Post Opening Project Evaluation M40 Junction 15 (Longbridge) Bypass



Five Years After Opening Study

January 2017

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What is the scheme?

The M40 Junction 15 (Longbridge) Bypass Scheme opened on the 18th June 2010. The scheme was implemented in two stages:

- **Phase One** (opened December 2009) involved construction of a dual carriageway bypass link to the west of M40 Junction 15, connecting the existing A46 north and south of the motorway in order to allow vehicles on the A46 to continue without having to travel through Junction 15 of the M40. The northern connection is a two level free-flow link and the southern connection is a roundabout which also includes an unopposed segregated left turn from the bypass to the main roundabout junction.
- **Phase Two** (opened June 2010) involved the widening and upgrading of the M40 Junction 15 roundabout in order to relieve congestion.

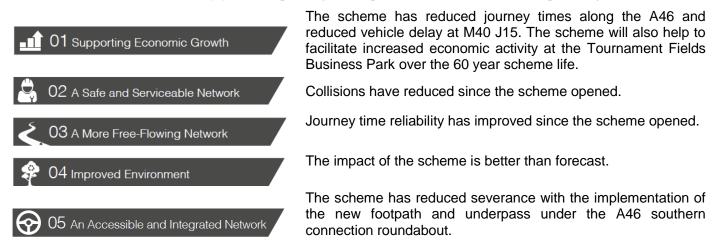
What are the main findings from the study?

- Journey times have reduced for vehicles travelling in both directions along the A46 carriageway and for all vehicles movements at M40 Junction 15. The greatest time savings are experienced during the AM network peak.
- The new A46 scheme bypass has successfully diverted traffic that does not require the M40 away from junction 15 during the post-opening period, with 26,400 vehicles using the new A46 scheme bypass on an average weekday.
- Traffic flows are lower than forecast around M40 J15, however they have still increased.
- There has been an improvement in safety, although this cannot be directly attributed to the scheme measures.
- The impact of the scheme on the **environment is better than forecast** for the environmental indicators assessed.
- Monetary benefits are lower than the expected forecast of £268.9 million but are still high with outturn
 present value benefits of £126.6 million to the economy.
- The investment cost of building the scheme was 5% higher than forecast.

Does the scheme meet its scheme specific objectives?

Objective	Has the objective been achieved?
To reduce congestion at M40 Junction 15 and improve travel times by reducing the amount of A46 traffic travelling through the junction.	\checkmark
To improve safety for road users at the junction through the various improvements to the roundabout	\checkmark

How does the scheme support Highways England's current strategic objectives?



If you want more detail about the outcomes of this scheme then please refer to the Five Years After Opening Evaluation Report on the Highways England website.