

Press release: Planned roadworks in East Midlands: weekly summary for Monday 27 February to Sunday 3 March 2017

The following summary of planned new and ongoing road improvements over the coming week is correct as of 24 February but could be subject to change due to weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances. All our improvement work is carried out with the aim of causing as little disruption as possible.

M1 junction 28 to 35a, Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire/Yorkshire: smart motorway

There are various restrictions in place on the M1 between junctions 28 and 35a to allow for the construction of the smart motorway. These include lane closures, speed restrictions, hard shoulder running and overnight slip road or carriageway closures.

Monday 27 February

The northbound entry and exit slip at Tibshelf services, southbound exit slip at junction 28, the northbound entry slip at junction 30, the southbound entry slip road at junction 34 and the southbound exit slip road at junction 33 will all be closed overnight from 8pm until 6am.

Tuesday 28 February

The northbound entry and exit slip at Tibshelf services, the southbound entry and exit slip at junction 28, the southbound exit slip at junction 33 and the entry slip road at junction 34 will be closed overnight from 8pm until 6am.

Wednesday 1 March

The northbound entry and exit slip at Tibshelf services, the entry and exit slip at junction 28, the southbound entry slip road at junction 34 and the southbound exit slip road at junction 33 will all be closed overnight from 8pm until 6am.

Thursday 2 March:

The southbound entry slip at junction 28, the northbound exit slip at junction 32, the entry slip at junction 34 and the southbound exit slip road at junction 33 will all be closed overnight from 8pm until 6am.

On Friday 3 March the northbound exit slip at junction 28, the southbound

entry and exit slip road at Tibshelf services, the entry slip at junction 34 and the southbound exit slip road at junction 33 will all be closed overnight from 8pm until 6am.

Saturday 4 March

The northbound up and over at junction 33, the southbound entry slip at junction 34 and the exit slip road at junction 33 will all be closed overnight from 8pm until 6am.

Sunday 5 March

The M18 southbound to M1 northbound link road and the southbound entry slip road at junction 34 will all be closed overnight from 8pm until 6am.

M1 junction 19 to 16, Northamptonshire: smart motorway

Monday 27 February

There will be a full southbound carriageway closure between junction 18 to 16, the entry slip road at junction 18, the entry and exit slip road at Watford Gap services and the exit slip at junction 16 will all be closed overnight from 9pm to 6am. There will also be lane closures on the northbound side.

Tuesday 28 February

There will be a full carriageway closure between junction 16 to 18, the entry slip road at junction 16, the entry and exit slip roads at Watford Gap services and the exit slip road at junction 18 will all be closed overnight from 9pm to 6am. There will also be lane closures on the southbound side.

Wednesday 1 March

There will be a full northbound carriageway closure on the northbound side, the entry slip road at junction 16, the entry and exit slip road at Watford Gap services and the exit slip road at junction 18 will all be closed overnight from 9pm to 6am. There will also be lane closures on the southbound side.

Thursday 2 March

There will be a full northbound carriageway closure on the northbound side, the entry slip road at junction 16, the entry and exit slip road at Watford Gap services and the exit slip road at junction 18 will all be closed overnight from 9pm to 6am. There will also be lane closures on the southbound side.

Friday 3 March

There will be lane closures on the northbound and southbound carriageway between junctions 18 and 16.

General enquiries

Members of the public should contact the Highways England customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.

Media enquiries

Journalists should contact the Highways England press office on 0844 693 1448 and use the menu to speak to the most appropriate press officer.

[Press release: Planned road works in West Midlands: weekly summary for Monday 27 February to Sunday 5 March 2017](#)

The following summary of planned new and ongoing road improvements over the coming week is correct as of 24 February 2017 but could be subject to change due to weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances. All our improvement work is carried out with the aim of causing as little disruption as possible.

