

Ref: M20 Moveable Barrier

Highways England
Bridge House
1 Walnut Tree Close
Guildford
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GU1 4LZ

3 December 2020

Dear Stakeholder,

Live test of end of EU transition plans on the M20

Next week we are testing the moveable barrier that will help keep traffic moving in Kent when there's cross-Channel disruption.

The test, which we're carrying out with our partners in the Kent Resilience Forum, will start on Friday 11 December. It means parts of the motorway between Maidstone and Ashford will be closed for four nights, with signed diversions in place.

The barrier will be used to create a new layout on the M20. By creating a contraflow system on the London bound carriage way, this allows traffic to travel in both directions of the motorway at the same time as port bound lorries are held when required on the coastbound carriageway.

The barrier is part of Operation Brock, a series of measures that will keep the M20 open in both directions during periods of cross-Channel disruption. During the test the barrier and other traffic management will be installed and then removed.

To make sure the barrier is deployed and removed safely, the M20 will be closed between junction 7 (for Maidstone) and junction 9 (Ashford) overnight (8pm to 8am) on Friday 11, Saturday 12, Sunday 13, and Monday 14 December. The motorway will return to normal by 8am on Tuesday 15 December. Whenever the M20 is closed, clearly signed diversions will be in place.

At the end of the test the barrier will be returned to the London-bound hard shoulder.

We will also need to close parts of the M20 on weeknights before the test to put out traffic management. You can find out more about these closures, as well as the test, road layouts, road closures and diversion routes on:

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/south-east/m20-junction-8-to-9-moveable-barrier/>

This work has been planned with Kent Resilience Forum partners, including Kent Police and Kent County Council.

Check before you travel

Please always check [https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/south-east/m20-junction-8-to-9-moveable-barrier/](https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/south-east/m20-<u>junction-8-to-9-moveable-barrier/</u>) before you plan any journeys or for changes in our programme.

You can also contact us on 0300 123 5000 or reach the M20 Project Team direct by emailing M20MoveableBarrier@highwaysengland.co.uk and we will be glad to help you with any questions or queries you might have.

You can also follow us on twitter [@HighwaysSEAST](https://twitter.com/HighwaysSEAST)

We would like to thank you in advance for your understanding, patience and support during the forthcoming live test.

Yours faithfully,

Manish Somrah,
Project Manager
Highways England