

December 2018 news bulletin

Welcome to our latest monthly information bulletin keeping you informed of the works taking place between junction 3 and junction 12 of the M4 as we upgrade to a smart motorway.

Central reservation works between junctions 8/9 at Maidenhead and 10 at Wokingham are ahead of schedule while our new office and logistics compound near junction 10 is almost complete and due to open in the new year. Preparation work on bridges and structures between junctions 7 at Slough West and 8/9 also begins in December, before full works start in 2019.

We are now also planning our public engagement for next year. In March and April 2019 we will be holding the next set of Public Information Events for areas between junctions 3 at Hayes to 7 ahead of the next phase of the works. Watch this space for information about these in the next few bulletins.



What's happening on the M4 project during December?

Christmas construction closedown

We are pleased to announce that the M4 smart motorway project will shut down from 21st December 2018 to the 7th January 2019. This means that there will not be any closures of the motorway or any construction works, night time or otherwise, over the festive season.

The narrow lanes will remain in place but the only activities during this period will be maintenance and monitoring of traffic and worksites. You will be able to get in touch with the team as normal during this time.



We would like to wish all our customers and neighbours a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy and prosperous New Year in 2019.

M4 overnight closures during December

There are several overnight full closures (usually 22:00 to 05:00) currently planned in December. The best way to keep up to date with the various closures, including slip road closures, is the Traffic England website at: www.trafficengland.com.

Please check your car and your route before you travel.



NB: In the event of poor weather conditions or other issues out of our control, planned works may be postponed at short notice. If works complete ahead of schedule the motorway may reopen early. Signage will be in place to update road users of changes.

Driving safely through our roadworks

We understand that roadworks can be frustrating, but they are an essential element of any road upgrade project. We are committed to minimising disruption during construction as much as possible. The traffic management we have installed on the M4 to allow works to take place comprises three narrow lanes plus signs and signals to keep you informed of future plans. To ensure the safety of road users and our workforce, there is a speed limit of **50mph** through the works.



We use linked Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras to monitor the average speed of traffic over a section of road, or network of roads. It is used in the UK, including on the M4 to control speeds on routes with a collision history and to safety manage vehicle traffic speeds through roadworks where narrow lanes are installed. The **50mph** speed limit through our roadworks is legally enforceable so please do not exceed this.



STAY SAFE · STAY BACK



Don't be a space invader. Driving too close to the vehicle in front is dangerous and can make it impossible to avoid a collision in an emergency. Tailgating was the third most common contributory factor in deaths and serious injuries on UK motorways in 2016. In fact, tailgating is the biggest single bugbear that drivers have about other motorway users. Nearly 9 out of 10 (87%) drivers say they've experienced or witnessed it. Tailgating is also a factor in 1 in 8 casualties on the strategic road network. So, when driving through our roadworks please stay safe, stay back.

What if I break down?

If you can't reach a motorway service area or leave the motorway at the next junction:

1. Put your hazard warning lights on to help other drivers see you and help our control room staff spot you on CCTV. Traffic passing through road works is monitored 24/7.
2. If you are in the left-hand lane and it is safe to do so, exit the vehicle via the left-hand door. Wait behind the barrier if possible. If you cannot exit the vehicle, do not feel it is safe to do so or there is no other place of relative safety, remain in the vehicle. Keep your seat belt on and dial '999'.

Find out more

You can find out more about the plans by visiting our website at: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m4j3to12 or following the South East regional twitter feed [@highwaysSEAST](https://twitter.com/highwaysSEAST)

You can also email us at: M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk, call on 0300 123 5000 or write to: M4 J3-12 Smart Motorway, Highways England, 2 Colmore Square, Birmingham B4 6BN.