

# **Smart Motorways Programme**

## **M4 Junction 3-12 Smart Motorway**

### **Statutory Instrument Consultation Document**

**Proposed amendment to the M4 Motorway (Hillingdon  
and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations 2002**

**J4-3 Eastbound**

# Summary of the consultation

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<b>Topic of this consultation</b>	Proposed amendment to the M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations 2002.
<b>Scope of this consultation</b>	<p>We are keen to have your comments on the proposed amendment to the M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations 2002. We specifically would like to hear how the proposal could affect you, your organisation or those you represent.</p> <p>It is important to note that whilst this is a consequence of the introduction of the M4 J3-12 smart motorway scheme this is not a consultation on the actual policy of using variable mandatory speed limits (VMSL). We are seeking your views on the proposal as set out within this document.</p>
<b>Geographical scope</b>	The section covered by this consultation will be from J4 to J3 eastbound on the M4 motorway.

## General Information

<b>To</b>	The consultation is aimed at any affected stakeholder groups or individuals.
<b>Body/bodies responsible for the consultation</b>	Highways England
<b>Duration</b>	The consultation will last for a period of 4 weeks commencing on 15 July 2019. The consultation will close on 14 August 2019. Please ensure responses arrive no later than the closing date.
<b>Enquiries</b>	<p><b>Lynne Stinson</b> Senior Project Manager Highways England 2 Colmore Square Birmingham B4 6BN <a href="mailto:lynne.stinson@highwaysengland.co.uk">lynne.stinson@highwaysengland.co.uk</a></p>
<b>How to respond</b>	<p>Please respond to the consultation through our online survey. A link to the survey can be located at the following scheme website address: <a href="https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/m4-junctions-3-12-smart-motorway/">https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/m4-junctions-3-12-smart-motorway/</a></p> <p>When responding, please state whether you are responding as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. If responding on behalf of a larger organisation, please make it clear what organisation you represent and, where applicable, how the views of members were gathered.</p>

<p><b>Additional ways to become involved</b></p>	<p>You can complete the consultation response form at Appendix B and send it to:</p> <p><b>Lynne Stinson</b>  Senior Project Manager  Highways England  2 Colmore Square  Birmingham B4 6BN  <a href="mailto:M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk">M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk</a></p>
<p><b>After the consultation</b></p>	<p>All responses received from consultees within the consultation period will be considered and responded to as necessary. Following the consultation a summary report will be made available on the Highways England website. The summary report will provide an analysis of responses received and the Highways England response.</p> <p><i>Subject to results of the consultation, we envisage that the amendment will take effect when the Regulations comes into force in November 2019 with the existing fixed plate sign moved to the new location at that point ahead of the change to gantry signalling in 2022.</i></p>
<p><b>Compliance with the Government's Consultation principles</b></p>	<p>The consultation complies with the Government's Consultation Principles.</p>
<p><b>Getting to this stage</b></p>	<p>The M4 J3-12 smart motorway scheme involves the use of variable mandatory speed limits (VMSL) displayed on advanced motorway indicators (AMIs) installed on gantries and Motorway Signals Mk4 (MS4s) variable message signs. This will lead to an extension of the existing 60mph speed limit between J4 and J3 eastbound (currently designated by a fixed plate sign) so this limit will commence 117 metres westwards, and in advance, of its current starting point.</p> <p>An amendment to the existing statutory instrument is required to give effect to this change and this consultation is concerned only with this amendment.</p> <p>The consultation on the use of VMSL between J3-12 has been conducted and the consultation report can be viewed at <a href="https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/m4-junctions-3-12-smart-motorway/">https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/m4-junctions-3-12-smart-motorway/</a></p>

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# Executive Summary

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This consultation provides an opportunity for interested parties to comment on the proposal to amend the M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations 2002.

These Regulations provide, in regulation 2(2) and Part 4 of the Schedule, for a 60mph maximum speed limit on specified roads between junctions 4 and 3 on the eastbound carriageway of the M4. This is designated on the road using fixed plate signs.

With the implementation of the M4 J3-12 smart motorway scheme, these fixed plate signs will be removed as variable mandatory speed limits will apply which shall be displayed on signals installed on overhead gantries (AMI and MS4 signals).

