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M40/M42 Interchange Scheme: Safety Upgrade Update - Check Before You Travel

We continue to urge motorists to check before they travel as we continue the important safety upgrade of the central barrier, replacing the existing steel one with a stronger and more efficient concrete barrier. The upgrade – from M42 junctions 3 to 3a, junction 3a to M40 junction 16 – is set to be completed by Spring 2024.

To carry out this work as safely as possible for road users and our construction team, a number of measures are required. We need to close the outer lane, narrow the existing lanes and utilise the existing hard shoulder as a temporary running lane to retain three running lanes in each direction. To offer additional safety and assurance, those lanes are covered by CCTV and operate at 50mph with a free recovery service for vehicles that have broken down.

Following the recent adverse weather, the existing hard shoulder has suffered damage. Additional full carriageway closures will be required also to resurface parts of the hard shoulder to ensure a smooth running lane is maintained. The full carriageway closures will be at night, 9pm - 6am, when traffic is quieter.

We have undergone extensive consultations with councils in Birmingham, Solihull, Warwickshire and Worcestershire to organise diversion routes to steer motorists away from those closures. These include primary diversions to reduce traffic on residential roads. All diversion routes are clearly signposted and checked regularly by our dedicated team of traffic safety officers.

Scheme updates are widely available: on this page, also our dedicated social media pages on [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#), also via our [Customer Contact Centre](#), so please check them before you travel.

Upcoming weeknight (between 9pm and 6am) closures from 16 March to 19 April 2023:

Date	Details	Diversions via
16 & 17 March 2023	M42 northbound J2 to J3A	A441, A4023, A435, A4189, A3400, M40 J16, M42 NB J3A, M40 SB traffic turns at M42 J4 back to J3A
18 & 19 March 2023	M42 southbound J3a to J3	M42 NB, A34, B4146, A4040, Wheelers Lane, A435 to M42 J3
21 to 24 March 2023	M42 J3a northbound to J5	M40 southbound to J16 and back, M42 northbound to J3, A435, Wheelers Lane, A4040, B4146, A34, A41 to M42 J5
27 to 28 March 2023	M42 J3a northbound to J5	M40 southbound to J16 and back, M42 northbound to J3, A435, Wheelers Lane, A4040, B4146, A34, A41 to M42 J5
29 to 31 March 2023	M42 J5 southbound to J3a	A41 off J5, A34, B4146, A4040, Wheelers Lane, A435, M42 J3 & M42 northbound Or A41, A34, B4146, A4040, Wheelers Lane, A435, M42 J3 & M42 southbound to M40

2 April 2023	M42 J5 southbound to J3a	A41 off J5 A34, B4146, A4040, Wheelers Lane, A435, M42 J3 & M42 northbound Or A41, A34, B4146, A4040, Wheelers Lane, A435, M42 J3 & M42 southbound to M40
3 to 5 April 2023	M42 J4 southbound to J3a	A34 off J4, B4146, A4040, Wheelers Lane, A435, M42 J3 and M42 northbound Or A34 off J4, B4146, A4040, Wheelers Lane, A435, M42 J3 and M42 southbound to M40
11 to 14 April 2023	M40 southbound J3A to M40 J15	M42 SB to J3, M42 NB to J6, A45, A46 & M40 SB J15
17 to 19 April	M40 southbound J3A to M40 J15	M42 SB to J3, M42 NB to J6, A45, A46 & M40 SB J15

Please note: these closures may be amended due to poor weather or operational reasons.

Staying Connected

This letter is part of our ongoing effort to update those affected by or interested in the scheme. General updates are available online: at <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/west-midlands/m40-m42-interchange-smart-motorway/>, also from our customer contact centre: by telephone 0300 123 5000 and email to info@nationalhighways.co.uk.

More localised developments are communicated through letters/ emails like this to those on our distribution list. If you are not on it and would like to be, please make contact by email to my below address, call or text 07881 847 401. Please encourage anyone who would like to be added to contact me. If you do not want to receive future updates, please let me know and I will delete you from the database.

Know the Zones around HGVs

In its ongoing drive to improve safety and offer road user assurance, National Highways' Know the Zones campaign continues to address drivers' awareness of heavy goods vehicle 'blind spots' when overtaking. To find out more, watch the [campaign video](#) and visit the [campaign home page](#) where you can find images, a toolkit and news release, or simply click the campaign graphic on the right!



Yours Sincerely,

Veron

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