

M27 Junction 4 -11 Smart Motorway Programme e-Bulletin – 20 May 2019

Smart Motorways Programme M27 Junctions 4 to 11: Update – North Fareham Footbridge Demolition

What's happening?

As we continue to upgrade the M27 between junctions 4 and 11 to smart motorway standard, we will need to demolish and replace the North Fareham footbridge, which is situated between junctions 10 and 11 of the M27. The demolition will require a full closure of the M27 between junctions 9 and 11 (including access off and onto the M27 at junction 10) during this time.

We're planning on demolishing the footbridge using machines known as 'concrete munchers', which will be situated on the M27 carriageway. Once the footbridge has been 'munched', and the rubble has been removed, we'll be able to re-open the motorway again.

The demolition of the footbridge will be noisy, and we apologise in advance for any disturbance caused. Where possible, we will mitigate the disturbance – for example, using lower noise techniques, such as concrete munchers, when we demolish the footbridge.

We'll also be utilising hydraulic suppression on both sides of the motorway during the footbridge demolition, which encapsulates dust and helps to prevent pollutants from being blown into the air.

Please visit YouTube, and type in 'A14 Swavesey bridge demolition' to view a video of the A14 Swavesey Bridge demolition, which took place in November 2018. The demolition of the North Fareham Footbridge will be similar to this operation, although it will be on a smaller scale, as we only require the use of two excavators.

Why is it happening?

The current footbridge is not compatible with our proposal to upgrade the M27 to smart motorway standard, which includes converting the hard shoulder on both the eastbound, and westbound carriageways, into a new live lane.

The curvature of the underside of the footbridge currently doesn't affect the hard shoulder on both the eastbound and westbound carriageway of the M27. However, when the smart motorway is complete, those hard shoulders will become live lanes. As a result, any lorries, or other tall vehicles that travel along the new live lanes will have a reduced height between them and the bottom of the footbridge, which goes against safety standards. Because of this, a solution is needed to ensure the safety of all travelling vehicles along the M27, once the smart motorway upgrade is complete.

When will it take place?

The demolition will require a full closure of the M27 between junctions 9 and 11 (including access off and onto the M27 at junction 10), from Friday 14 June at 9.00pm, through until Saturday 15 June 2019 at 9.00pm.

The demolition is taking place overnight, as we need to demolish the footbridge as quickly, and safely as possible. There is less traffic at night, which allows us to close the motorway with reduced impact for the travelling public, and we need to work through the night in order to allow us to re-open the motorway, as soon as the demolition is complete.



Pre-agreed diversion routes will be in place during the closure. Please find an explanation of those diversion routes at the end of this letter. Please note, a map of the diversion routes will be published on our website in the next few days.

The closure dates may be subject to change owing to operational requirements, or adverse weather conditions. Therefore, we would advise road users to plan their journeys in advance. Road users can keep up to date by visiting our Traffic England website: www.trafficengland.com or by following our Twitter feed: @HighwaysSEAST.

When will the footbridge be replaced, and what will the new footbridge look like?

Our current intention is to install a new, combination concrete and prefabricated steelwork footbridge, and we shall endeavour to improve pedestrian and cyclist access. The proposed new bridge will also include a number of features for equestrian use, such as:

- Recycled rubber tyre tiles
- Equestrian parapet (1.8m high)
- Improved access ramps

The installation of the replacement footbridge will not take place for at least 6 months after the original footbridge is demolished. We are currently working to identify the most suitable date for this to take place, and look forward to sending you our final proposals as soon as they are agreed.

What's happening to the bridleway / public right of way during this time?

The existing bridleway will need to be closed until the new footbridge is installed.

We investigated the possibility of diverting the public right of way to the North Wallington / Spurlings Road underpass, and installing dismount blocks there to allow horse riders dismount, and safely lead their horses under the M27. Unfortunately this is not possible, as the underpass is not suitable for riders to walk their horses through, without substantial works being undertaken first to improve the headroom height.

How you can contact us

If you have any queries about our work or want to know more, then please email M27J4-11SmartMotorway@highwaysengland.co.uk or call us on 0300 123 5000

For more information on the M27 Junction 4 to 11 Smart Motorway scheme, please visit the scheme webpage at www.highwaysengland.co.uk/m27-j4-11-smart-motorway

Yours faithfully,



Mike Webster, Project Manager



M27 Closure Between Junction 9 and 11 Diversion Route

Westbound 11 to 9

- Please follow the diversion signs at junction 11 leading you onto the A27 towards Gosport
- Then follow the A27 towards Titchfield
- At the Station roundabout, take the first exit and continue along the A27, heading towards Titchfield
- At the Titchfield gyratory, stay on the A27 heading towards Southampton (M27), Bursledon, Sarisbury
- At the St Margret's roundabout, stay on the A27 heading towards Southampton (M27)
- At the Segensworth roundabout, stay on the A27 heading towards Southampton (M27)
- Re-join the M27 westbound at junction 9

Eastbound Junction 9 to 11

- Please follow the diversion signs at junction 9 leading you onto the A27 towards Segensworth
- At the Segensworth roundabout, stay on the A27 heading towards Fareham
- At the St Margaret's roundabout, stay on the A27 heading towards Portsmouth (M27) and Fareham
- At the Titchfield gyratory, stay on the A27 heading towards Portsmouth (M27) and Fareham
- At the Station roundabout, take the third exit and continue on the A27 heading towards Portsmouth (M27)
- At the Quay Street roundabout, take the third exit and continue on the A27 heading towards Portsmouth (M27)
- Re-join the M27 eastbound at junction 11

Eastbound Junction 10 to 11

- Please follow the diversion signs at junction 10 leading you onto the A32 towards Fareham Town Centre
- At the Wickham Road roundabout, take the first exit and continue on the 32 heading towards Portchester
- At the Broadcut roundabout, stay on the A32 heading towards Portsmouth (M27) and Fareham
- At the Delme roundabout, take the second exit heading towards Portsmouth (M27)
- Re-join the M27 eastbound at junction 11