

# **Smart Motorways Programme**

## **M6 Junctions 21a to 26 Upgrade**

### **Statutory Instrument Consultation Document**

#### **The introduction of variable mandatory speed limits**

**November 2020**

# Summary of the consultation

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<b>Topic of this consultation</b>	The implementation of variable mandatory speed limits (VMSL) between junctions 21a to 26 of the M6 motorway.
<b>Scope of this consultation</b>	<p>We are keen to have your comments on the implementation of VMSL for the M6 smart motorway scheme (“the scheme”) between junctions 21a and 26. 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 this is not a consultation on the actual policy of using VMSL. Use of this traffic management feature is already established government policy. We are therefore seeking your views on the proposal set out within this document.</p>
<b>Geographical scope</b>	The proposed smart motorway scheme will enable proactive management of the M6 carriageway, including slip roads and motorway intersections between junctions 21a (the intersection with the M62 at Croft Interchange) and 26 (the intersection with the M58 at Orrell Interchange).

## 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 25 November 2020. The consultation will close on 23 December 2020. Please ensure responses arrive no later than the closing date.
<b>Enquiries</b>	<p><b>Agnes Usciak</b> Project Manager Highways England 2 Colmore Square Birmingham B4 6BN</p> <p><a href="mailto:M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@highwaysengland.co.uk">M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@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/m6-j21a-26">https://highwaysengland.co.uk/m6-j21a-26</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>Agnes Usciak</b>  Project Manager  Highways England  2 Colmore Place  Birmingham  B4 6BN</p> <p><a href="mailto:M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@highwaysengland.co.uk">M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@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>Subject to results of the consultation, we envisage that the smart motorway scheme would be operational by 2022/23.</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 scheme was included in the Road Investment Strategy published in December 2014 with an original commitment to start work in 2018/19. However, in order to reduce the impact of concurrent roadworks on our customers in the north west, the decision was made to defer the start date. This has now been confirmed as Q4 2020 - 2021 in the latest Delivery Plan published in August 2020.</p> <p>This scheme continues the deployment of technology interventions onto the strategic road network to support an operational approach that maximises benefits and is part of an interconnecting network of capacity improvements to the M6 corridor.</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 introduce, by way of Regulations, variable mandatory speed limits for the M6 junction 21a to 26 smart motorway scheme (the Scheme).

The Scheme variable mandatory speed limits will, if approved, be set in response to the prevailing traffic conditions and will be clearly displayed on:

- Cantilever gantry mounted variable message signs above the nearside of the carriageway.
- Gantry mounted Advanced Motorway Indicators (AMIs) above each lane of the carriageway.
- Post mounted AMIs (where provided).

Once in force, the relevant Regulations will restrict driving at a speed exceeding that displayed on the signs. When no speed is displayed on the signs then the national speed limit will be in force.

## **Benefits of variable mandatory speed limits**

Variable speed limits:

- Signal to users what the optimum safe speed is in any given section of a smart motorway
- Help to control the speed of traffic, leading to fewer collisions. This helps to smooth the flow of traffic and improve travel times
- Facilitate the provision of extra capacity on the motorway by controlling the speed of traffic safely and helping to reduce collisions and delay
- Are one of the measures which enable the proven delivery of a high level of safety performance
- Support the successful implementation of smart motorways, which minimise the environmental impact of increasing capacity – as additional land is generally not required for the construction of smart motorways.

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 the proposed implementation of variable mandatory speed limits within the M6 junction 21a to 26 smart motorway scheme.

## 1.2. Why do we need the variable mandatory speed limits?

The M6 motorway is a strategic route for local, regional and international traffic, and plays a major role as:

- A major artery providing a motorway route between the north-west, the West Midlands and London via the M1

A major inter-urban regional route connecting conurbations and providing access to important international gateways. This section of the M6 carries in excess of 110,000 vehicles per day.

The Scheme is part of Highways England's programme to add capacity to the existing strategic road network in order to support economic growth and maintain mobility. It is expected that the all lane running scheme will:

- Increase motorway capacity and reduce congestion.
- Smooth traffic flows.
- Provide more reliable journey times.
- Increase and improve the quality of information for the driver (in relation to the operation of the motorway).

