



## April 2021 news bulletin

### Changes to Junctions 8/9 to 12

Our work to upgrade the M4 motorway between junctions 8/9 and 12 is nearing completion. Before opening this stretch, to help drivers feel safer, and be safer, we are going to introduce technology which can detect stopped vehicles.

This technology is an enhancement to the standard safety features on smart motorways. We'll install units on the side of the road to monitor the motorway in both directions.

We'll carry out the work overnight, using lane closures. While we do this work, lane one will remain coned off. We've already raised the speed limit to 60mph.

In the eastern section, we continue to work to upgrade the motorway between junctions 8/9 and 3. A number of weekend closures are planned during 2021. For more information, please visit the project website or follow us on social media.

We are grateful for people's patience while we complete this work.



### What is Stopped Vehicle Detection?

Stopped vehicle detection is an enhancement to the safety features on motorways without a hard shoulder. It is specifically designed to detect a stationary vehicle, typically in 20 seconds, and alert a control room operator who can see the incident on camera, close lanes and dispatch an on-road Highways England traffic officer to attend to the stopped vehicle. This can help reduce the risk of collision between a moving vehicle and a stopped one.

# Weekend closures

On the right are the weekend closures planned up to mid May 2021. Weekend closures are used to complete work that can only be done safely when the whole carriageway or motorway is closed e.g. extensive surfacing, complex work across multiple lanes and switching traffic management layouts. Closures keep drivers and our workers safe while upgrades take place. These closures are subject to change so please always check before you travel.

[www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m4j3to12](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m4j3to12)

Junctions 6-8/9

7-10 May

Junctions 5-6

14-17 May

Junctions 4b-5

21-24 May

Junctions 3-4b

4-7 June

Junctions 4b-5

11-14 June

## M4 J12-13 Tidmarsh Road Bridge

As part of a separate project, repairs and upgrades are underway on the Tidmarsh Road bridge. These repairs will guarantee the safety of the bridge to both road users of the motorway and the local road network.

Work started in February 2021 and is expected to be completed by the end of August 2021. Narrow lanes and a 50mph speed limit are in place on both carriageways to allow us to repair the centre pier. Free breakdown recovery is available.

For more information: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/south-east/m4-tidmarsh-road-pier-refurbishment/>



## Find out more

You can find out more about the project by visiting our website at: [www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m4j3to12](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m4j3to12). You can keep up to date with live traffic information by following the regional twitter feeds [@highwaysEAST](https://twitter.com/highwaysEAST) and [@highwaysSEAST](https://twitter.com/highwaysSEAST) or by visiting [Traffic England](https://www.trafficengland.co.uk). If you have a question that you would like a response to please continue to email us at: [M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk), call 0300 123 5000 or write to: M4 J3-12 Motorway Upgrade, Highways England, 2 Colmore Square, Birmingham B4 6BN.