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Work Progresses on Safety Barrier Upgrade

I would like to thank you for your continued understanding and patience as we continue to carry out the important safety upgrades on the central reservation barrier on the M40/M42 Interchange. As you may know, the works on this scheme are being carried out between M40 junction 16, via the M42 junction 3a and up to junction 4, in both directions. You may also know that we aim to complete the works by next spring 2024, however we're making excellent progress against the schedule as we replace the existing steel barrier with a stronger and more efficient concrete one. If you've travelled along the M40 or M42 you may have seen the new barrier appearing, as below, for example between M42 junctions 3a and 4.



Did you know that we aren't the only scheme in the local area? We are increasingly working in collaboration with the teams on the M42 Junction 6, M6 Junctions 4 to 10a, and HS2's works – often clarifying to customers which scheme is responsible for the works they enquire about! We acknowledge that highways schemes like these are likely to cause disruption but we're aiming to minimise them without compromising safety. We are as keen as ever to hear from you!

Our team of traffic support officers continue to regularly drive through the network to monitor and ensure it remains optimised for driver safety and assurance. We continue to offer free recovery via our expert supplier, K2 Recovery, to any motorists who break down within the confines of this scheme. Although, no-one wants to break down, it is heartening to hear good customer reports on the quality of K2's service.

Upcoming closures

As we progress towards completion, there will unfortunately be further closures. All will be listed on our scheme webpage: <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/west-midlands/m40-m42-interchange-smart-motorway>, also on the highway itself with diversion routes clearly signposted. You can also catch updates on our regional Twitter feed: [@HighwaysWMIDS](https://twitter.com/HighwaysWMIDS).

Social Value

Did you know that we're also supporting communities local to the M40-M42? Two sports clubs, Brightstar and Wallop, are among those that have received donations of labour and construction supplies. We are



also offering work experience opportunities and careers advice to young people. Recently we secured the donation of 30 pairs of high visibility jackets and trousers so the Betel UK charity can continue safely offering landscaping as part of its rehabilitation programme.

Another example of investment in communities is the roll-out of the Designated Funds initiative which offers support towards local eco-friendly activities. There's more at <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/designated-funds/>

Staying Connected

This letter is part of our ongoing effort to update those affected by or interested in this scheme. The webpage is one way to stay connected. Another is through our customer contact centre, on telephone 0300 123 5000 and email to info@nationalhighways.co.uk.

There are also these more detailed updates – sent by email or post as requested - to those on our distribution list. If you are not on it and would like to be, please let me know using my contact details below. If you know anyone who may be interested in this, please share it with them. If you do not want to receive future updates, please let me know and I will ensure you are deleted from the list.

Have a Safe T.R.I.P

This is National Highways' latest safety campaign which builds on its previous summer campaigns and is based on the T.R.I.P. acronym, which is designed to help motorists remember the key actions they need to take before they set out, particularly on long and unfamiliar journeys.

The campaign coincides with the holiday getaway period and will continue until Monday 4 September 2023. For more, visit the campaign webpage at <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/road-safety/trip/>



Yours Sincerely,
Veron

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