



Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter for the A12 Margaretting Bypass concrete road reconstruction scheme.

In this issue we share information about our upcoming work and what we're doing to prevent rat running in local communities.

Public information exhibitions

Thank you to everyone who joined us at our public information exhibitions in Margaretting, Ingatestone and Fryerning last month.



Many attendees were happy to hear that the old concrete road is going to be reconstructed and replaced with a new, modern road that will improve safety, create a smoother quieter journey and extend the life of the road to make it fit for the future.

Keeping traffic moving

We want to keep traffic on the A12 while we're working, so we've reduced the section

between junction 13 and 15 from three lanes to two, allowing us to safely work in the closed lane. And then later this summer, we'll be putting in place 'contraflow' roadworks. A contraflow is when the road is shut in one direction and traffic is moved over to drive on the other side of the road to share the remaining road space. This provides us with a clear working area, which means we can work more quickly and safely, reducing the need to close the A12.

Diversion routes

We work closely with Essex County Council and local emergency services to agree a suitable diversion route if we need to close the A12.

During closures, long distance traffic wishing to travel on the A12 either northbound or southbound will instead use the A127 and the A130 before rejoining the A12.

When the A12 is closed, a diversion route for local traffic will also be in place to allow local communities to access the A12. This route is for local traffic only and should not be used by longer distance traffic.

Please visit our scheme website for more information about our diversion routes:

www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A12Margaretting

Get in contact with us

If you'd like more information about this work, then please call the 24/7 National Highways Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000, email info@nationalhighways.co.uk

Preventing rat-running

At our recent public information exhibitions, we received feedback from the local community about some motorists cutting through smaller, local roads - specifically Roman Road (B1002) - through Margaretting and Ingatstone during our road closures.

We ask drivers not to 'rat run' as this can impact on local communities. Not only do these roads have lower speed restrictions, they also aren't meant for large vehicles or high volumes of traffic, and often have weight restrictions in place. It can also lead to more congestion, increasing the risk of accidents for both motorists and pedestrians.

Please stick to the agreed diversion route and help keep everybody safe. If motorists do need to use Roman Road to reach their destination, we kindly ask that they adhere to the speed limit set by the local council, as this is a residential area.

We're committed to protecting the local roads and communities from the dangers of rat running and we'll be implementing a number of tactics to help encourage good driver behaviour. This will include:

- an information campaign - which includes issuing publicity directly to key stakeholder groups, local news outlets and on social media - about the dangers of rat running and reminding people to stick to the official diversion route
- a wide-reaching signing strategy, using traditional and electronic diversion signs to advise A12 through traffic to 'follow diversion not Sat-Nav'

**Follow diversion
Not Sat-Nav**

- putting signs up at either end of the Roman Road (B1002), stating that the B1002 should be used for 'Local traffic only'
- and placing signs saying 'Residential area - 20mph' at suitable locations to help reinforce the speed limit on the B1002.

We're also getting in touch with local councillors who have raised concerns about rat-running to work collaboratively on this issue, and we'll be gathering evidence through the use of speed camera vans on key dates, such as the forthcoming weekend closure, to share with Essex County Council who look after the B1002, and the local Road Traffic Police.



In this way, we hope to reduce the problem of speeding and large vehicles along the local roads during our construction phase, while also helping to provide evidence for potential longer-term solutions. This could help mitigate the issue even beyond the completion of our project.

SMS alert service

We've set up a free SMS alerts service to warn road users, via text message, of any incidents that occur within our roadworks on the A12 during peak travel times.

You can sign up for this service by emailing 'A12 Margaretting Bypass SMS service' and your mobile number to:

ConcreteRoadsEssex@nationalhighways.co.uk

Tell us what you think

We'd like to hear what you think about the information we send to you. Please spend a few minutes completing our online questionnaire, which can access by scanning this QR code:



Alternatively, you can also complete the questionnaire at the

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