

Designated Funds Congestion Programme

M42 Junction 3 Improvement Scheme

**Statutory Instrument Consultation Document
The introduction of 50mph speed limit on the exit slips**

Summary of the consultation

Topic of this consultation	The implementation of permanent mandatory 50mph speed limit on the M42 Junction 3 exit slip roads.
Scope of this consultation	We are keen to have your comments on the proposal for the implementation of a permanent 50mph on the M42 Junction 3 exit slip roads. A 50mph speed limit is also proposed for the roundabout circulatory and the A435 approach roads. We would like to hear how the proposal could affect you, your organisation or those you represent.
Geographical scope	M42 Junction 3 exit slip roads, roundabout circulatory and the A435 approach roads.

General Information

To	The consultation is aimed at any affected stakeholder groups or individuals.
Body/bodies responsible for the consultation	National Highways Company Limited (NHCL)
Duration	The consultation will last for a period of four weeks commencing on 7 March 2022. The consultation will close on 4 April 2022. Please ensure responses arrive by 11:59pm on the closing date.
Enquiries	Jessica Kenny Project Manager National Highways The Cube, 199 Wharfside Street, Birmingham B1 1RN M42J3consultation@nationalhighways.co.uk
How to respond	Please respond to the consultation through our online survey. A link to the survey can be located at the following scheme website address: https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/m42-junction-3-slip-roads-speed-limit-consultation/ 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.
Additional ways to become involved	Alternatively, you can complete the consultation response form at Appendix B and send it to:

	<p>Jessica Kenny Project Manager National Highways The Cube, 199 Wharfside Street, Birmingham B1 1RN</p> <p>M42J3consultation@nationalhighways.co.uk</p>
<p>After the consultation</p>	<p>All responses received from consultees within the consultation period will be considered and responded to as necessary. Following the consultation, a response to consultation report will be made available on the National Highways website. The report will provide an analysis of responses received and the National Highways response</p>
<p>Compliance with the Government's Consultation principles</p>	<p>The consultation complies with the Government's Consultation Principles.</p>
<p>Getting to this stage</p>	<p>The M42 Junction 3 Improvement scheme was identified as an essential congestion reduction and safety improvement scheme.</p> <p>Due to traffic queuing particularly on the M42 J3 Southbound exit slip road, and those queues continuing as far as and onto the mainline M42 at times, a number of road traffic collisions resulting in injuries had been occurring.</p> <p>The M42 Junction 3 had also been identified as a potential barrier to further growth in the Bromsgrove and Redditch District Council area, an area in itself which has been earmarked as taking a significant amount of additional housing need to compensate for Birmingham City Council's lack of supply. The Bromsgrove and Redditch Local Plan has been through Statutory Examination in Public Stage and the Inspector accepted the need for the M42 Junction 3 to be upgraded.</p> <p>The scheme has widened the Southbound exit slip road and provided a free flow left slip road, which in turn removes a significant percentage of vehicles from needing to enter the roundabout junction, reducing congestion throughout the junction significantly. The road has also been widened on the roundabout gyratory and on all other approaches.</p> <p>A temporary 50mph speed limit is currently in place on the M42 Junction 3 exit slip roads, as well as the roundabout circulatory and the A435 approach roads. This consultation seeks to implement this speed limit permanently.</p>

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Executive Summary

This consultation provides an opportunity for interested parties to comment on the proposal to introduce, by way of Regulations, permanent 50mph speed limit on the M42 J3 exit slip roads

The permanent 50mph speed limit will, if approved, will be posted in the following locations:

- M42 Junction 3 Northbound (eastbound) exit slip.
- M42 Junction 3 Southbound (westbound) exit slip.

In addition, not subject to this consultation process, permanent 50mph speed limit will also be posted in the following locations:

- On the roundabout junction of the M42 J3 with the A435.
- The A435 to the north of its junction with the M42 J3.
- The A435 to the south of its junction with the M42 J3.

Once in force, the relevant Regulations will restrict driving at a speed exceeding that displayed on the signs.

Benefits of reduced 50mph mandatory speed limit

50mph speed limits:

- Helps to control the speed of vehicles exiting the M42 in a southbound direction and reduce the speed of vehicles as they negotiate the free flow left slip.
- Help to control the speed of vehicles exiting the M42 in a northbound direction and reduce the speed of vehicles as they approach the traffic signals and stop line.
- Provide sensible continuation of the Local Highway Authority proposed speed reduction scheme, throughout the roundabout grade separated junction.
- Help to control the speed of vehicles both entering and exiting the roundabout junction, as well as within the roundabout gyratory, helping to make safer the presence of informal pedestrian crossing points.

