

M6 J4 and M42 J7/7a Overnight closures toolkit



Introduction

Huge investment in transport infrastructure around the West Midlands is underway with HS2 constructing Britain's new highspeed railway.

Ahead of future works to the network that will be carried out by HS2, National Highways and their contractor Kier, need to do some preparatory works on the M42 and M6.

With all these improvements happening there will be some disruption to journeys in this area and we are here to help you keep moving.

Transport for West Midlands is working closely with National Highways and Kier to make sure all road users are aware of the traffic management associated with the works.

This toolkit will enable you to find out more information and provide support to help you plan your journey.

You can also contact the National Highways Contact Centre by:

Email: info@highwaysengland.co.uk

General enquiries 0300 123 5000

What is happening?

Temporary overnight (22.00 – 06.00) work is being carried out on the M6 near Junction (J) 4, Coleshill Interchange, for two weeks in late October 2021 with signed diversion routes in place during the work. The M42 J7 and 7a will also be affected. There will also be further work carried out in November. Closures are as follows;

18 to 26 October

- M6 J4 southbound exit slip road
- M42 J7a (M42 northbound to M6 southbound link road)

29 to 31 October

- M6 J4 northbound and southbound main carriageways
- M6 J4 northbound entry slip road
- M42 at J7 (M42 northbound to M6 northbound link road)
- M42 at J7a (M42 northbound to M6 southbound link road).

1 to 9 November

- M42 J7 (M42 northbound to M6 northbound link road)

How are we helping?

Transport for West Midlands is striving to deliver a world-class transport system which puts people at the heart of decisions and gives everyone in the West Midlands access to the very best education, training and employment opportunities, no matter where they live in the region. Over £3.4bn is committed over the next ten years to deliver an integrated transport system which meets the needs of our rapidly growing population, while enabling economic growth.

Our main aim is to provide a consistent and joined up message for all those people travelling in and around the area and to encourage them to plan their journeys and help reduce congestion.

This toolkit contains some useful information which will help you communicate the upcoming closure to your colleagues, customers and clients, complimenting a wider social media campaign.

[You can also visit our website.](#)

How to use this toolkit

Please share this toolkit with your marketing and communications department to help us inform people of the works through October and November 2021.

If you don't have a specific department, consider what information you will need to use from this pack, to communicate with your staff and customers.

Included in this toolkit:

- Sample customer and staff communication email
- Suggested social media posts
- Graphics for digital channels

Travel advice

The temporary road closures will be in place throughout the night but please be mindful that travel around surrounding areas may still be slightly busier than normal.

Travelling on the M6

A signed diversion will be in place for road users who use the M6 Junction 4 which may mean that routes are busier than usual.

Travelling on the M42

A signed diversion will be in place for road users who use the M42 Junction 7 which may mean that routes are busier than usual.

For more detailed information on the closures and to see the diversion routes, please use our [M6 Junction 4 Closures and Diversion Route storyboard map](#).

Plan ahead: If you travel through or around the affected junctions on the M6 or M42 you may need to change your route or retime your journey.

Allow more time for your journey: There will be diversions in place which may mean that routes are busier than usual.

Use public transport if possible: This is to reduce congestion in the immediate area.

Think about your options: The overnight closures on the M6 and M42 will mean that you may need to plan an alternative route. Check the latest traffic conditions before you leave using apps like Google Maps or Waze.

Facebook example

M6 J4 and M42 J7/7a overnight closures

October and November
2021

Plan Ahead



Suggested text

Throughout October and into November overnight works will be taking place affecting the M6 at junction 4 and the M42 at junction 7a.

A signed diversion will be in place for motorists who use the affected routes.

Travel around surrounding areas may be busier than normal. Plan ahead using apps and journey planners.

More here: www.tfwm.org.uk

Twitter example

M6 J4 and M42 J7/7a overnight closures

October and November 2021
Plan Ahead



Suggested text

A signed diversion will be in place for motorists who use the M6 J4 and M42 J7a whilst overnight works take place.

Travel around surrounding areas may be busier than normal. Plan ahead using apps and journey planners.

www.tfwm.org.uk

You can download these assets [here](#)

Suggested email to customers and staff

Below is some suggested copy that you may want to send to customers or staff who usually travel on the affected routes between the hours of 22.00 and 06.00.

In preparation for future works in the area, National Highways and their contractor Kier are carrying out a gantry removal and associated works are required on the M6/M42 motorways in late October/early November 2021.

*From **18 to 26 October**, the M6 Junction 4 southbound exit slip road will be closed overnight (22:00 – 06:00) along with Junction 7a of the M42 (M42 northbound to M6 southbound link road).*

*From **29 to 31 October**, the M6 northbound and southbound main carriageways at Junction 4 will be closed overnight (22:00 – 06:00). Also closed overnight will be the M6 Junction 4 northbound entry slip road, the M42 at Junction 7 (M42 northbound to M6 northbound link road) and the M42 at Junction 7a (M42 northbound to M6 southbound link road).*

*Finally, from **1 November to 9 November**, M42 Junction 7 (M42 northbound to M6 northbound link road) will be closed overnight (22:00 – 06:00).*

For further information on the planned closures and diversion routes, please visit the [TfWV website](#).

Useful contacts

For more information and project updates relating to the works please visit www.tfwm.org.uk

For up-to-the-minute travel information and help planning your journey:

Plan a journey	Transport for West Midlands	tfwm.org.uk	@transportforwm
- by bus	National Express	www.nxbus.co.uk	@nxwestmidlands
- by train	West Midlands Trains	www.westmidlandsrailway.co.uk	@WestMidRailway
- by Metro	West Midlands Metro	www.westmidlandsmetro.com	@WMMetro

If you would like help to support your staff and students with travel planning, drop us an email: travelchoices@tfwm.org.uk

If you require any campaign materials in an alternative format, get in touch: customerservices@tfwm.org.uk.

Partners

HS2

HS2 is a new high speed railway that will link up the North, the Midlands and South East, serving eight of Britain's 10 largest cities. It is critical for the UK's low carbon transport future and will provide much-needed rail capacity across the country. It is integral to other rail projects in the North and Midlands – helping rebalance the UK economy. For more information about HS2, please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk, or for more information about the works we are doing in the Solihull area please visit www.HS2inSolihull.co.uk



We operate, maintain and improve England's motorways and major A roads. Our roads network is vital to the running of the country and our customers and their safety remains our priority. We are committed to working with HS2 Ltd and other partners to plan and co-ordinate our works programmes where we can. Whilst these works are being carried out we will make every effort to keep you updated and informed in advance of works to help you plan your journeys and help support a better-connected future.

Email: info@highwaysengland.co.uk

General enquiries 0300 123 5000