The maximum speed of 60mph for J4 to J3 eastbound shall be retained, however the starting location for this will change by 117 metres from the current fixed plate sign westwards to the location of the nearest set of signals. This is because the 60mph fixed speed limit will need to be displayed on an overhead gantry when VMSL is not operational and this gantry cannot be sited at the point where the 60mph speed limit currently starts due to the terms of M4 Motorway (Junctions 3 to 12) (Smart Motorway) Development Consent Order 2016.

An amendment to the 2002 Regulations is required to make this change of position and this consultation is concerned solely with this amendment.

We welcome comments specifically on how the proposal could affect you, your organisation or those you represent.

# 1. How we are conducting the consultation

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## 1.1. What is this consultation about?

We are consulting on a proposed amendment to the M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations 2002 No.1651.

## 1.2. Why do we need the amendment?

The M4 J3-12 smart motorway scheme involves the use of variable mandatory speed limits (VMSL) displayed on signals installed on overhead gantries – this will lead to a change in the location at which the 60mph speed limit commences (currently designated by a fixed plate sign) between J4 and J3 eastbound. VMSL gantries will displace the current 60mph fixed plate signs and a gantry cannot be sited at the current starting point of the 60mph limit due to the terms of the M4 Motorway (Junctions 3 to 12) (Smart Motorway) Development Consent Order 2016. An amendment is required for this change and this consultation concerns only this amendment.

## 1.3. Comments on the proposed amendment

We would like to encourage any organisations, businesses or individuals affected by these proposals to contact us and communicate their views.

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, it would be helpful if you could make this clear in your reply. Please also indicate the nature of the organisation; how many individuals' views are included in the response and ways in which these views were gathered.

## 1.4. Sending your consultation response

You can respond to the consultation by completing our online survey. A link to the survey can be found on the scheme webpage at:

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/m4-junctions-3-12-smart-motorway/>

Alternatively, you can complete the consultation response form located at Appendix B and return it to us by email or by post to the following addresses. Please ensure that your response reaches us by **Wednesday, 14th August 2019**

**Email:** [M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk)

**Post:** Lynne Stinson  
Senior Project Manager  
Highways England  
2 Colmore Square  
Birmingham B4 6BN

## 1.5. How we will act on your responses

After the consultation period, we will publish a 'Response to Consultation Report', which will be published on the Highways England website.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you would like the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence.

Highways England will process your personal data in accordance with the GDPR. More details on how this applies are included within Appendix B.

## 1.6. Further information

To receive further information on the scheme you can contact the project team in writing at:

**Lynne Stinson**  
Senior Project Manager  
Highways England  
2 Colmore Square  
Birmingham B4 6BN

Or by email: [M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Alternatively, visit the Highways England website:

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/m4-junctions-3-12-smart-motorway/>

## 1.7. Government consultation principles

We are conducting this consultation in accordance with the Government's Consultation Principles, which are listed below.

- Consultations should be clear and concise
- Consultations should have a purpose
- Consultations should be informative
- Consultations are only part of a process of engagement
- Consultations should last for a proportionate amount of time
- Consultations should be targeted
- Consultations should take account of the groups being consulted
- Consultations should be agreed before publication
- Consultation should facilitate scrutiny
- Government responses to consultations should be published in a timely fashion
- Consultation exercises should not generally be launched during local or national election periods

If you have reason to believe this consultation document does not comply with these Consultation Principles, please write to our consultation co-ordinator at the address below, setting out the areas where you believe this consultation does not meet the principles:

**Andy Johnson**  
Highways England  
The Cube  
199 Wharfside Street  
Birmingham  
B1 1RN

**Email:** [andy.johnson@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:andy.johnson@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Further information about the Consultation Principles can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>

## 2. Legislative changes

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### 2.1. Legislative changes for the implementation of revised starting position of 60mph maximum speed limit

The M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations 2002 (Statutory Instrument 2002/1651) revoked previous 1998 and 1999 regulations regarding the specific speed limits for motor vehicles on certain lengths of the M4 Motorway and its slip roads between J4-2.

The 2002 Regulations apply a 60mph speed limit to the roads set out in Part IV of their Schedule and these roads include:

*“That length of the eastbound carriageway of the M4 Motorway from a point 13 metres west of motorway marker post 25.0 to a point 47 metres east of motorway marker post 16.7, a distance of approximately 8.4 kilometres”.*

However, the implementation of variable mandatory speed limit signalling as part of the M4 J3-12 smart motorway scheme, requires an amendment to the boundary extent for this length of road moving ‘from a point 13 metres west of motorway marker post 25.0’ to ‘a point approximately 239m west of the western bridge carrying the A408 over the M4’.