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

1. How we are conducting the consultation

1.1. What is this consultation about?

We are consulting on the proposed implementation of a 50mph mandatory speed limit for the M42 Junction 3 exit slip roads.

1.2. Comments on the introduction of 50mph mandatory speed limit

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.

1.3. 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.citizenspace.com/he/m42-junction-3-slip-roads-speed-limit-consultation/>

Alternatively, you can complete the consultation response form in Appendix B and return it to us by email or by post to the following addresses. Please ensure that your response reaches us by **4 April 2022**.

Email: M42J3consultation@nationalhighways.co.uk

Post: **Jess Kenny**
Project Manager
National Highways
The Cube, 199 Wharfside Street,
Birmingham
B1 1RN

1.4. How we will act on your responses

All responses received from consultees within the consultation period will be considered and responded to as necessary. Following the consultation, a response to consultation report will be made available on the National Highways website. The report will provide an analysis of responses received and the National Highways response.

1.5. Data Protection Statement

Under the General Data Protection Regulation, National Highways is required to explain to consultees, stakeholders and customers how their personal data will be used and stored.

National Highways is permitted to collect personal data in carrying out our public functions, including the development of proposed road schemes. The duty to consult on introducing a

Statutory Instrument to implement variable mandatory speed limits is provided by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Personal data collected for the consultation will be processed and retained by National Highways and its appointed contractors until the Scheme is complete.

Under the GDPR you have the following rights:

1. Right of access to the data (Subject Access Request);
2. Right for the rectification of errors;
3. Right to erasure of personal data – this is not an absolute right under the legislation;
4. Right to restrict processing or to object to processing, and;
5. Right to data portability.

If, at any point, National Highways plans to process the personal data we hold for a purpose other than that for which it was originally collected, we will provide you with information about what that other purpose is. For example, if we are requested to release information about consultation responses under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. National Highways will contact you prior to any further processing taking place to explain about that processing and to provide any relevant further information about the rights referred to above, including the right to object to that further processing.

1.6. Further information

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

Jess Kenny
Project Manager
National Highways
The Cube, Wharfside Street,
Birmingham
B1 1RN

Or by email: M42J3consultation@nationalhighways.co.uk

Alternatively, visit the National Highways website:

<https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/m42-junction-3-slip-roads-speed-limit-consultation/>

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:

Hannah Edwards
Senior Stakeholder Manager
National Highways
2 Colmore Square
Birmingham
B4 6BN

Email: hannah.edwards@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

2.1. Legislative changes for the implementation of 50mph mandatory speed limits

Subject to the outcome of the consultation, Regulations will need to be made under section 17(2) and (3) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ('the 1984 Act') for the implementation of mandatory speed limits for the M42 J3 exit slips.

Drivers will be restricted by the proposed Regulations from driving within the area of the M42 J3 Improvement scheme at a speed exceeding that displayed on the speed limit signs, 50mph. Where no such speed is displayed, the national speed limit applies.

The relevant legislative power in the 1984 Act permits the making of Regulations that regulate the manner in which, and the conditions subject to which, motorways may be used by traffic authorised to use such motorways.

Drivers of vehicles that pass a speed limit sign indicating that a speed limit other than the national speed limit applies, should obey that sign until the vehicle passes another sign indicating either that a new speed limit or the national speed limit applies.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation, the proposed Regulations when made will apply in relation to the M42 J3 and associated slip roads. The roads governed will be set out in the Regulations.

The proposed Regulations will not apply nationally – they will apply only to those parts of the motorway as specified in the Regulations (namely, the southbound and northbound exit slips of the M42 Junction 3 motorway).

The consultation is solely about the use of the 50mph mandatory speed limits that are proposed for this M42 J3 Improvement motorway scheme. The key features of the motorway scheme are described in section 3.2.

