

Our ref: HA 9/41/47

Your ref:

4A
Federated House
London Road
Dorking RH4 1SZ

9 July 2008

M25 JUNCTION 12 PROPOSED NEW ROAD LAYOUT INCLUDING A LOWER SPEED LIMIT

The Secretary of State for Transport is currently considering a scheme to make permanent the current temporary new road layout at the junction of the M25 and the westbound carriageway of the M3 at Thorpe Interchange. The scheme is designed to reduce congestion on the M25 for traffic wishing to join the M3 westbound.

The proposed scheme would provide an upgraded entry onto the M3 westbound. This consists of two dedicated lanes for traffic joining from the M25 and a single lane for the M3 westbound. At the merge, the single lane of the M3 is joined by two dedicated lanes from the M25. After this point the M3 westbound is restored to a three lane motorway. To ensure the safe operation of the new layout, it is proposed that a permanent mandatory 50mph speed restriction is implemented on, the westbound carriageway of the M3 from the A320 (Staines Road) bridge, east of Thorpe Interchange (M3 Junction 2/ M25 Junction 12), to Kitsmead Lane bridge, west of Thorpe Interchange, and the link roads leading from the M25 to the westbound carriageway of the M3 at Thorpe Interchange.

On a typical weekday 32,000 vehicles travel on the M25 and join the M3 Coast bound compared to 20,000 vehicles travelling on the coastbound M3 past the M25/M3 junction. Overall the new layout has delivered a net journey time benefit saving of 77,000 Vehicle Hour Delay per year saved over the original layout.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require further information. If you wish to make any formal comments on these proposals, I should be grateful if you would let me have them in writing not later than 1 October 2008.

Yours faithfully

Clive Cooper
Project Sponsor
Network Operations South East Area 5.

