

M2 Junction 5 Improvement Update

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/south-east/m2-junction-5-improvements/>

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Introduction

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Project Introduction – Location & The Need

Location

The M2 forms part of an important corridor for the southeast, connecting London and Dover.

Junction 5 provides the main access point for people travelling northeast to Sittingbourne, the Isle of Sheppey and the Port of Sheerness, and southwest to Maidstone and the surrounding area.

The Need

This junction and the A249 Stockbury Roundabout cannot cope with the current and future expected volume of traffic.

It is also one of the top 50 national casualty hotspots on England's major A roads and motorways.

The scheme improvements aim to improve journey times, reduce delays and improve safety of the junction for all road users.

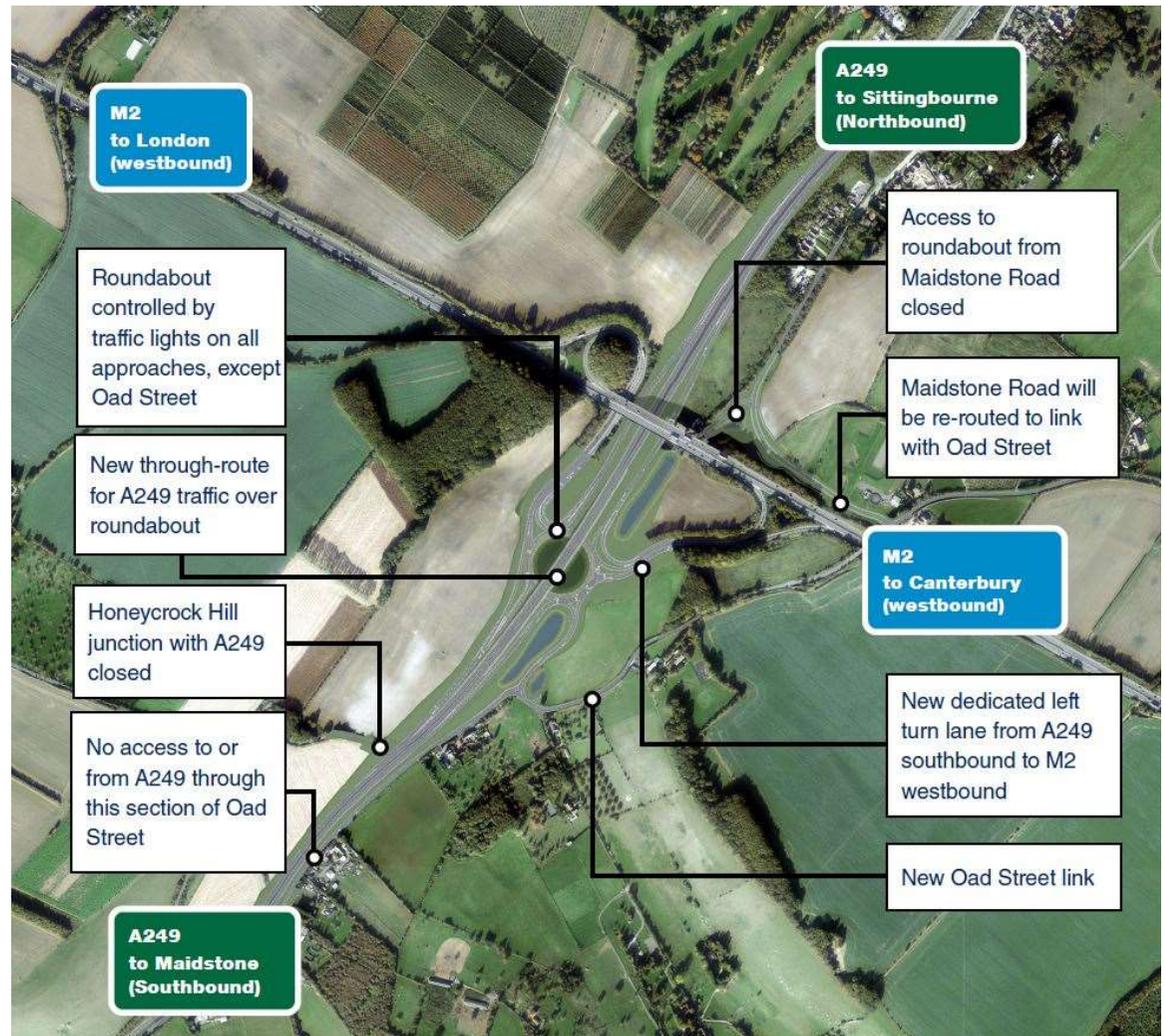
The capacity upgrade will also help economic growth in the area, as it will support future housing and employment opportunities in the area.