3. Extent and enforcement of the proposed 50mph speed limit

3.1. Proposed extent of the M42 J3 Improvement Scheme

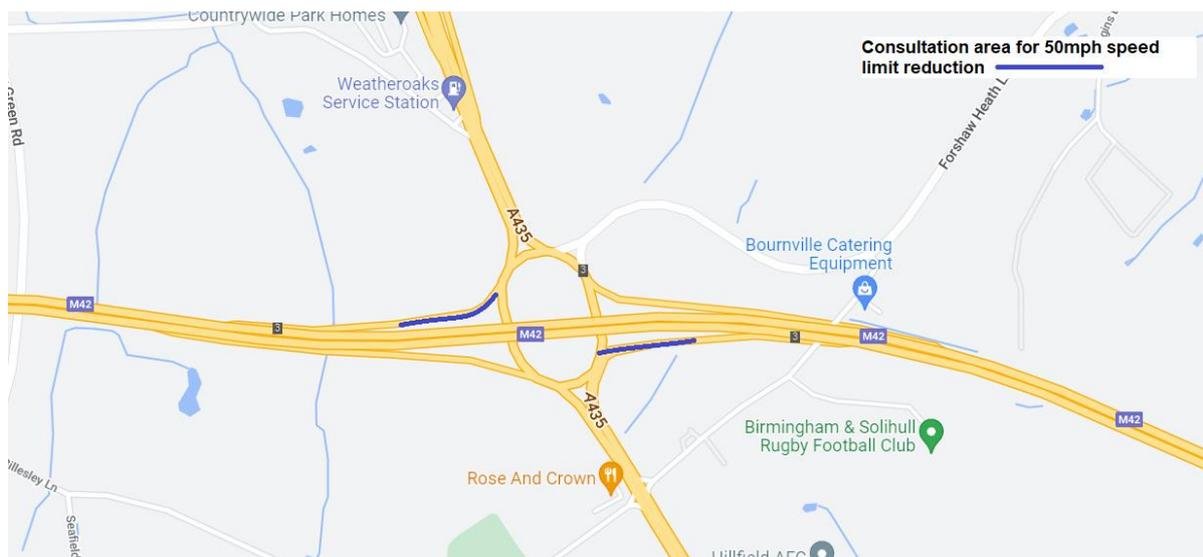
The permanent 50mph speed limit will, if approved, will be posted in the following locations:

- M42 Junction 3 Northbound (eastbound) exit slip.
- M42 Junction 3 Southbound (westbound) exit slip.

In addition, not subject to this consultation process, permanent 50mph speed limit will also be posted in the following locations:

- On the roundabout junction of the M42 J3 with the A435.
- The A435 to the north of its junction with the M42 J3.
- The A435 to the south of its junction with the M42 J3.

Once in force, the relevant Regulations will restrict driving at a speed exceeding that displayed on the signs.



3.2. General information on the M42 Junction 3 Improvement motorway scheme

The M42 J3 Improvement scheme, which was completed in December 2019, aims to reduce congestion throughout the junction and on its approaches.

The work predominantly involved the provision of a free-flowing left slip on the Southbound exit from M42 J3. This slip lane experienced queueing traffic during peak periods that extend down into lane 1 of the M42 southbound. A review of the traffic data for the slip lane indicated that 60% of all traffic turns left onto the A435 travelling towards Redditch. It was found that the removal of these vehicles from the traffic signal calculations via the free-flowing slip lane helped to prevent the queues onto the mainline of the M42.

As part of the junction investigations, several other minor issues were identified around the roundabout island and approach roads, which were resolved as part of the major scheme. One such issue was the narrow lanes on the Northbound off slip road which reduced the capacity of these lanes to hold vehicles. We worked to widen the lanes slightly within the curtilage of National Highways land boundary and the geological constraints. It was also identified that the visibility to the signal heads was inadequate. The horizontal alignment of the arrangement only permitted a forward visibility to the offside signal head from the offside lane of approximately 75 metres.

As we replaced all of the age expired traffic signal equipment on the junction, we also decided to make amendments to the nearside and offside primary signal poles to improve the forward visibility to the traffic signals and the stop line on the Northbound exit slip road. We relocated the stop line and associated primary signal heads further back along the slip and undertook additional vegetation clearance. This has increased forward visibility to the stop line and signal heads.

Other improvements made included the realignment of and widening of the roundabout gyratory to provide three running lanes within some sections which has increased the junction capacity in conjunction with the amendments on the junctions approach roads. The Southbound A435 entry to the roundabout has also been widened to three lanes, whilst the northbound A435 approach has been realigned slightly. The roundabout junction with Foreshaw Heath Lane has been significantly changed to dissuade drivers from thinking that this exit is the M42 Junction 3 Northbound entry slip, and lighting and traffic signage throughout the area has been upgraded.

