



Welcome to the fourth edition of our newsletter for the A12 junction 25 Marks Tey to junction 26 Stanway concrete road reconstruction scheme.

In this issue we provide an update on the work we've recently completed, what we're doing next, the upcoming weekend closure, contraflow switch, our recent Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) score and how our team have been helping at a local food bank and the Eco Festival.

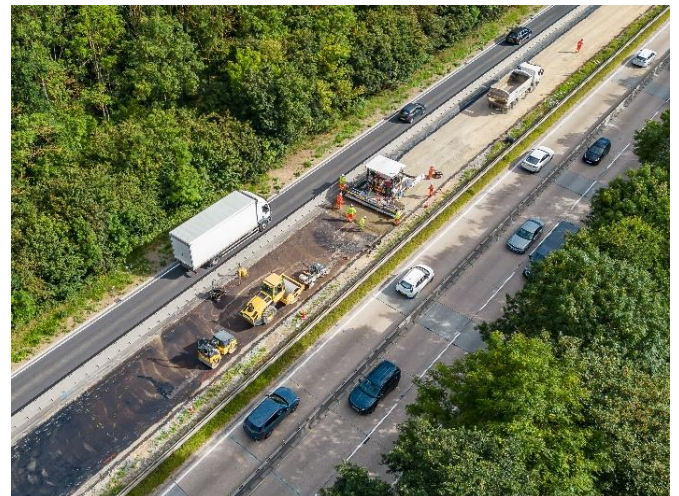
What have we been doing?

Since our last newsletter, we've been continuing to make good progress on the A12 northbound between junction 25 and junction 26. We've excavated and removed around 80% of lanes 2 and 3 and have already begun installing the new foundations.



A roller making sure the ground is level

In the section between junction 25 and the Turkey Cock Lane bridge, we've laid around 60% of the new foundations and have also been laying a large number of new kerbs and drainage.



Rebuilding lanes 2 and 3 of the A12 northbound

We've completed all of the drainage along the section between Turkey Cock Lane and junction 26 and have excavated and removed around 75% of the old concrete foundations.

The recent weekend closures to allow us to work between the northbound junction 25 exit and entry slips, has seen us fully rebuild and lay the new surfacing along lane 2. We've also been able to remove around 50% of the old foundations from lane 3 and we expect to finish this work in our next planned full weekend closure.

Final leg of weekend works

We're entering the final stages of our current phase and have nearly completed the entire rebuilding and surfacing of the northbound carriageway, with our final weekend closure coming up.

We can only do this work under a full weekend closure, due to the time needed for both the new foundations and surfacing to dry and the current layout of the contraflow lanes.



A bird's eye view of the A12 northbound work

The A12 northbound carriageway between junction 25 Marks Tey and junction 26 Stanway will be closed from **9pm Friday 6 to 5am Monday 9 October**.

Diverted traffic will exit at junction 25 Marks Tey and travel along B1408, A1124 and re-join the A12 at junction 26 Stanway.

Please note that part-time traffic signals will be in place on the roundabout. However, we still expect there will be severe delays in the area on these dates, so we encourage drivers to plan ahead and avoid the area if possible.

We'd like to thank all our customers and local residents for their understanding and patience whilst we've carried and continue to carry out this work.

Get in contact with us

If you'd like more information about this work, then please call the 24/7 National Highways Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000, email info@nationalhighways.co.uk

What are we doing next?

Alongside finishing the entire rebuilding of the northbound carriageway between the junction 25 exit and entry slips, we're planning on completing the rest of the northbound work over the next 6 weeks, before we move into the next phase of the scheme.



Concrete foundations being removed

This will see us complete the excavation and removal of the old concrete, install the rest of the new foundations and lay the final lengths of drainage. We'll also be installing the rest of the new gullies and kerbs and once this is all complete, we'll be moving the contraflow lanes, so we can begin working on the southbound carriageway between junction 26 and junction 25.

