

M20 Junction 4

Eastern Bridge Widening

Scheme Update

Eastern Overbridge

The widening of the eastern overbridge was completed and opened to traffic on 5th February 2017.

A 3 minute time lapse video of the bridge being widened can be viewed at:

www.kent.gov.uk/junction4 by clicking on the 'Download footage of the M20 Junction 4 overbridge construction' link.

The changes to the J4 gyratory will be monitored to ensure that it operates as efficiently and safely as possible.

Yellow boxes have been provided at the crossover locations to help during peak periods (north west quadrant to follow). These have been requested by many people and they have now become possible following changes in Department of Transport guidance.

We apologise that construction of the scheme has taken longer than hoped and we are grateful for the patience of drivers using J4.

We are pleased to say that the scheme has been delivered with no injuries to the workforce, within the funding available and safely with no injuries to the workforce.

However, it not all about concrete and steel. Our contractor, Sisk & Sons, have also made a contribution to the community by engaging local businesses, employing an apprentice, undertaking some works for

a local charity and introducing civil engineering to students of Holmsdale School. Donating toys made by their apprentice carpenters to a local school and children's hospice.



Western Overbridge

The surfacing is in a poor condition. It will be resurfaced and the underlying waterproofing layer to the bridge replaced in September.

It cannot be done earlier because the work needs to be co-ordinated with maintenance works being carried out by Highways England on the M20 between junctions 4 and 6, and by the County Council along the A228 and on the A20 at Coldharbour.

When completed the remaining yellow box will be provided in the north west quadrant.

Newsletter 7

June 2017

Eastern Overbridge

- Completed 5th February 2017
- Operation of junction - ongoing

Castle Way

- Traffic Regulation Order to permanently ban right turn published 26 May
- Work to close the right turn to start in September.
- Duration of Castle Way junction work - 3 weeks

Western Overbridge

- Resurfacing works to take place over 3 successive weekends in September.

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Castle Way Junction

The right turn out of Castle Way was temporarily banned to help with the overall traffic management when the eastern overbridge was widened.

The opportunity was taken to consider whether this arrangement should be made permanent and consultation was carried out in summer 2016.

The overall response was fairly evenly split. Those in favour were concerned about the safety of the right turn manoeuvre and those against were concerned about the longer distance and increased journey time and cost.

Whether in favour or opposed, many people commented on the operation of Park Road roundabout because of the lack of storage around the circulating area for U turning traffic.

There have been 21 slight injury accidents in the last 5 years. The number and concentration of these accidents has identified it as a site requiring investigation. However, it is an unusual junction layout and difficult to see how realistic improvements could be made to improve safety.

The operation of Park Road roundabout in comparison can be easily improved. The traffic signals on both A228 approaches can be linked

during peak periods so that U turning traffic is not required to be held on the roundabout.

Following a report to the Tonbridge & Malling Joint Transportation Board meeting on 13 March a decision has been taken to make the right turn ban permanent. The report can be viewed at the Tonbridge and Malling website.

A Traffic Regulation Order, making the closure of the tight turn permanent, was published on 26 May. This will be subject to a 3 week consultation period.

Details are available at:

http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/Leybourne_NoRightTurn/consultationHome

The physical works will involve the closing of the two central reserve gaps, ducting for traffic signal cables and realigning of kerbs in Castle Way.

They are scheduled to commence in September and will take approximately 4 weeks to completed. The works carried out by Amey.

We understand that many people will be disappointed but safety has been the main reason for this decision and there will be improvements to Park Road roundabout traffic signals to make the U turn easier.

