergency areas.
- Installed 40 new CCTV cameras to monitor traffic.
- Resurfaced sections of the carriageway.
- Installed a total of 85 new electronic signs.
- Constructed 15km of new steel safety barrier in the verges.





*Molly, talking about our project with youngsters from St. Ann's Primary School, Warrington.*

## Career days

Over the course of the project, we've taken part in over 50 different careers events at local schools and colleges. This gave us the chance to raise awareness on the variety of career opportunities available within the construction and engineering industry. The environmental team has also delivered talks to schools explaining why it's so important to protect the environment - not only now but for generations to come.

## Dealing with mental health and wellbeing

Mental health is often an unseen illness that affects many of those we interact and work with. We often don't realise that our colleagues, family and friends are dealing with these challenges every day. We promoted an environment of support to encourage those who are dealing with mental health to speak out. Our workforce has received regular training courses and briefings on how to help themselves and others who may be suffering. We ensured our mental health first aiders were always on hand to offer advice and support. Our team have had to deal with many incidents on site. Their training helped to prevent any harm coming to the individuals. As a result, various safety awards were presented to our site team for their help and support.



*Tina conquering the new bmJV computer system.*

## Creating jobs in the community

Within the project, we employed nine new members of the team from the local area.

One of our new team members is Tina Hall. Tina said "I was unemployed at the time, so my new role was offered to me when it was most crucial. Working on this project has helped me learn new office skills which has improved my confidence dramatically. I have since enrolled for some night classes to further my learning."

In addition to this, we've delivered over 500 training sessions to the work force as a joint venture along with our supply chain, upskilling the existing and future work force in the industry.


## Planting trees


The grassland next to our roads are home to a variety of animals and creatures. Maintaining these areas is vital to ensure all species continue to thrive. As part of this project, we've planted over 6000 trees. The main species planted are Maple, Oak and Hawthorne. The range of trees planted will provide benefits throughout the area and have been specifically picked for their abundance within the local area.


# Is your vehicle ready for winter?


Whatever the weather we all need to carry out the necessary checks on our vehicles and make sure they're safe and ready. Now we're in the winter months when severe weather is forecast, here is some advice to help you on your journey:



 In snow and ice, drivers should **stick to the main roads** where they can and only travel if really necessary.

 In high winds, there's a particular risk to lorries, caravans and motorbikes, so drivers should **slow down and avoid using exposed sections of road** if possible.

 In heavy rain, drivers should **keep well back** from the vehicle in front, gradually ease off the accelerator if the steering becomes unresponsive, **and slow down** if the rain and spray from vehicles makes it difficult to see and be seen.

 In fog, drivers should **switch on their fog lights** and not use lights on full beam as the fog will reflect the light back. If you really cannot see, you should consider stopping in a safe place until conditions improve.

## Things to pack:

-   Warm clothes
-   Torch
-   Ice scraper
-   Boots
-   Snow shovel
-   Blankets
-   Food
-   Water
-   De-icer
-   Fully charged mobile phone (and car charger)

**Drivers are advised to follow messages on the overhead signs and listen to radio updates.**

## Contact us:

If you'd like any more information about the project, please visit our project webpage at:

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/north-west/m62-junction-10-to-12-smart-motorway/>

If you have any questions, you can contact us on the details below:

Email: [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Phone: 0300 123 500 (Customer Contact Centre)

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