

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 July 2019 19:05
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Hi,
Thanks [REDACTED]. This looks very pragmatic to me.
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Highways England Ltd.
[REDACTED]
Sent from a mobile device

On Tue, Jul 16, 2019 at 6:52 PM +0100, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hello,

Here is the way forward that has been agreed with our partners at Kent County Council. The [REDACTED] of Highways and Transport has briefed his [REDACTED] – [REDACTED], who is comfortable with our approach.

The programme for the M2 junction 7 to 5 is to carry out essential resurfacing to lanes 1 and 2, and the hard shoulder.

This section of the M2 is a two-lane carriageway and we are unable to undertake these works in a single lane closure due to the clearance required for the safety of our workforce and the public. By concentrating on three weekends of work, we would considerably reduce the number of closures on the M2.

Highways England recognise the impact the closures of the weekend of 12th July had on the local Kent road network and inconvenience on all our customers. Consequently, we have undertaken a thorough review of our plans in collaboration with Kent County Council (KCC).

The M2 junctions 7 – 5 will remain open this Friday (19th) for any summer getaway traffic. We will monitor traffic conditions throughout Saturday (20th) and if favourable, we will take advantage of our planned closure to try to maximise the volume of work we carry out. This closure would be in place from Saturday night through to 0430 on Monday (22nd) morning – allowing local coach services to operate.

Works that were planned to take place on the A2 are not taking place this weekend and therefore the impact experienced last weekend, should not be as severe.

Additional information will be provided to assist road users with their journeys. This will include enhanced signs across both the Highways England and KCC networks and within the Port of Dover. Our traffic officers will also be on hand to ensure traffic runs smoothly.

Work will continue through the planned weeknight closures and we will continue to work with KCC to identify options for future weekend closures.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Highways England | Bridge House | 1 Walnut Tree Close | Guildford | Surrey | GU1 4LZ

[Redacted]

Web: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/>

Keep up to date with our roads projects at [Highways England South East Road Projects](#)
Customer Contact Centre is available 24/7 on 0300 123 5000 or at info@highwaysengland.co.uk
Twitter - @HighwaysSEAST



From: [Redacted]

Sent: 16 July 2019 16:45

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Good Afternoon,

[Redacted] has suggested that if he has the chance he will raise this as a PMQ if the issue is not likely to be resolved. PMQs are tomorrow at midday – please can we have a top line to send over to number 10 just to be on the safe side ASAP.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Department for Transport

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 16 July 2019 15:40

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Yes – that should be available by the end of today / beginning tomorrow.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 July 2019 15:38

To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

[REDACTED]

Thank you very much for the update and your engagement with Kent CC on this issue.

Given the level of interest from local MPs and correspondence received by Ministers, as indicated in my earlier e-mail.

Please could you agree in your conversation with Kent CC a set of messaging and outputs they could share with the Department and local MP's.

Thanks

[REDACTED], Department for Transport

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 July 2019 14:59
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Hello,

I am currently liaising with the [REDACTED] of Highways & Transport at Kent County Council on this issue.

A call is planned later today.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Web: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/>

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Customer Contact Centre is available 24/7 on 0300 123 5000 or at info@highwaysengland.co.uk
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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 July 2019 14:52

To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Thank you very much for offering a follow up call to [REDACTED] Kent CC).

The Department has received several more correspondence throughout the day on disruption.

We have been requested by [REDACTED] Private Office to provide an urgent update on the issue.

Please could you confirm if a phone call has taken place with [REDACTED] and a brief note on the discussion including any outputs.

Thanks

[REDACTED], Department for Transport

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 July 2019 16:08
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

[REDACTED] email is [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Regards

Highways England | The Cube | 199 Wharfside Street | Birmingham | B1 1RN

Tel: [REDACTED] **Mobile:** [REDACTED]

Web: <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 July 2019 16:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

[REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your quick response.