Therefore, an amendment to the 2002 Regulations is required to make this change to Part IV of the Schedule and hence providing for the 60mph speed limit on the eastbound carriageway to commence 117 meters in advance of its current starting point.

### 3. General information on M4 J4-3 eastbound within the M4 J3-12 smart motorway scheme

#### 3.1. Proposed change to M4 J4 to J3 speed signs

The current fixed plate 60mph sign is located 122m west of the western bridge carrying the A409 over the M4.

The new gantry from which 60mph speed limit will apply is located approximately 239m west of the western bridge carrying the A408 over the M4. This would therefore move the beginning of the 60mph limit 117m west of the current starting point.

These points are depicted in figure 1.

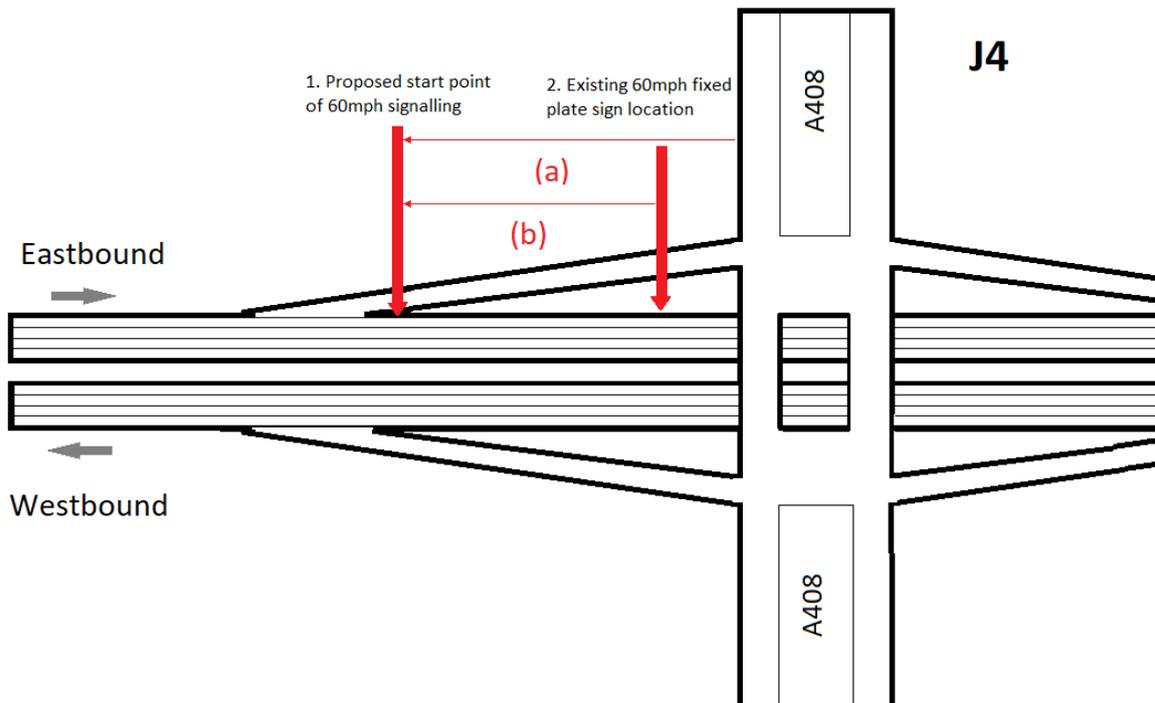


Figure 1 – new (1) and existing (2) speed limit starting locations at M4 J3 eastbound with (a) indicating new gantry location 239m west of western edge of bridge and (b) indicating the move 117m westwards of the starting location of the 60mph maximum speed limit

## **4. Appendices**

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**Appendix A – Frequently asked questions**

**Appendix B – Consultation response form**

**Appendix C – List of consultees**

## Appendix A: Frequently asked questions

**Q. What is happening?**

- A.** The M4 J3-12 smart motorway scheme involves the use of variable mandatory speed limits displayed on signals installed on overhead gantries – this will lead to a repositioning 117m westwards of the location at which the 60mph speed limit (currently designated by a fixed plate sign) between J4 and J3 eastbound will apply. A legislative amendment is required to make this change.

**Q. Why is Highways England consulting?**

- A.** This consultation will provide an opportunity for interested parties and individuals to comment on the proposed amendment to the M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations 2002.