A38 – Claymills to Wood End lane: carriageway repairs

The southbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A38 – Alrewas to Toyota: carriageway repairs

The northbound carriageway and all associated slip roads will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A449 – Gailey roundabout to Brewood road, carriageway repairs

The northbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A449 – Gailey roundabout to Brewood road, carriageway repairs

The southbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A45/A46 Tollbar roundabout underpass: street lighting repairs

The eastbound carriageway will be closed overnight for one night from 8pm on 2 March until 6am the following morning (3 March). A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A46 – Salford Priors to Oversley: carriageway repairs

The northbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A5 – Gledrid roundabout and all approaches: carriageway resurfacing

The roundabout and all approaches will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A5 – Wall Island to Muckley Corner: carriageway resurfacing

The westbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 7pm and 6.30am from 27 February until 4 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A50 – Meir Tunnel to Stanley Matthews Way: carriageway repairs

The westbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A50 – Heron Cross to Stanley Matthews Interchange Burton Road entry slip: carriageway repairs

The westbound carriageway will be fully closed from 6am 8 February ongoing until 8pm on 7 July. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A50 – Foley Road exit slip road to Trentham road: carriageway repairs

The eastbound carriageway and all associated slip roads will be closed overnight for one night from 8pm on 27 February until 6am the following morning (28 February). A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A50 – Heron Cross exit slip road to Meir Tunnel: carriageway repairs

The eastbound carriageway and all associated slip roads will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from 27 February to 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A500 – Talke Island including exit slip roads and approaches: carriageway repairs (SRW: 3852911)

The eastside of the gyratory including all associated slip roads and approaches will be fully closed from midnight on 11 January until midnight on 30 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A500 – Talke junction: carriageway repairs

The southbound carriageway will be closed overnight for one night from 8pm on 28 February until 6am the following morning (1 March). A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

A500 – Talke junction: carriageway repairs

The northbound carriageway will be closed overnight for one night from 8pm on 1 March until 6am the following morning (2 March). A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M40 – junction 3a M42 to M40 link road: carriageway works

The southbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 10pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M40 – junction 15 entry slip road: carriageway works

The northbound entry slip road will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M40 – junction 16 entry slip road: carriageway work

The Northbound Entry Slip Road will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27th February until 5th March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted

M40 – junction 15 to M42 junction 3a: carriageway works

The northbound carriageway and associated slip roads will be closed overnight between 10pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M42 – junction 5 exit slip road: carriageway work

The northbound exit slip road will be closed overnight between 10pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M42 – M6 junction 4a to M42: carriageway works

The southbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 10pm and 5am from 27 February until 4 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M42 – junction 3a to junction 5 including junction 4 entry slip: carriageway works

The northbound carriageway including junction 4 entry slip road will be closed overnight between 10pm and 6am from 27 February until 3 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M42 – junction 5 entry slip to junction 6: carriageway works

The northbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 10pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M42 – junction 6 exit slip road: carriageway work

The northbound exit slip road will be closed overnight between 10pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M42 – junction 1 exit and entry slip road: carriageway work

The entry slip and exit slip roads will be closed overnight in both directions between 9pm and 5.30am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M42 – junction 4 exit slip road: carriageway work

The southbound exit road will be closed overnight from 9pm 2 March until 6am the following morning (3 March). A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M42 – M6 junction 4a southbound to M42 junction 8 northbound: carriageway work

The link will be closed overnight between 10pm and 6am from 2 March until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M5 – junction 4a to junction 5: carriageway works

The southbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am on 27, 28, 1, 2 and 3 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M5 – junction 5 to junction 4a northbound: carriageway works

The carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am on 27, 28, 1, 2 and 3 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M5 – junction 6 to junction 5: carriageway works

The northbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am on 27, 28, 1, 2 and 3 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M5 – junction 5 to junction 6: carriageway works

The southbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am on 27 and 28 February. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M54 – junction 5 to junction 6: carriageway repairs

The westbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M54 – Junction 6 entry slip road: carriageway repairs

The westbound entry slip road carriageway will be closed overnight between 8pm and 6am from 3 March until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 10 to junction 7 including junction 10 and 9 entry slip roads and link from M5: carriageway works

The southbound carriageway and associated slip roads will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 11 entry slip road to junction 10 exit including M54 junction 1 entry slip road: carriageway works