Benefits of the M42 J3 Improvement scheme

- Reduced congestion around the grade separated roundabout junction and improved the capacity of the junction.
- Reduced queuing on the M42 J3 southbound exit slip and queuing onto the M42 southbound mainline Motorway.
- Reduced rear-end shunt type road traffic collisions and injuries occurring due to the presence of queuing traffic on the southbound exit slip.
- Improved forward visibility to the grade separated roundabout junction and traffic signals on the northbound exit slip.
- Reduced queuing on the A435 Southbound approach to the roundabout by providing three lanes instead of two lanes at the junction approach.
- Replaced the life expired traffic signal equipment and lighting equipment, reducing maintenance problems and failures, and reducing energy consumption due to the installation of LED lanterns.
- Helps to control the speed of vehicles exiting the M42 in a northbound direction and reduce the speed of vehicles as they approach the traffic signals and stop line.
- Provided sensible continuation of the Local Highway Authority proposed speed reduction scheme, throughout the roundabout grade separated junction.
- Helps to control the speed of vehicles exiting the M42 in a southbound direction and reduce the speed of vehicles as they negotiate the free flow left slip.
- Helps to control the speed of vehicles both entering and exiting the roundabout junction, as well as within the roundabout gyratory, helping to make safer the presence of informal pedestrian crossing points.

- Stabilisation of the earthworks embankment to the nearside (southern side) of the M42 J3 southbound exit slip, which protects the carriageway asset from future land slip and deterioration.

4. Appendices

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 proposal is to reduce the vehicular speed at the M42 Junction 3 exit slip roads by implementing a mandatory speed limit of 50mph. The limit is already in place, via a temporary traffic regulation order, but the implementation of the limit via statutory instrument is required as the limit needs to be in place for longer than a temporary traffic regulation order allows for.

Q. Why is National Highways consulting?

A. This consultation will provide an opportunity for interested parties and individuals to comment on the legislative changes required to allow for the implementation of reduced 50mph mandatory speed limit on the M42 Junction 3 southbound exit slip and the M42 Junction 3 northbound exit slip within the M42 J3 Improvement scheme.

Q. Who can respond to this?

A. This consultation is available for anyone to respond to, including organisations that would be affected by the implementation of 50mph mandatory speed limits. The consultation is aimed at any affected stakeholder groups.

Q. What is the point of the consultation?

A. National Highways 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 can use to design effective solutions and mitigate any concerns.

Following the consultation period, issues raised will be responded to where appropriate and a summary report will be compiled providing an analysis of the responses and justification for the selected option.

Q. Is the 50mph mandatory speed limit linked to enforcement cameras?

A. No.

Q. How are you going to enforce the speed limits?

A. The speed limits are enforced by the Police.

Q. When is the permanent 50mph speed limit likely to become mandatory?

A. We are hoping to implement the permanent 50mph mandatory speed limit in May 2022.

Appendix B: Consultation response form

Project Name: M42 J3 Improvement Scheme

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.citizenspace.com/he/m42-junction-3-slip-roads-speed-limit-consultation/>

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 **4 April 2022**.

Jess Kenny

Project Manager
National Highways
The Cube, 199 Wharfside Street,
Birmingham
B1 1RN

Or by email: M42J3consultation@nationalhighways.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.

Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Email	
Company Name or Organisation (if applicable)	

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):
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:	

Part 2: Your Comments

Q1. Do you consider that the proposal to introduce a 50mph mandatory speed limit on the M42 J3 exit slips will lead to an improvement in travelling conditions on this section of motorway (please tick yes or no in the boxes provided)?	Yes	
	No	
Please provide any comments below.		

Q2. Are there any aspects of the proposal to introduce 50mph mandatory speed limit on the M42 J3 exit slips which gives you concerns?	Yes	
	No	
Please provide any comments below.		

Q3. Are there any additional comments you would like to make about the proposal to introduce 50mph mandatory speed limits on the M42 J3 exit slips?	Yes	
	No	
Please provide any comments below.		

Data Protection Statement

Under the General Data Protection Regulation National Highways is required to explain to consultees, stakeholders and customers how their personal data will be used and stored.

