



Customer Contact Centre: **0300 123 5000**
www.highway.gov.uk

M23 J8-10 Project Team
Highways England
5 St Philips Place
Colmore Row
Birmingham
B3 2PW

18 May 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: M23 Junctions 8 to 10 Smart Motorway Project

I am writing on behalf of Highways England to inform you of a major project that will be taking place on the M23 motorway, near Gatwick Airport, between junctions 8 Merstham and 10 Copthorne, to convert this section into a smart motorway.

Smart motorways reduce congestion and improve journey time reliability by making the hard shoulder available as a traffic lane, and use variable speed limits to smooth traffic flow. They also add much needed capacity to some of the most congested parts of our network and support economic growth.

This work will be carried out by Kier on behalf of Highways England.

When will works begin?

Initial CCTV works will commence on Monday 14 May which will be followed by the installation of narrow lanes on **Monday 18 June** to allow a safe working space for our road workers. We use narrow lanes so that we can keep the same number of lanes open when we carry out improvement work, while also allowing additional space at the side of the motorway to provide a safer working environment. There will also be a reduced speed limit of 50mph for the duration of the works.

How will this project affect traffic?

Both lane closures and full closures overnight will be necessary during construction. Full closures will take place between 10pm and 4am and there will be clearly signed diversions routes in place. All closures will be subject to change and weather dependent.

All closure information will be advertised on the Highways England project webpage <http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/m23-junctions-8-to-10-smart-motorway/> and Traffic England <http://www.trafficengland.com/> throughout the project.

How will this project affect me?

Construction will inevitably have some impact on the local community, businesses and road users, for example construction noise and vibration or increased traffic on diversion routes.

We will work closely with local authorities and local communities to identify any specific issues and implement measures to address them wherever possible.

The smart motorway design reduces the environmental impact of increasing capacity because additional land is not required, they are also 60% more cost effective compared to traditional widening schemes.

How long will the works take?

Construction for this scheme commenced in March 2018 with vegetation clearing and following initial CCTV works on 14 May, narrow lanes and traffic management will take place from 18 June 2018. This scheme is expected to be completed in March 2020.

How will this project benefit journeys?

On completion, the M23 between junction 8 Merstham and 10 Copthorne will provide four running lanes, increasing capacity, improving journey time reliability and reducing congestion by smoothing traffic flows using variable speed limits.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact the project team at M23J8_10Smart@highwaysengland.co.uk , alternatively you can write to Highways England at
Highways England
5 St Philips Place
Colmore Row
Birmingham
B3 2PW

You can also find further information about the smart motorway project on our website at <http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/m23-junctions-8-to-10-smart-motorway/> where you can sign up for updates or you can call the 24/7 Information line on 07592116175 where you will hear a recorded message about the works taking place.

Yours sincerely

Carolyne Ferguson
Stakeholder and Customer Liaison Manager

M23 SMART MOTORWAYS PROGRAMME