Please could you provide the up to date contact details for [REDACTED] that I can forward to DfT SpADs and Kent County Council.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | , , Department for Transport
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 July 2019 15:57
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

[REDACTED]

I can confirm that [REDACTED] is still the appropriate contact and is happy for you to provide her details.

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Highways England | The Cube | 199 Wharfside Street | Birmingham | B1 1RN
Tel: [REDACTED] **Mobile:** [REDACTED]
Web: <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 July 2019 15:12
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

[REDACTED]

We have received a request through today from DfT SpADs to provide an appropriate contact in HE for the [REDACTED] of Kent CC to talk to about the impact of the M2 roadworks.

Can you please confirm [redacted] (indicated below) is still the appropriate contact to discuss this and I am able to provide her details to DfT SpADs.

Thanks

[redacted], Department for Transport

From: [redacted]
Sent: 15 July 2019 14:33
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

As discussed, please see below chain regarding a HE phone call.

Thanks,

[redacted] Department for Transport

From: [redacted]
Sent: 10 July 2019 14:19
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Hi [redacted]

Yes, that's fine to share the note and [redacted] our [redacted] would be happy to take a call if necessary. Additionally a response to the original letter received from Stagecoach will be going out tomorrow.

Kind regards

[redacted]
Highways England | The Cube | 199 Wharfside Street | Birmingham | B1 1RN
Tel: [redacted] Mobile: [redacted]
Web: <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk>

From: [redacted]
Sent: 10 July 2019 14:11
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Hi [redacted]

Thanks very much for this – our officials are in agreement that it would be appropriate to share this note with [REDACTED] and offer a phone call with HE Officials if necessary. Do you think this will be ok? It will go in the [REDACTED] box this evening so no further action would be needed until tomorrow.

Thanks,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Department for Transport

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 July 2019 13:10
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Hi [REDACTED]

Please find attached a briefing on the M2 as requested. Please let me know if you require anything further.

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Highways England | The Cube | 199 Wharfside Street | Birmingham | B1 1RN
Tel: [REDACTED] **Mobile:** [REDACTED]
Web: <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 July 2019 11:16
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Thanks very much for this - apologies for the tight timelines.

Thanks,
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On 10 Jul 2019, at 11:11, [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well too. Thanks for your email and we are preparing a response as requested.

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Highways England | The Cube | 199 Wharfside Street | Birmingham | B1 1RN

Tel: [REDACTED] Mobile: [REDACTED]

Web: <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk>

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 10 July 2019 10:29

To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: URGENT MINISTERIAL QUERY: Highways England M2 Closures - 3pm Deadline

Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well.

Please see below a very urgent email regarding Highways England closures. Please can we get an update by 3pm today from the relevant Highways England team on the following:

- Is the below interpretation of the closures on the M2 correct? If it is correct, [REDACTED] will need an urgent briefing note and a response to [REDACTED] prepared (for [REDACTED] Approval).
- If this interpretation is not correct, please can a response to [REDACTED] be prepared explaining the actual situation (for [REDACTED] approval).
- Has any consideration been given to the suggestion regarding one lane closures at a time if his interpretation is correct?

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Department for
Transport

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of

[REDACTED]

Sent: 09 July 2019 17:28

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Closure of the M2 Junction 7-5 westbound 12 July-6 August

Importance: High

[REDACTED]

I would be grateful for your urgent assistance on the following.

It has come to my attention via Stagecoach South East that it is planned by Highways England that the M2 is planned to be closed from 12th July – 6th August from 20:00 – 06:00. I do not need to remind you that this is the height of the tourism season and the Ports of Dover and Folkestone operate 24/7. Full closure westbound during these periods will be disastrous.

Surely this work can be carried out by closing one lane at a time during these periods with a necessary 40mph speed limit? We need to get this issue resolved in short order. I understand that [REDACTED] is meeting with [REDACTED] this week. A sensible solution needs to be found urgently.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,
<image001.jpg>

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] of Kent County Council

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