

M2 junction 5 improvements

Site diary – August 2023

August saw us make great progress on the scheme, with the installation of our first bridge beams, extensive landscaping, and the laying of lots of tarmac.

Over two days in mid-August we installed 18 pre-cast concrete beams to the south of Stockbury roundabout. They will support the road deck on the southside of the new flyover.

These bespoke beams were manufactured in Ireland and consisted of two giant 56-tonne edge beams and 16, 20-tonne central beams.

To lift the beams into place, a 500-tonne mobile crane was brought in. Sitting next to the roundabout, the gigantic crane towered above the Stockbury interchange. And we were able to complete this activity while keeping the roads open.



For a week after the bridge beam lift, we had a smaller mobile crane on site to install the concrete panels that fit between the beams.

We've now started on the preparation works for the flyover bridge on the north side of the roundabout. This has included preparing the area where the bridge will sit, and you'll soon see the new concrete supports starting to be built. We're currently on track to install the first beams for this side of the flyover in mid-October.



If you've travelled on the A249 recently, you may have noticed lots of activity behind our flyover walls to the south of the roundabout. We've been working hard to get the new northbound A249, and dedicated link between A249 and the M2 coastbound ready for traffic.

After the weekend closure of the northbound carriageway, the new slip road will open.

The old Maidstone Road has also been removed, ready for the construction of the new A249 southbound link to the M2 London-bound.

You may have also wondered why have all the verges blue? Don't worry, we're not showing allegiance to any sports teams, this is the process called hydroseeding. A specialist piece of equipment, similar to a large powerful hose, is used to spread a liquid containing grass seed, water, mulch and fertiliser. This is a quick and efficient way of planting the land around the scheme, and it will soon turn from blue to green.



There are going to be lots of changes on the scheme over the next few months, for the most up to date news please keep an eye on our project website.

You can find more information on our project website: nationalhighways.co.uk/M2-j5, by emailing the team on m2j5@nationalhighways.co.uk or calling our contact centre: 0300 123 5000, who will pass your details to the team.

We also run a monthly drop-in clinic on the second Wednesday of each month at Oad Street Food & Crafts centre, so come along and meet the team.