The southbound carriageway and associated slip roads will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 7 to junction 10 including junction 9 entry slip and link from M5 northbound: carriageway works

The northbound carriageway and associated slip roads will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 10 entry slip road to junction 11 exit slip road: carriageway works

The northbound carriageway and associated slip roads will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – M5 to M6 junction 8 northbound (western arm): carriageway works

The northbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 9 exit slip road: carriageway works

The northbound exit slip road will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 8 to M5 southbound (western arm):

carriageway works

The southbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 9 entry slip road: carriageway works

The northbound entry slip road will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27 February until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 9 entry slip road: carriageway works

The southbound Entry Slip Road will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 27th February until 5th March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 5 to junction 6: carriageway works

The northbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 10pm and 6am from 27 February until 4 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 12 entry slip road: carriageway works

The southbound entry slip road will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 28 February until 2 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 12 to junction 11: carriageway works

The southbound entry slip road will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 28 February until 2 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 16 to junction 15: carriageway works

The southbound entry slip road will be closed overnight between 9pm and 6am from 2 March until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 7 entry slip road: carriageway works

The northbound entry slip road will be closed overnight between 9pm and 9am from 3 March until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

M6 – junction 7 to junction 8: carriageway works

The northbound carriageway will be closed overnight between 9pm and 9am from 3 March until 5 March. A diversion route will be clearly signposted.

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[News story: New digital framework attracts thousands of small and medium-sized businesses](#)

The framework, which launches today (24 February 2017), has attracted 2,018 suppliers in total, with 94% of them small and medium-sized enterprises.

Digital Outcomes and Specialists 2 helps the public sector to find suppliers that can provide teams or specialists to help deliver digital projects.

How it will work

The framework replaces Digital Outcomes and Specialists 1, and has over 800 more suppliers signed up.

Digital Outcomes and Specialists 2 is split into four lots; digital outcomes, digital specialists, user research studios and user research participants.

The framework goes live today for 12 months, with a 12 month extension option.

How it meets government priorities

The government has a target of spending £1 in every £3 with small businesses by 2020.

This is equivalent to around £15 billion worth of purchases each year; a big opportunity for small businesses.

For more information about Digital Outcomes and Specialists 2, visit the Digital Marketplace at www.gov.uk/digital-marketplace.

Press release: Flood protection options being presented to Yate and Chipping Sodbury

The Environment Agency is holding a public consultation in Chipping Sodbury to explain how it plans to reduce flood risk to local homes and businesses.

The Environment Agency is keen for local people to share their views on its proposals and any experiences they have of local flooding.

The consultation will take place at the Town Hall on 1 March 2017 between 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

Fiona Geddes of the Environment Agency said:

This event is an ideal opportunity for people to study the flood alleviation options. There will be officers from the Environment Agency and South Gloucestershire Council on hand to explain the thinking behind each option and the steps people can take to prepare themselves against flooding.

We'd really like to hear the views of local residents and look forward to sharing ideas on how best to reduce flood risk in Yate and Chipping Sodbury.

The last major floods in Yate and Chipping Sodbury occurred in 1968. The Environment Agency estimates up to 100 homes and 40 businesses could be at risk of flooding from the River Frome and its tributaries. There's a 1 per cent chance of serious flooding each year. The risk is expected to increase as a result of higher river flows and climate change.

Flood warnings are issued to low-lying properties in both communities. In Yate these include:

- Bennetts Court
- Station Road
- Swan Field
- Treeleaze
- Orchard Close
- Milton Road
- Tyndale Avenue
- Celestine Road
- Blenheim Drive
- Whitley Close

In Chipping Sodbury the part of the town most at risk is the Blanchards Farm area.

Flooding occurs because the River Frome has insufficient capacity. Improvements have been made over the years alongside new developments in the river corridor, but these haven't kept pace with the growing flood risk. Surface water run-off from heavy rain has added to the flooding problem.