The use of variable mandatory speed limits is essential to achieving the objectives above. Through the introduction of technology, we aim to make best use of the existing road space.

## 1.3. Comments on the introduction of variable mandatory speed limits

We would like to encourage any organisations, businesses or individuals affected by these proposals to make contact with 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/m6-j21a-26>

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 **23 December 2020**.

**Email:** [M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@highwaysengland.co.uk)

**Post:** **Agnes Usciak**  
Project Manager  
Highways England  
2 Colmore Place  
Birmingham  
B4 6BN

## 1.5. 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 Highways England website. The report will provide an analysis of responses received and the Highways England response.

## 1.6. Data Protection Statement

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

Highways England 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 M6 junction 21a to 26 smart motorway scheme will be processed and retained by Highways England 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, Highways England 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. Highways England 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@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:DataProtectionAdvice@highwaysengland.co.uk).

## 1.7. Further information

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

**Agnes Usciak**  
Project Manager  
Highways England  
2 Colmore Square  
Birmingham  
B4 6BN

Or by email: [M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Alternatively, visit the Highways England website:

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/m6-j21a-26>

## 1.8. 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:

**Kathryn Moore**  
Highways England  
Lateral  
8 City Walk  
Leeds  
LS11 9AT

**Email:** [publicconsultation@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:publicconsultation@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 variable 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 variable mandatory speed limits for the M6 junction 21a to 26 smart motorway scheme.

Drivers will be restricted by the proposed Regulations from driving within the area of the smart motorway scheme at a speed exceeding that displayed on the speed limit signs. 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.

Where a speed limit changes less than ten seconds before a vehicle passes the sign, the Regulations allow a driver to proceed at a speed up to the maximum applicable before the change, and to continue to do so until the driver leaves the specified road, the national speed limit applies or until the next speed limit sign.

The intention behind this 'ten second' rule is to protect the driver from being prosecuted if, on the approach to a speed limit sign, it changes to a lower speed.

For example should a driver approach a speed limit sign and it changes from 60 mph to 50 mph and he/she is within ten seconds of passing that sign then the driver can legally continue beyond that sign at 60 mph until a subsequent speed limit applies or until he/she leaves the specified road. If there was no ten second rule, the issue of safety arises, as the driver would be required to brake sharply in order to comply with the new lower speed limit.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation, the proposed Regulations when made will apply in relation to the M6 between junctions 21a and 26 and to the on-slip and off-slip roads and the linking carriageways between junctions 21a and 26. The roads governed by the Regulations 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 area between and including junctions 21a to 26 of the M6 motorway). These Regulations would put in place the legislative framework required to operate variable mandatory speed limits within the Scheme.

The consultation is solely about the use of the variable mandatory speed limits that are proposed for this smart motorway scheme. The key features of the smart motorway scheme are described in section 3.2.

### 3. General information on the M6 junctions 21a to 26 smart motorway scheme

#### 3.1. Proposed extent of the M6 junctions 21a to 26 smart motorway scheme variable mandatory speed limits

The M6 between junctions 21a and 26 is a key strategic route carrying high volumes of vehicles and providing key links between the north-west, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and the West Midlands. The scheme falls within the Area 10 maintenance area and the North West Regional Operations Centre (ROC).

