

M20

Upgrade to smart motorway

Junctions 3 to 5



Junctions 3 to 5

We are improving the busy 10.5km km (6.5 mile) stretch of the M20 between Junction 3 near West Malling and Junction 5 near Aylesford by upgrading it to an 'all lane running' (ALR) smart motorway.



Work on the scheme is scheduled to begin in Spring 2018. It will be open early in 2020.

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.

Exhibition venues

Ryarsh Village Hall
Birling Road
Ryarsh, Kent
ME19 5LS

- Friday 15 September, 3pm – 9pm

Trottscliffe Village Hall
Church Lane
Trottscliffe, Kent
ME19 5EB

- Saturday 16 September, 10am – 5pm

Public information exhibitions

You can find out more about the plans for junctions 3 to 5 at these exhibitions. Highways England and design and construction consultants will be available to discuss the scheme and answer your questions.


Community Hall
Capel Morris Centre
Hall Road
Royal British Legion Village
Aylesford
Kent
ME20 7NL

- Friday 22 September, 3pm – 9pm
- Saturday 23 September, 10am – 5pm

It is important for drivers to understand the different types of technology and features used on smart motorways

Where will this section of smart motorway be?

Emergency areas

There will be 5 Emergency Areas (EAs) within the M20 junction 3 to 5 smart motorway scheme. Motorway Service Areas and hard shoulders on slip roads can also be used. EAs are positioned approximately where shown with this symbol .

All lane running

This scheme will have no hard shoulder between junctions 3 and 5. There will be four lanes permanently open for use by road users. The EAs will be available.

Exhibition venue locations

Our exhibitions are being held in Ryarsh, Trottiscliffe and Aylesford in Kent.



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The map shows where the new section of smart motorway will be.

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 will be an emergency telephone in each EA.
- This will connect you to Highways England's Regional Control Centres and will pinpoint your location.

Emergency areas

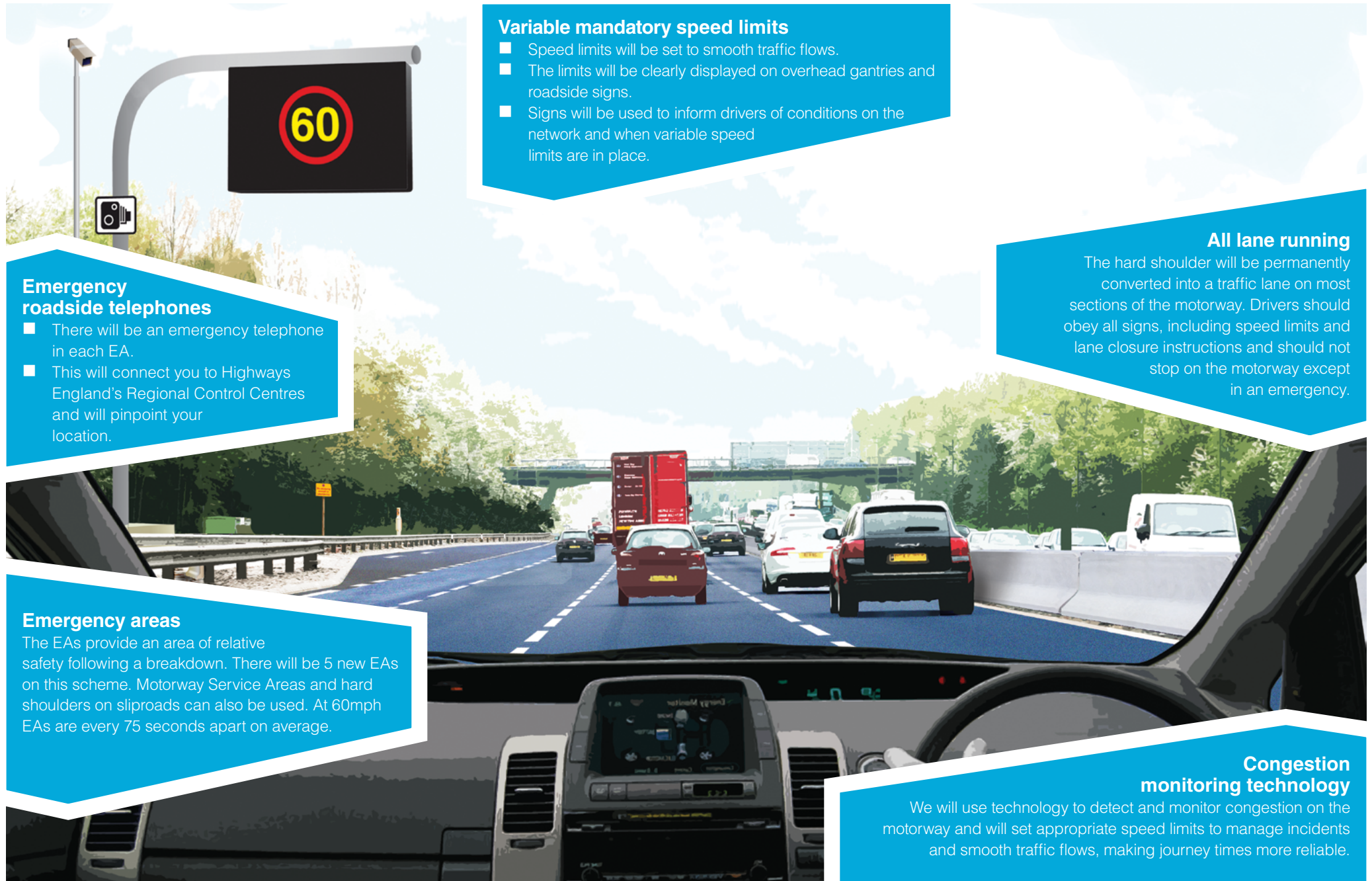
The EAs provide an area of relative safety following a breakdown. There will be 5 new EAs on this scheme. Motorway Service Areas and hard shoulders on sliproads can also be used. At 60mph EAs are every 75 seconds apart on average.

All lane running


The hard shoulder will be permanently converted into a traffic lane on most 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.




Congestion monitoring technology

We will use 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 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 area, motorway service area or leave at the next junction. If that is not possible, try to 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

Our contact details

We have several ways you can contact us to discuss the M20 junctions 3 to 5 smart motorway scheme.

Phone:

0300 123 5000

Email:

M20.J3-5Smart@highwaysengland.co.uk

Mailing Address:

M20 J3 to 5 Project Team

Highways England

The Cube

199 Wharfside Street

Birmingham

B1 1RN

Website:

<http://roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/m20-junctions-3-to-5-smart-motorway/>

Space for your notes



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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