**Q. Who can respond to this?**

- A.** This consultation is available for anyone to respond to, including organisations that would be affected by the change in the starting position of the 60mph maximum speed zone. The consultation is aimed at any affected stakeholder groups.

**Q. When will the proposed amendment to the M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations come into force?**

- A.** We are expecting to begin operating the overhead signalling by March 2022 with the existing fixed plate sign moved westwards to the 117m point from when the Regulations come into force.

**Q. What is the point of the consultation?**

- A.** Highways England is committed to effective consultation and complies with the Government's Consultation Principles. Effective consultation with affected stakeholders brings to light valuable information which we are able to use to design effective solutions and mitigate any concerns.

Following the consultation period, responses will be issued where appropriate and a summary report compiled which will provide an analysis of the responses and provide justification for the selected option.

## Appendix B: Consultation response form

### Proposed amendment to the M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations

You can provide your views by completing our online survey. A link to the survey can be found on the scheme webpage at:

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/m4-junctions-3-12-smart-motorway/>

If you would prefer to submit your response in writing, please complete the below response form and return to us by post or by email to the addresses below. Please ensure your response reaches us by **Wednesday, 14th August 2019**

#### Lynne Stinson

Senior Project Manager

Highways England

2 Colmore Square

Birmingham B4 6BN

Or by email: [M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:M4J3to12smartmotorways@highwaysengland.co.uk)

#### Part 1: Information about you

Completion of this section is optional but helps with our analysis of results. A note at the end of this form explains that we may be obliged to release this information if asked to do so.

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Company Name or Organisation (if applicable)</b>	

Please tick one box from the list below that best describes you/your company or organisation.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small to Medium Enterprise (up to 50 employees)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Company
<input type="checkbox"/>	Representative Organisation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade Union
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interest Group

	Local Government
	Central Government
	Police
	Member of the public
	Other (please describe):
<b>If you are responding on behalf of an organisation or interest group, how many members do you have and how did you obtain the views of your members:</b>	
<b>If you would like your response or personal details to be treated confidentially please explain why:</b>	

**Part 2: Your Comments**

<b>Q1. Are there any aspects of the proposed amendment to the M4 Motorway (Hillingdon and Hounslow) (Speed Limits) Regulations 2002 which give you concerns?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>No</b>	
<b>Please provide any comments below.</b>		



## Appendix C: List of consultees

Government / Local Government bodies	
Rt Hon John McDonnell MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA (MP for Hayes & Harlington)	Mr Virendra Sharma MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA (MP for Ealing, Southall)
Ruth Cadbury MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA (MP for Brentford and Isleworth)	Seema Malhotra MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA (MP for Feltham and Heston)
Chief Executive London Borough of Hillingdon Civic Centre High St Uxbridge UB8 1UW	Chief Executive London Borough of Hounslow Civic Centre Lampton Road Hounslow TW3 4DN
Chief Executive London Borough of Ealing Perceval House 14/16 Uxbridge Road Ealing W5 2HL	Transport Commissioner Transport for London 55 Broadway London SW1H 0BD

Emergency services	
London's Air Ambulance 5th Floor 77 Mansell Street London E1 8AN	National Police Air Service West Yorkshire Police PO Box 9 Laburnum Road Wakefield WF1 3QP
Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime City Hall The Queen's Walk London SE1 2AA	The Commissioner Metropolitan Police Service New Scotland Yard 8-10 Broadway London SW1H 0BG
Chief Fire Officer London Fire Brigade Head Office 169 Union Street London SE1 0LL	Chief Executive London Ambulance Service NHS Trust 220 Waterloo Road London SE1 8SD

**Environmental advisory bodies**

Natural England  
4th Floor, Foss House  
Kings Pool  
1-2 Peasholme Green  
York  
YO1 7PX

Historic England  
4th Floor  
Cannon Bridge House  
25 Dowgate Hill  
London  
EC4R 2YA

Environment Agency  
Horizon House  
Deanery Road  
Bristol  
BS1 5AH

Campaign to Protect Rural England  
5-11 Lavington Street  
London  
SE1 0NZ

**Other interested parties**

Manager  
Moto Heston Services  
55 N Hyde Lane  
Hounslow  
TW5 0EP

CEO  
Heathrow Airport Holdings  
The Compass Centre  
Nelson Road  
Hounslow  
TW6 2GW

Chairman  
London First  
Middlesex House  
34-42 Cleveland Street  
London  
W1T 4JE

Chief Executive  
London Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
33 Queen Street  
London  
EC4R 1AP