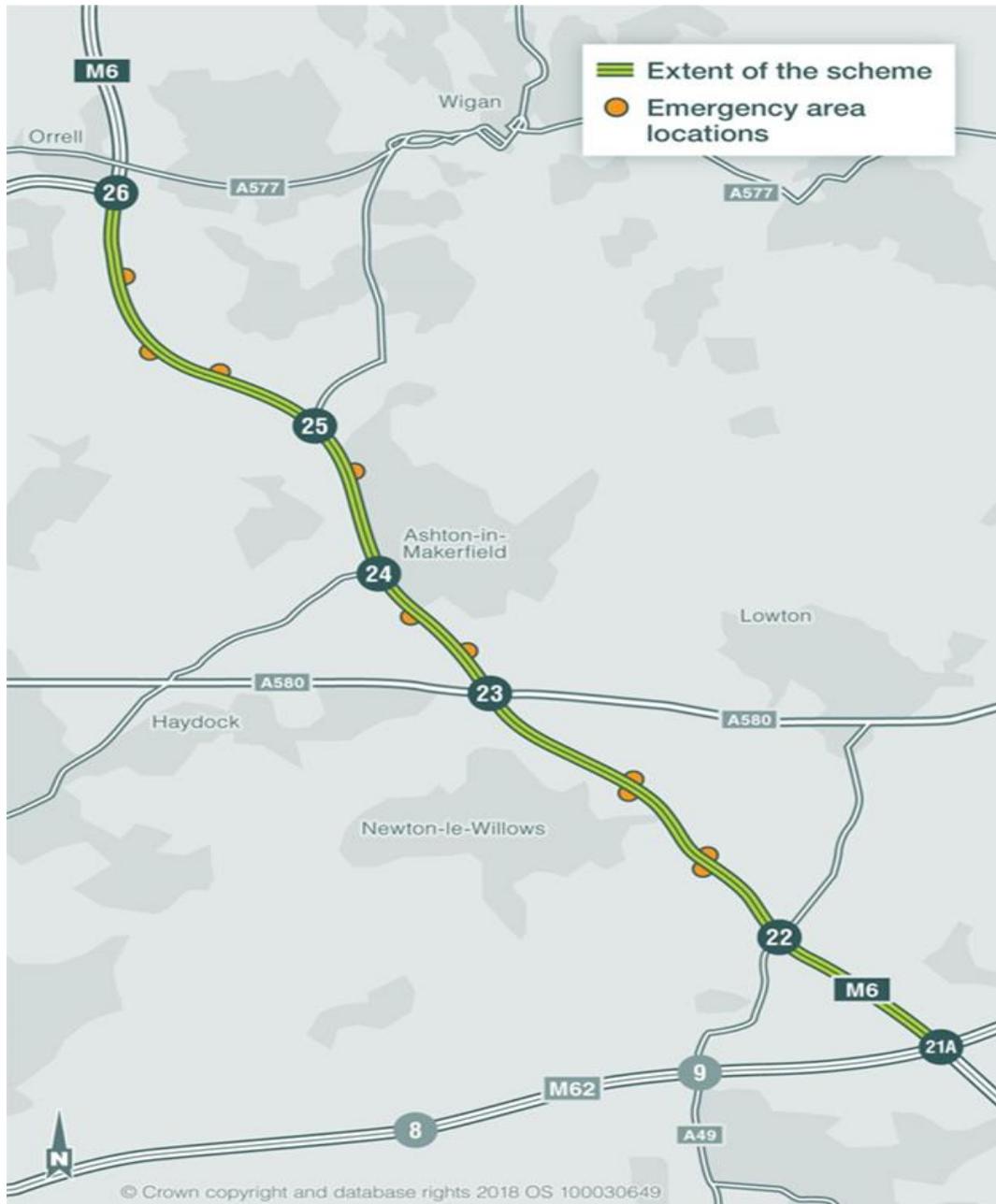


Figure 3a - Indicative map of the scheme

A map showing the Scheme extent is shown in **Figure 3a**. The precise configuration of the extent of the roads that are included within the scheme may be subject to variation.

## **Benefits of a smart motorway scheme in this area**

Smart motorways are a technology driven approach to tackling the most congested parts of the motorway network, improving journey reliability by controlling the flow and speed of traffic. Smart motorways also support the economy by providing much needed capacity on the busiest motorways, while maintaining safety for road users and those who work on the roads.

The M6 is a strategic route that carries high volumes of heavy goods and other vehicles. Congestion and unreliable journey times are currently experienced at busy periods and traffic is predicted to grow. The Scheme will relieve congestion and smooth the flow of traffic, improving safety as well as improving the current unpredictability of journey times along this stretch of the motorway.

