

Parish Bulletin

February 2012

Traffic Management – the use of cones and signs to provide lane and speed restrictions within the areas we need to work.

M4 and Almondsbury Interchange

- The Installation of narrow lanes on the M4 is now complete.
- 30th January until the 4th February - Installation of the final sections of temporary safety barrier on the Eastbound carriageway. (Overnight)
- 5th February until the 11th February - Surfacing work will be completed on the Eastbound and Westbound carriageways * **Completed ahead of schedule. No longer taking place.**

To undertake these night works there will be appropriate Eastbound/Westbound lane 1&2 closures along the M4 between junction 19 and 20. Whilst these lane closures are in place, traffic travelling Southbound on the M5 attempting to join the M4, East or West, will follow a short diversion to junction 16 of the M5, u-turn and then simply join the M4 from the other direction.

- Further lane and hard shoulder closures will be carried out within the Almondsbury Interchange throughout February; these will be for the earthworks as detailed below.

The narrow lanes and temporary safety barrier will remain in place until construction is complete on the M4 in late 2012. To ensure the safety of our workforce, a speed limit of 50 mph will be in place through the works area. Avon and Somerset Police will enforce the 50mph speed limits with the use of average speed cameras installed throughout our works.

M5

- The presence of Traffic Management on the M5 carriageway will reduce slightly during February as the focus of work shifts to the M4 and the slip roads within the Almondsbury Interchange. There will be some night time lane closures and day time hard shoulder closures on the M5 throughout February for various smaller works.

Construction Activities

Earthworks

From the 6th February we will commence earthworks on the Eastbound and Westbound verges of the M4 carriageway and within the Almondsbury Interchange. These works will be carried out during the day and are expected to last until the end of February.

M4

Works will include

- The stripping of small areas of topsoil
- Digging of drainage channels
- Earthworks for foundations within the motorway verge

These works will primarily be to prepare the verges for the construction of Emergency Refuge Areas (ERA). The ERAs will be at regular intervals along the M4 and M5 to provide a safe area for broken down vehicles.

Almondsbury Interchange

- Work within the Interchange will include the construction of platforms which will eventually support three new cross carriageway gantries. Preparation of areas to allow cabling to be passed beneath the carriageway (directional drilling) will also be carried out in February.

Vegetation clearance

- All of the bulk vegetation clearance on the verges of the M4 and M5 will be complete by the 3rd of February.
- Some sections of vegetation on the verges of the M5 cannot be cleared until the Great Crested Newt habitats that are present have been safely relocated.

Red and white posts (GS6)

- The location of overhead power lines, services and structures need to be clearly marked on site. The most noticeable of these identification measures will be the erection of red and white striped height restriction gates placed before and after overhead cabling. On completion of works these will be removed

For further information

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