The Environment Agency has carried out a preliminary study that identifies 3 options: flood storage, river channel widening and property flood-proofing. As well as exploring each option separately, a combination of all 3 is also under consideration. This final, most expensive, combined option would increase the cost of the scheme to approximately £4 million. The cost of the individual options are £3.7 million, £300,000 and £100,000 respectively.

An earlier option that involved the construction of 1.8km of flood walls was rejected on the grounds of being too expensive (£10 million). It also raised sustainability concerns.

For a successful scheme to go ahead, any benefits must outweigh the costs. In addition to reducing flood risk to a significant number of homes and businesses, the final scheme should reduce flooding on 3 local roads (A432, B4569 and B4060) and prevent flood damages estimated at £10 million.

Flood storage schemes are an effective way of providing flood alleviation. The Environment Agency has built several in recent years. Examples include Tubbs Bottom, that reduces flood risk downstream of Yate and Bruton in Somerset. Schemes are also being considered for Taunton and Wrington near Bristol.

The Yate and Chipping Sodbury scheme is still in its early stages. The Environment Agency must carry out a more detailed study before selecting a preferred option. It is hoped a scheme could be in place by 2021, but that will depend on the Environment Agency securing the necessary funding from the Government and other sources.

[News story: SJFHQ undertake valuable maritime familiarisation visit to HMNB Devonport](#)

Standing Joint Force Headquarters (SJFHQ) was established under the last Strategic Defence and Security Review and is a new deployable, operational 2* Joint Headquarters intended to command Joint forces in response to a crises or contingency worldwide.

SJFHQ personnel come from all 3 services and the purpose of the visit to [HMNB Devonport](#) was to widen the experience of SJFHQ staff from the [British Army](#) and the [Royal Air Force](#) in particular, so they can better appreciate the

significant contribution the navy can play in any future operations. This will help them to plan more effectively and understand how the Royal Navy can best be utilised in SJFHQ led Joint operations.



Lt Col James Fuller, RM, briefs SJFHQ personnel on the capabilities of HMS Bulwark. Crown Copyright/MOD 2017. All rights reserved

The team spent 2 days at HMNB Devonport, where they received briefs on a range of topics, from amphibious operations to naval logistics and the new [Type 26 Global Combat Ship](#). They toured the assault ship [HMS Bulwark](#) and travelled in Offshore Raiding Craft for a coxswain demonstration from [1 Assault Group Royal Marines](#). After a briefing from the Navy's Flag Officer Sea Training (FOST) team, the SJFHQ team then split into groups to visit 2 vessels currently undergoing FOST training and assessments. The first group travelled to [HMS Duncan](#) and watched her crew on an air assault exercise, while the second watched a damage control exercise on Norwegian frigate HNOMS Otto Sverdrup.



SJFHQ personnel ready to experience a ride on Offshore Raiding Craft, courtesy of 1 Assault Group Royal Marines. Crown Copyright/MOD 2017. All rights reserved

Lt Col Nick Morton RA, SJFHQ, said:

As a Joint Headquarters, it's essential that we all have a good understanding of the capabilities and specialisms of each of the 3 branches of the armed forces, not just our own. Visiting Devonport has really helped me to develop and embed my knowledge of the Royal Navy and the reality of how it operates.

SJFHQ also has embedded staff officers from the UK's partner nations in the Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF), the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, and the Anglo-French Combined Joint Expeditionary Force, several of whom took part in the visit. The visit to HNOMS Otto Sverdrup therefore also provided an opportunity to see a JEF partner nation in action.

Captain Peter Olive RN, Assistant Chief of Staff (Operate Branch), SJFHQ said:

Our visit was enormously valuable to the team, especially those from the army and RAF. It has really brought the Royal Navy to life for the staff and helped them to understand more about the limitations and difficulties of maritime operations, as well as the

enormous benefits maritime power can provide to any future deployments.

Everyone here at HMNB Devonport and on HMS Bulwark, HMS Duncan and HNOMS Otto Sverdrup has been extremely helpful and accommodating, so thank you to them.

The visit followed an earlier familiarisation visit to the Army's Land Warfare Centre and plans are underway for a similar event with the RAF.