Evaluation of the existing smart motorways schemes has demonstrated that smart motorways are able to deliver clear benefits by providing much needed additional capacity, without compromising overall safety on our motorways, which are amongst the safest roads in the world.

The Scheme will:

- Reduce congestion and smooth the flow of traffic to improve travel times, making journeys more reliable.
- Support the economy and facilitate economic growth within the region. Providing much needed capacity on the motorway will reduce the cost of economic delay to both commuters and business traffic.
- Continue to deliver a high level of safety performance on the network using smart motorway techniques.
- Minimise environmental impacts.

## **3.2. Key Features**

The M6 between junctions 21a and 26 is a key strategic route carrying high volumes of vehicles and providing key links between the North West, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and the West Midlands.

The scheme is approximately 10 miles (16.4km) long and extends from the Croft Interchange at Junction 21a, where the M62 crosses the M6, to the Orrell Interchange at Junction 26, at the eastern terminus of the M58.

The northern end of the scheme, at Junction 26, is located approximately 3 miles west of Wigan Town Centre.

The southern end of the scheme, at Junction 21a, is located approximately 3¼ miles north east of Warrington Town Centre.

The scheme falls within the Highways England Area 10 maintenance area and the North West Regional Operations Centre (ROC).

The design features of the Scheme include:

- The permanent conversion of the hard shoulder to a running lane.
- Variable mandatory speed limits with an associated enforcement/compliance system.
- Driver information, including lane availability, generally provided at intervals not exceeding 1,500m. Information will be provided through a mixture of signs and signals capable of displaying appropriate combinations of: mandatory speed limits; lane closure wicket signs; red Xs; pictograms and text legends (see figures 4a to 4g below).
- Queue detection and automatic signalling system, which provides queue protection and congestion management.
- Comprehensive low light pan-tilt-zoom (PTZ) CCTV coverage.
- Stopped Vehicle Detection to enable early intervention and the setting of road signals that notify road users of the presence of a stopped vehicle.
- Places of relative safety provided at a maximum interval of 1.5 miles with an average spacing of just over 1 mile. A place of relative safety is defined as a place (or facility) where drivers can stop in an emergency and may include a motorway service area, a hard shoulder on an exit slip/link road or a bespoke facility, such as an emergency area marked with SOS signage. The Scheme includes 10 new emergency areas.
- Emergency Roadside Telephones (ERT) provided within emergency areas and in locations where the hard shoulder is retained.

### **3.3. Enforcement**

Obtaining an acceptable level of compliance with the variable mandatory speed limits (displayed on overhead gantries, cantilever mounted variable message signs and on post mounted advanced motorway indicators (where provided)) is key to the successful and safe operation of the Scheme. No new offences or sanctions will be introduced as a result of the proposed changes to legislation.

Enforcement of variable mandatory speed limits is planned to be carried out using a combination of gantry-mounted and cantilever mounted speed enforcement equipment, and traditional enforcement by the police.

## 4. Operation of the M6 junctions 21a to 26 smart motorway scheme

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To signify that the speed limit is mandatory and enforceable, the speed shown will have a red circle around it, as is the case with all other mandatory speed limit signs. The operational regimes to be implemented within the M6 junctions 21a to 26 smart motorway scheme are:

- Normal operation (no advanced motorway indicators or variable message signs on).
- Variable mandatory speed limits.
- Incident management.

An overview of these operational regimes is provided in Sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3.

### 4.1. Normal operation

During normal motorway operation the advanced motorway indicators (AMI) and variable message signs (VMS) will remain blank in respect of speed limits and the motorway will operate as shown in Figures 4a and 4b below. When there are no speed limits being displayed the national speed limit will apply.

**Figure 4a:** Illustrative smart motorway all-lane running scheme section operating in normal motorway conditions with blank advanced motorway indicators and blank gantry mounted variable message sign



**Figure 4b:** Illustrative smart motorway all-lane running scheme section operating in normal motorway conditions with a blank cantilever mounted variable message sign



## 4.2. Variable mandatory speed limits

When variable mandatory speed limits are operational, clear instructions will be given to drivers via speed limit signs. These will be displayed on post mounted advanced motorway indicator signals (where provided), via speed limit signs displayed on the advanced motorway indicator signals or variable message signs above the main carriageway. This is illustrated in Figures 4c and 4d below. The speed limit displayed will take account of prevailing traffic conditions through detectors which are deployed throughout the scheme. The variable message signs located on gantries will provide further information for drivers.