Project Introduction – What We’re Doing

The Improvements

- Providing a new flyover, over the top of the existing roundabout, allowing free-flowing movement on the A249
- Creating two new dedicated free flowing slip roads:
 - left turn from the A249 southbound to the M2 westbound towards London
 - left turn from the A249 northbound to the M2 eastbound towards Canterbury
- Closing the connection from the Maidstone Road to the A249 Stockbnury Roundabout
- Re-routing the Maidstone Road to link with Oad Street
- Building a new link from Oad Street that connects directly with the A249 Stockbury Roundabout and closing the existing junction of Oad Street and the A249
- Closing the Honeycrock Hill junction with the A249 for safety reasons



Where We Are

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Current Position & Look Ahead – Stage 5 Pre-construction & Stage 6 Construction

Current Project Position

M2 J5 is currently running at Stage 5 (pre-construction) and will soon be in Stage 6 (construction), as we begin to start preparing the site from September 2021 for the main construction activities to begin at the start of 2022.

Upcoming Major Milestones

Activity	Date
Site clearance	September 2021 – January 2022
Main construction	January 2022 – Winter 2024
Open for traffic	Winter 2024



What We'll Be Doing

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Current Position & Look Ahead – Stage 5 Pre-construction & Stage 6 Construction

How We'll Deliver the Scheme

Our project team have developed a programme to ensure we work as efficiently and safely as possible, while minimising disruption to customers and keeping the traffic on and around the junction moving.

There will be times when we need to close roads in order to keep everyone safe while carry out work. We'll advertise these well in advance, along with any diversion routes, through our project website and social media.

The following show approximate timescales of the key stages of our project.



1 Year Look Ahead

Work Activities From September 2021

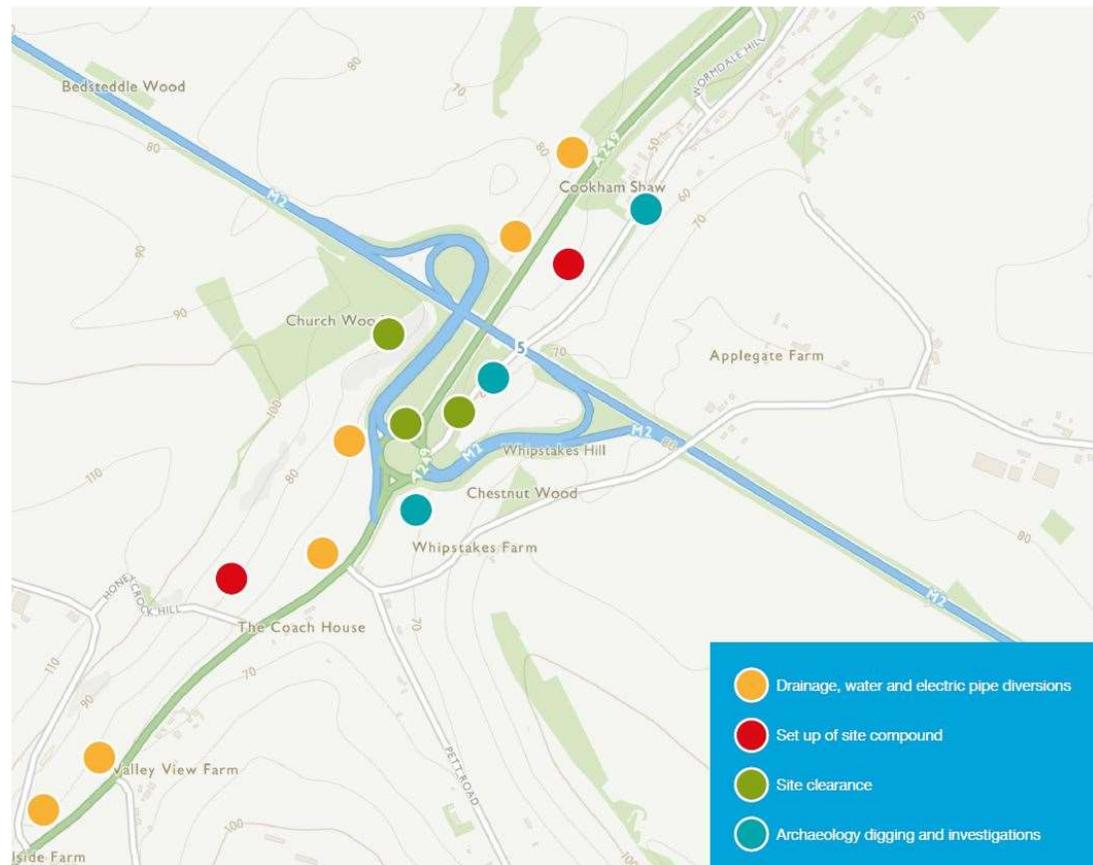
For the first phase of our work, we will be preparing the site for main construction.