Upcoming contraflow switch

So that we can start rebuilding lane 1 of the southbound carriageway, we'll need some overnight closures to move the barriers around.

The current contraflow setup will switch, so that lanes 1 and 2 on the northbound carriageway will carry northbound traffic and lane 3 of the southbound and lane 3 of the northbound carriageway, will start carrying the southbound traffic.

We expect to make this switch around mid-October but please visit our scheme webpage, to find out the latest information about the closure dates and diversion routes:
<https://nationalhighways.co.uk/marksteytostanway>

The Considerate Constructors Scheme think we're 'Outstanding'!



We recently had our second site visit from the CCS auditor and scored full marks in each section!

The categories we are audited on cover how we 'Respect the Community', 'Care for the Environment' and 'Value our Workforce' and we were delighted to find out we'd achieved the highest possible result.

The CCS is a not-for-profit, independently managed organisation that supports and guides positive change in the construction industry.

Colchester food bank volunteering visit

Members of the project team from our principal contractor John Sisk, and National Highways colleagues, recently volunteered at the Colchester Food Bank, located on Tollgate Retail Park.



One of our staff helping sort donations

The team helped sort over 140 boxes of food and toiletries, which will all go to those in need.

The food bank was established in 2008 and provides individuals and families from the Colchester area with emergency food parcels, toiletries and clothes. They also offer budgeting support, tea and lunch clubs.



The team who volunteered at the Colchester Food Bank

Due to the ongoing cost of living crisis, donations have dropped dramatically but the reliance on people using the food bank has increased 47% since last year.

Nikki, the Client and Driver Supervisor said, *'Thank you so much for your help today, we rely solely on our many volunteers helping sort incoming donations and putting together food parcels, so thank you for taking the time to come down.'*

You can find out more about the fantastic work they do and information about volunteering and donating [here](#).

Eco Festival site setup help

Some of our ground staff volunteered at the recent Eco Festival, to help get the site ready to welcome over 4,500 visitors, by erecting marquees and moving equipment around the site to ensure the festival was ready for the following day.

The festival is a free event organised by local volunteers from En-Form. Their main aim is to educate people on how they can lead more sustainable lives by consuming products and services differently.



A marquee going up at the Eco Festival, with help from our ground staff

Andrew Wilkinson, En-Form's Project Manager said, *"Great thanks to Sisk volunteers who helped erect marquees at the Eco Festival 2023. They did a great job and we would have struggled to put the marquees up without them. Please let your volunteers know how much we appreciated their help."*

We are always on the lookout for local community or charity groups that we can help by either volunteering or donating materials, so please drop us an email if you have any suggestions.

Marks Tey Farmer's Market - public information event

As we are now well into the construction phase of our project, we're hosting another public information event to allow customers to learn more about the work we're completing, our progress so far and upcoming work. This is also a chance to meet members of the project team, who will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

You can come along between 9am and 1pm on Saturday 30 September, at the Marks Tey Farmer's Market, Marks Tey Parish Hall, Old London Road, Marks Tey, Colchester, CO6 1EJ.

The hall is adjacent to the interchange of the A12 and A120 and is easily accessible by car, with free parking available on site. The market is just a few minutes' walk from Marks Tey Railway Station, where bus links to Colchester, Braintree and surrounding villages can also be found.

Get in contact with us

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We've set up a free SMS alerts service to warn road users, via text message, of any incidents that occur within our roadworks on the A12 during peak travel times.

You can sign up for this service by sending your mobile number to: ConcreteRoadsEssex@nationalhighways.co.uk.

Please reference the '**A12 Marks Tey to Stanway SMS service**' in the subject line of your email. You can opt out at any time by contacting us at the same email address.

Tell us what you think

We'd like to hear what you think about the information we send to you.

Please spend a few minutes completing our online questionnaire, which you can access by scanning this QR code:



Alternatively, you can also complete the questionnaire by visiting:

<https://forms.office.com/e/rE05BmCNit>