**Figure 4c:** Illustrative smart motorway all-lane running scheme section operating with variable mandatory speed limits due to congestion



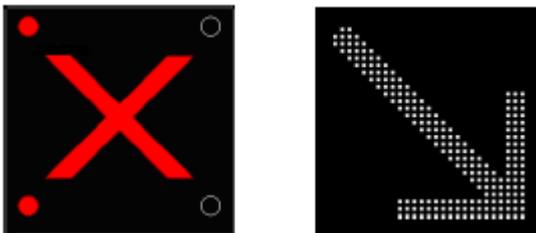
**Figure 4d:** Illustrative smart motorway all-lane running scheme section operating with variable mandatory speed limits and information for road users



### 4.3. Incident management

During incident management, the advanced motorway indicators and variable message signs can be set to protect the scene of an incident and assist the access of emergency services and other core responders. On the advanced motorway indicators, speed limits and lane availability will be indicated through the use of variable mandatory speed limits and lane divert arrow signals (with flashing amber lanterns) and 'Red X' signals (with flashing red lanterns) as shown in Figure 4e below. Reduced speed limits are also displayed on the approach to the lane closure. Further information about the sequence of signals in use can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-drive-on-a-smart-motorway>.

**Figure 4e:** Red X (do not enter, or proceed in, the traffic lane) aspect with flashing red lanterns and a lane divert signal shown on an advanced motorway indicator over any lane



Appropriate supporting information will be displayed on the variable message signs to further encourage compliant driver behaviour. A single variable message sign can display three simultaneous elements: in addition to the speed restriction, (as enabled through the Regulations), and supporting text legend, the sign can also display either a warning pictogram (typically a 'red triangle') or lane closure 'wicket' aspect, as indicated in Figures 4f and 4g.

**Figure 4f:** Variable message sign displaying queue caution information with a reduced mandatory speed limit



**Figure 4g:** Variable message sign with lane closure 'wicket' and flashing red lanterns warning of a closed lane



## **5. 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 meant by smart motorway?

A. A smart motorway is an upgraded section of motorway where the hard shoulder can be used for traffic, either on a permanent basis or in response to traffic conditions. Smart motorways have technology installed to monitor and manage traffic flow. As well as providing additional capacity from the extra lane, smart motorways use technology to manage traffic through variable mandatory speed limits which smooth traffic flow, reducing frustrating stop-start flow, and improving journey reliability. The technology is also used to support the response to incidents, using the signs and signals to close any lane(s) in advance of the incident scene and to assist emergency services in accessing the incident.

Different types of smart motorway include:

**Controlled motorway:** Controlled motorways have three or more lanes with variable speed limits. On these sections the hard shoulder should only be used in a genuine emergency.

**Hard shoulder running:** The hard shoulder will be opened at busy times and the speed limit will be reduced. The hard shoulder must not be used unless overhead signs show that road users are permitted to do so. All hard shoulder running motorways are scheduled to be upgraded to the latest 'All Lane Running' standard by March 2025.

**All-lane running:** On these sections of motorway, there is no hard shoulder and road users are required to obey variable speed limits and must not stop on the motorway. In the event of an emergency road users are required to use an emergency area, motorway service area or leave at the next junction.

Smart motorways are managed by Regional Operations Centres. They use CCTV so that Highways England traffic officers can be deployed to incidents if they occur and help to keep traffic moving.

### Q. What is happening?

A. The M6 motorway is a strategic route for local, regional and international traffic and plays a major role as;

- a major artery providing a motorway route between the north-west, the West Midlands and London via the M1; and
- a major inter-urban regional route connecting major conurbations and providing access to important international gateways. This section of the M6 carries more than 110,000 vehicles per day.

