

M1

Smart Motorways Junctions 32 to 35a



Junctions 32 to 35a

The M1 is a major strategic route connecting people, communities and businesses, carrying over 110,000 vehicles per day between junctions 32 to 35a.



Highways England is opening a new section of Smart Motorway on the M1 between junctions 32 and 35a.



The section between junctions 34 (Meadowhall) and 35a (for the Stocksbridge bypass) will open in December 2016. The section between junctions 32 (for the M18) and 34 (Meadowhall) will open in Spring 2017.



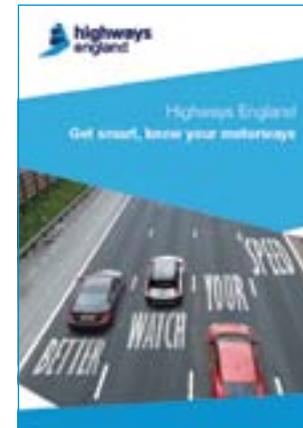
This means there will be:

- An additional lane for traffic increasing capacity to reduce congestion.
- More technology on the road to manage incidents.
- More reliable journeys.

About Smart Motorways

Smart Motorways are a technology driven approach to the use of our motorways, increasing capacity and relieving congestion while maintaining safety. Smart Motorways help make journey times more reliable.

The get smart campaign (below) has been created to help road users understand the different driving environments, types of signs and signals you will see and what to do in the event of a breakdown when travelling on a Smart Motorway.



We are urging drivers to find out about the different types of technology and features used on Smart Motorways.

What Smart Motorways include

Variable mandatory speed limits

- Speed limits will be set to smooth traffic flows.
- The limits will be clearly displayed on overhead gantries and roadside signs.
- Signs will be used to inform drivers of conditions on the network and when variable speed limits are in place.

Emergency roadside telephones

- There is an emergency telephone in each emergency refuge area.
- This will connect you to Highways England's Regional Control Centres and will pinpoint your location.

All lane running

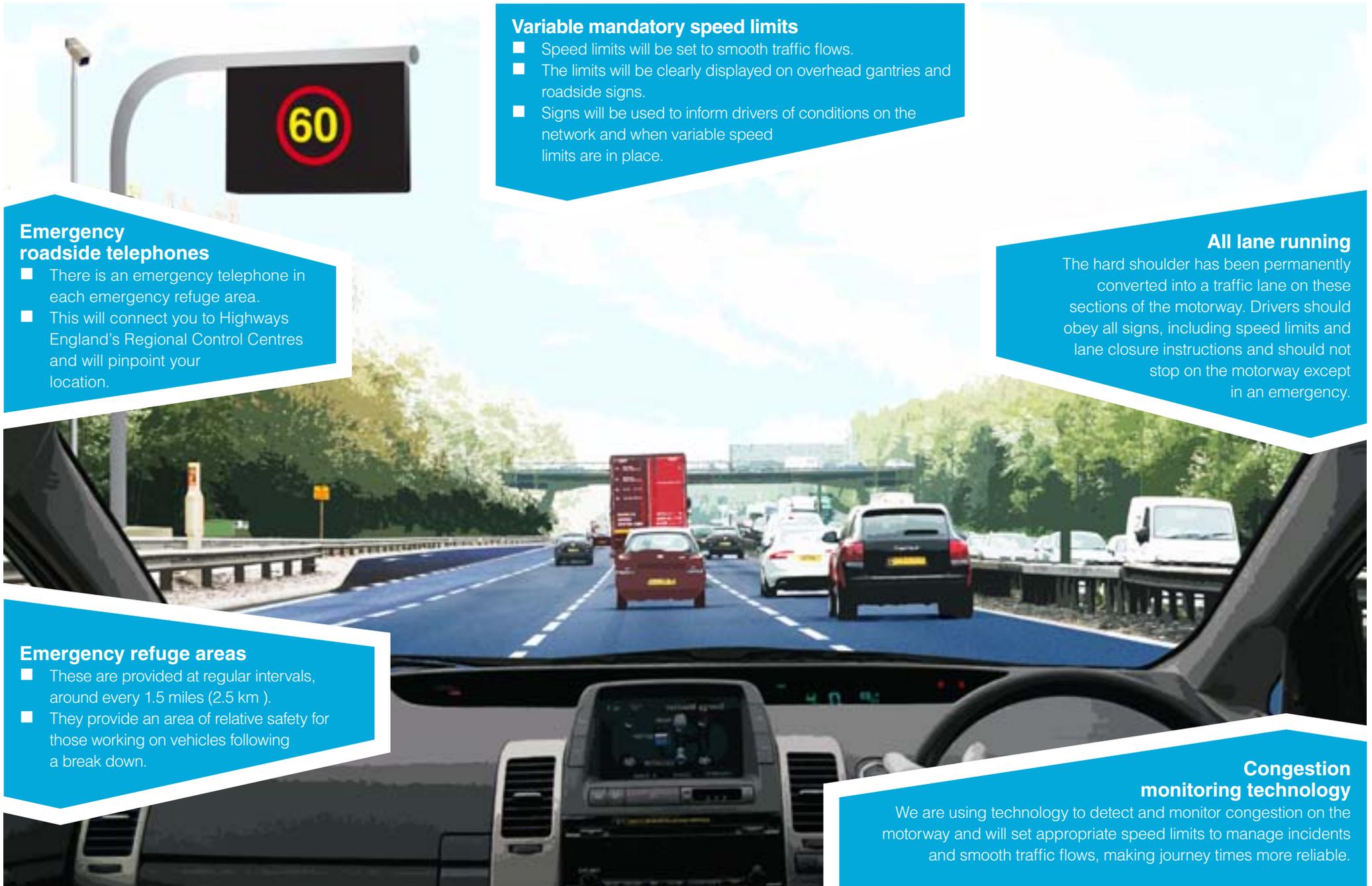
The hard shoulder has been permanently converted into a traffic lane on these sections of the motorway. Drivers should obey all signs, including speed limits and lane closure instructions and should not stop on the motorway except in an emergency.

Emergency refuge areas

- These are provided at regular intervals, around every 1.5 miles (2.5 km).
- They provide an area of relative safety for those working on vehicles following a break down.

Congestion monitoring technology

We are using technology to detect and monitor congestion on the motorway and will set appropriate speed limits to manage incidents and smooth traffic flows, making journey times more reliable.



Safety, red sign and incidents

You will see red  symbols on a gantry sign over the motorway or on a gantry sign at the side of the motorway.

- We use a red  symbol to show that a lane is closed because of an incident or people working on the road.
- Red  also provide access for emergency services.
- Driving in a lane with a red  symbol is dangerous and drivers must NOT use it.

Incident management is controlled by teams in our control centres.



- Incidents will be detected by traffic sensors, CCTV or calls from the public.
- The control centre will set signs to protect incidents and clear an access route for emergency vehicles.
- Control centre staff will monitor traffic conditions throughout each incident, ensure signs are set to manage traffic, and will reopen lanes as soon as it is safe to do so.



What to do if you break down

If you need to stop in an emergency on a Smart Motorway;

- Use an emergency refuge area, motorway service area or leave at the next junction. If that is not possible try and get your vehicle off the carriageway, if it is safe to do so.



If you have to stop in a live lane;

- Put your hazard warning lights on to help other drivers see you and help our control room staff spot you on CCTV.
- 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.



As soon as Highways England is alerted, our Regional Control Centre will close lanes to protect you and your vehicle until help arrives.

If you need help accessing this or any other Highways England information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will help you.

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If you have any enquiries about this publication email info@highwaysengland.co.uk or call **0300 123 5000***.

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