M4 junctions 16 to 17 geotechnical and bridge works

We're undertaking a major £20 million improvement scheme on the M4 between junctions 16 and 17 near Swindon to maintain the long-term safety and reliability of this important route.

Start date November 2026
End date Spring 2028
Cost £20m

Latest updates Overview

Latest updates

04 September 2026

Planned closures and traffic management

During work, we'll reduce the motorway to two lanes with a contraflow system. We're setting a 50mph speed limit 24 hours a day to keep you and our workforce safe.

You may face minor delays while the contraflow is in place. Please allow extra time for your journey, especially at peak times. We'll provide 24/7 breakdown recovery throughout.

We'll need some overnight closures to safely install and switch traffic management layouts.

We'll clearly sign diversion routes via Wootton Bassett and Chippenham during closures.

Closures

5 October to 5 November - M4 east and westbound ju

Cookie preferences

Overnight lane closures for vegetation clearance (9pm-6am).

M4 eastbound will also have a daytime hard shoulder closure.

14 to 15 November - M4 westbound junctions 16 to 17

Closed overnight (9pm-6am) to install two lanes running and 50mph speed limit.

M4 junction 16 to 17 closure and diversion route map

15 November 2026 to 17 February 2027 - M4 westbound junctions 16 to 17

We're closing the hard shoulder and lane 1, with a 50mph limit in place.

We're repairing

- the hard shoulder and drainage
- stabilising the embankment
- upgrading safety barriers.

Eastbound, all three lanes will run as normal.

21 and 22 November - M4 westbound junctions 16 to 17

Closed overnight (9pm-6am) to finish installing the two lanes running.

M4 junction 16 to 17 closure and diversion route map

Please remember that closures can change at short notice. You can find the latest information on our daily closures page or check for current incidents, disruptions and delays. Our travel alerts give details of high priority incidents on our network.

Project information

— Overview

The work is starting on 14 November 2026 and is expected to take two years to complete.

This is a significant investment in the M4 that will deliver vital repairs to maintain the safety, resilience and reliability of a key route across Wiltshire and the South

West, while keeping traffic moving throughout most of the works.

Scheme overview map

+ Benefits



Traffic information

Information about scheduled roadworks and events on our motorways and major roads.

Contact us

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