The project is proposing to introduce smart motorway operations between junctions 21a and 26. This involves the conversion of the hard shoulder to a normal running lane and the installation of a variable mandatory speed limit system. Gantries will be installed to display variable speed limits, which will be dependent upon traffic conditions. Emergency areas will be installed as a place of safe refuge in the event of an emergency.

**Q. Why is Highways England 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 variable mandatory speed limits within a smart motorways scheme on this section of the M6.

**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 variable mandatory speed limits. The consultation is aimed at any affected stakeholder groups.

**Q. Is the introduction of variable mandatory speed limits likely to be effective?**

**A.** Yes. Evaluation from previous upgrades has shown that being able to vary the speed limit improves journeys, especially at peak times. In addition, being able to reduce the speed limit and close lanes during incidents is an essential safety feature.

**Q. Why have a variable speed limit? Why not have a fixed speed limit?**

**A.** By varying the mandatory speed limit, Highways England can manage the flow of traffic more effectively. The speed limits displayed on the motorway will take account of prevailing traffic conditions with the aim of ensuring the smooth flow of traffic. Variable speed limits are a key feature of smart motorway schemes, modernising the operation of our motorways and finding the best solution for different parts of the network.

**Q. How does it work?**

**A.** The variable mandatory speed limits and messages shown on the variable message signs are automatically displayed in response to the level of congestion or traffic queues. Sensors in the road surface detect the speed, volume and flow of traffic which then calculate the optimum speed to keep traffic moving, reducing the level of stop-start traffic which leads to congestion. Drivers see the current speed limit displayed on electronic signals on the overhead gantries and variable message signs located above the nearside of the carriageway. The speed limits can also be set by control room operators if required.

**Q. When are the variable speed limits likely to become mandatory?**

**A.** We are hoping to implement the variable mandatory speed limits between junctions 21a and 26 of the M6 motorway in 2022/23.

**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.

**Q. Are variable mandatory speed limits linked to enforcement cameras?**

**A.** Yes, and as the variable mandatory speed limits change, the enforcement cameras will be automatically adjusted to suit the currently signalled limits.

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

**A.** The speed limits are enforced by the Police.

**Q. What happens if I travel past a signal/speed limit when it changes?**

**A.** Where a speed limit changes less than ten seconds before a vehicle passes the sign, the Regulations allow a driver to proceed at a speed up to the maximum applicable before the change, and to continue to do so until the driver leaves the specified road, the national speed limit applies or until the next speed limit sign.

For example should a driver approach a speed limit sign and it changes from 60 mph to 50 mph and he/she is within ten seconds of passing that sign then the driver can legally continue beyond that sign at 60 mph until a subsequent speed limit applies or until he/she leaves the specified road.

## Appendix B: Consultation response form

### M6 junction 21a to 26 smart motorway 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.co.uk/m6-j21a-26>

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 **23 December 2020**.

**Agnes Usciak**  
Project Manager  
Highways England  
2 Colmore Square  
Birmingham  
B4 6BN

Or by email: [M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:M6J21a-26SmartMotorway@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>	

<b>Please tick one box from the list below that best describes you/your company or organisation.</b>	
<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. Do you consider that the proposal to introduce variable mandatory speed limits on the M6 between junctions 21a and 26 will lead to an improvement in travelling conditions on this section of motorway (please tick yes or no in the boxes provided)?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>No</b>	
<b>Please provide any comments below.</b>		

<b>Q2. Are there any aspects of the proposal to introduce variable mandatory speed limits on the M6 between junctions 21a and 26 which give you concerns?</b>	Yes	
	No	
<b>Please provide any comments below.</b>		

<b>Q3. Are there any additional comments you would like to make about the proposal to introduce variable mandatory speed limits on the M6 between junctions 21a and 26?</b>	Yes	
	No	
<b>Please provide any comments below.</b>		

**Data Protection Statement**

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

Highways England 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 M6 junctions 21a to 26 smart motorway scheme will be processed and retained by Highways England 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, Highways England 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. Highways England 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@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:DataProtectionAdvice@highwaysengland.co.uk).

