

Post Opening Project Evaluation

A14 Junctions 7-9 Kettering Bypass Improvement - One Year After



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Post Opening Project Evaluation of Major Schemes

A14 Junctions 7-9 Kettering Bypass Improvement

One Year After Opening Study – Key Points



What is the scheme?

The A14 Junctions 7-9 Kettering Bypass Improvement is a Highways England major scheme which was completed in May 2015. The scheme provided additional capacity by widening the existing carriageway from 2 to 3 lanes in both directions between Junctions 7-9.






What are the main findings from the study?

- Observed **traffic growth** along the scheme section is lower than forecast.
- Average **journey times** have **reduced during all time periods** along the scheme section as **average speeds** along the scheme section have increased.
- **Journey time reliability**, as measured by the variation in journey times, has improved along the scheme section.
- Initial findings indicate that the **collision record has improved**, however statistical significance testing indicated that the change cannot be confidently attributed to the scheme as this early stage.
- Impacts of the scheme on the **environment are as expected** for the environmental indicators assessed.

Does the scheme meet its scheme specific objectives?

Objective	Has the objective been achieved?
To support sustainable economic activity and local development plans	Too early to be conclusive.
To support and enhance the role of the current A14 Kettering Junctions 7-9 as a major (Trans-European Network) and inter-urban regional transport artery	✓
To reduce congestion and provide additional capacity, increase journey time reliability and ensure the safe and economic operation of the trunk road	✓
To support housing and job growth in the region	Too early to be conclusive.
To achieve a safety objective under which the 'after' collision numbers (per annum) on the J7-9 section of the A14 are no greater than those 'before' and the severity ratio is not increased	Too early to determine if the change is related to the scheme.
The scheme should improve journey time reliability by improving and better managing traffic flow conditions	✓
The scheme should reduce the effects of queuing on the slip roads on mainline flow	✓
To minimise the detrimental environmental effects of the scheme and offset by mitigation measures where technically feasible and economic to do so, taking account of costs, availability of funding and statutory obligations	✓

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

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01 Supporting Economic Growth
 Much needed additional carriageway capacity has been provided along a key part of the network.
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02 A Safe and Serviceable Network
 Collisions have reduced slightly since the scheme opened.
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03 A More Free-Flowing Network
 Journey times and journey time reliability have improved between J 7-9 since the scheme opened.
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04 Improved Environment
 Environmental mitigation was provided which minimised predicted adverse environmental impacts in line with proposals.
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05 An Accessible and Integrated Network
 The scheme has not had a detrimental effect on the severance impact for vulnerable users.

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