National Highways is permitted to collect personal data in carrying out our public functions, including the development of proposed road schemes. The duty to consult on introducing a Statutory Instrument to introduce a fixed speed limit is provided by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Personal data collected in the context of this consultation will be processed and retained by National Highways and its appointed contractors until the speed limit is introduced.

Under the GDPR you have the following rights:

1. Right of access to the data (Subject Access Request);
- 2 etc Right for the rectification of errors;
6. Right to erasure of personal data – this is not an absolute right under the legislation;

7. Right to restrict processing or to object to processing, and;
8. Right to data portability.

If, at any point, National Highways plans to process the personal data we hold for a purpose other than that for which it was originally collected, we will provide you with information about what that other purpose is: for example, if we are requested to release information about consultation responses under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. National Highways will contact you prior to any further processing taking place to explain about that processing and to provide any relevant further information about the rights referred to above, including the right to object to that further processing.

You have the right to lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority, the Information Commissioner's Office.

If you'd like more information about how we manage data, or a copy of our privacy notice, please contact DataProtectionAdvice@nationalhighways.co.uk.

Appendix C: List of consultees

MP/Parish Councils	
MP for Bromsgrove	MP for Stratford-on-Avon
Tidbury Green Parish Council	Tanworth-in-Arden Parish Council
Beoley Parish Council	Wythall Parish Council
Alvechurch Parish Council	

Local Authorities	
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	Bromsgrove District Council
Warwickshire County Council WCC Traffic Manager	Warwickshire County Council WCC Network Manager
Warwickshire County Council WCC HS2 Programme Manager	Warwickshire County Council Traffic and Safety Team
Warwickshire County Council County Highways	Warwickshire County Council County Highways North Area General
Warwickshire County Council Streetworks	Worcester County Council Communications Manager
Birmingham City Council	

Emergency Services	
West Midlands Ambulance NILO	West Midlands Ambulance Incident Command

West Midlands Ambulance Incident Command Room	West Midlands Ambulance Emergency Operations Centre Strategic Operations Cell
West Midlands Ambulance Herefordshire/Shropshire/Worcestershire	West Midlands Ambulance Staffordshire/Warwickshire
West Midlands Police Central Motorway Police Group	West Midlands Police Central Motorway Police Group
West Midlands Police West Midlands Police	West Midlands Police Warwickshire Police TM advisor
West Midlands Fire Service West Midlands Fire- Incident Room	West Midlands Fire Service Hereford and Worcestershire Fire and Rescue
TfWM (Transport for West Midlands)	TfWM (Transport for West Midlands) Regional Transport Coordination Centre
TfWM (Transport for West Midlands) Regional Transport Coordination Centre Duty Manager	West Mercia West Mercia Police

Traffic Generators	
Eddie Stobart Logistics	Freight Transport Association
The NEC	Logistics UK (FTA)
UPS- Network Planning Manager	Road Haulage Association
Kuehne-Nagel	AA
RAC	Royal Mail
JLR	

Local Stakeholders/Businesses	
Seechem Equestrian Centre	Alcott Farm
Alcott Weddings & Events	Dominion Racing Stables
Headway Traffic Management	Wythall Car Sales
Yourvets Wythall	The Limes Country Lodge Hotel
Blucon Group	Laranca Engineering Ltd
Fowlers Fores Dairies Ltd	Delta Force Paintball Birmingham
Fledglings day nursery	The Warwickshire Lad
Offtek Ltd	Ladbrook Park Golf Club
Umberslade Adventure	Umberslade Corporate Management Ltd
Wedges Bakery	Blythe Valley Innovation Centre
Regus Birmingham Blythe Valley	Tesco Extra and Tesco Petrol Station
IM Properties	Saint Columban for Foreign Missions
Knowle Gate Care Home	Copt Heath Wharf

Crown Plaza Birmingham NEC	The Vox Conference Centre
The Bear Grylls Adventure	NEC National Exhibition Centre
ESSO RONTEC WEATHEROAKS	Birmingham & Solihull Rugby Football Club
GlastonBeoley Charity Music Festival	Bournville Catering Equipment
Fishing Republic	Clarke Associates (UK) Ltd
Murco Petrol/service station	Van Link Birmingham
Senior Care Support Services	Little Rushbrook Cottages B & B
Cartwright Plastering Contractors Ltd.	PALS Services
Fulford Heath Golf Club	That Funky Golf Place
Becketts Farm	The Transport Museum Wythall

National Stakeholder Team	
National Stakeholder Team	