## Appendix C: List of consultees

Government / Local Government bodies	
Charlotte Nicols MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA	Conor McGinn MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
Yvonne Fovargue MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA	James Grundy MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
Lisa Nandy MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA	Rosie Cooper MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
Chief Executive Warrington Borough Council New Town House Buttermarket Street Warrington WA1 2NH	Chief Executive Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council Town Hall Library St Wigan WN1 1YN
Chief Executive St Helen's Council Town Hall Victoria Square St Helens Merseyside WA10 1HF	Transport for Greater Manchester 2 Piccadilly Place Manchester M1 3BG
North West of England Traffic Commissioner Suite 4 Stone Cross Place Stone Cross Lane Golborne Warrington WA3 2SH	Mayor of Greater Manchester GMCA Churchgate House 56 Oxford Street Manchester M1 6EU

Emergency services	
Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire Stockton Heath Police Station Grappenhall Road Warrington WA4 2AF	Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime GMCA Churchgate House 56 Oxford Street Manchester M1 6EU
The Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Lancashire County Hall Preston PR1 0LD	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Merseyside Allerton Police Station Rose Lane Liverpool L18 6JE
The Chief Constable Greater Manchester Police Openshaw Complex Lawton Street Openshaw Manchester M11 2NS	The Chief Constable Cheshire Constabulary Headquarters Clemonds Hey Oakmere Road Winsford CW7 2UA

The Chief Constable Merseyside Police Canning Place Liverpool Merseyside L1 8JX	The Chief Constable Lancashire Constabulary Headquarters Saunders Lane Hutton Preston PR4 5SB
North West Police Motorway Group Cheshire Constabulary Headquarters Clemonds Hey Oakmere Road Winsford CW7 2UA	Chief Fire Officer Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters 146 Bolton Road Swinton Manchester M27 8US
Chief Fire Officer Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters Winsford Cheshire CW7 2FQ	Chief Fire Officer Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters Bridle Road Bootle Liverpool L30 4YD
Chief Fire Officer Lancashire Fire & Rescue Headquarters Garstang Road Fulwood Preston PR2 3LH	The Chief Executive North West Air Ambulance Charity North Mersey Business Centre Woodward Road Knowsley L33 7UY
National Police Air Service West Yorkshire Police PO Box 9 Laburnum Road Wakefield WF1 3QP	

#### 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

#### Road and transport organisations

DVSA Berkeley House Croydon Street Bristol BS5 0DA	Chairman RAC Foundation 89-91 Pall Mall London SW1Y 5HS
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The AA Fanum House Basing View Basingstoke Hampshire RG21 4EA	The RAC RAC House Brockhurst Crescent Walsall WS5 4AW
The Institute of Vehicle Recovery Unit 11, Brook Business Centre Cowley Mill Road Uxbridge UB8 2FX	Green Flag The Wharf Neville Street Leeds LS1 4AZ
Road Haulage Association Roadway House Bretton Way Bretton Peterborough PE3 8DD	Freight Transport Association Hermes House St John's Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9UZ
The Alliance of British Drivers PO Box 1043 Stockton-on-Tees TS19 1XG	British Motorcyclists Federation 3 Oswin Road Brailsford Industrial Estate Braunstone Leicester LE3 1HR

### Business organisations

Chief Executive East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Riverside Mill Mountbatton Way Congleton Cheshire CW12 1DY	Chief Executive Warrington Chamber of Commerce International Business Centre Delta Crescent Westbrook Warrington WA5 7WQ
Chief Executive St Helen's Chamber of Commerce Salisbury Street (Off Charlton Way) St Helens WA10 1FY	Chief Executive Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce Elliott House 151 Deansgate Manchester M3 3WD

### Other interested parties

Manchester Airport Olympic House Manchester Airport Manchester M90 1QX	intu Trafford Centre Management Suite Trafford Centre Manchester M17 8AA
Haydock Park Race Course Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside WA12 0HQ	Liverpool John Lennon Airport Speke Hall Ave, Speke, Liverpool L24 1YD