This consists of clearing vegetation, creating habitats for wildlife, relocating hedgerows and woodland plants, setting up site compounds and carrying out some archaeological investigations.

There will also be some closures along the A249, so we can move utility pipes underneath the road.

More information about these, will be available on the project website.

- **Site clearance**
- **Utility diversions**
- **Archaeological investigations**
- **Site compound set up**



1 Year Look Ahead

Work Activities

January 2022 – Winter 2022

The second phase of our work will see the main construction activities start.

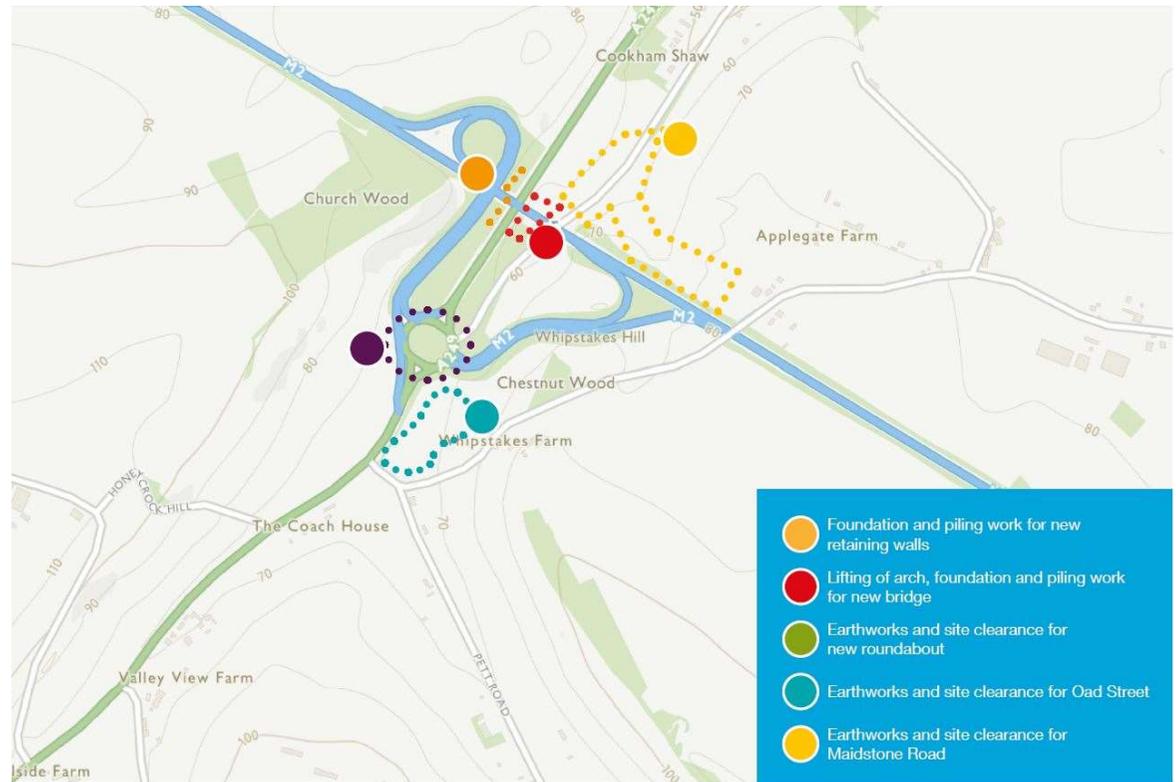
This includes preparing the new links with the junction for Maidstone Road and Oad Street.

We'll be clearing the sites, excavating, prepping the ground and beginning to install drainage.

You'll also notice the installation of foundations starting on the new bridge under the M2.

The bridge will be completed by the end of the year.

- **Start of main construction**
- **Preparation work for new Oad Street link**
- **Site clearance**
- **Foundation and piling work**



Stakeholders & Customers

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Stakeholder Management & Community Engagement

- Letters will soon be distributed to the surrounding area to residents and businesses to confirm the start of works dates and provide information on how customers can keep up to date with the project and also the many ways of being able to contact the project team
- A virtual public information exhibition will take place from mid-September, where stakeholders and customers can visit an online hall to find out more about the scheme and also ask the Project Team any questions they may have in relation to the improvements
- A physical public information exhibition will take place at the end of October at various locations around the vicinity of the junction, in order for locals to find out more about the scheme and also ask the Project Team any questions they may have in relation to the improvements
- Engagement is already underway with Stockbury Parish Council in order to plan work and minimise disruption to the residents
- We are also holding meetings with Kent County Showground in order to work collaboratively and not have closures in place that could impact events
- We are also working with many other stakeholders in the region to find best ways of working and planning any road closures to minimise disruption on customers and businesses

Questions

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