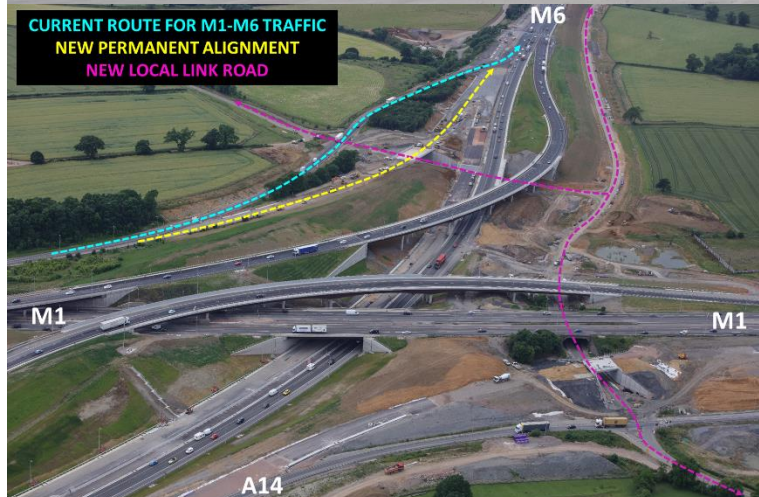
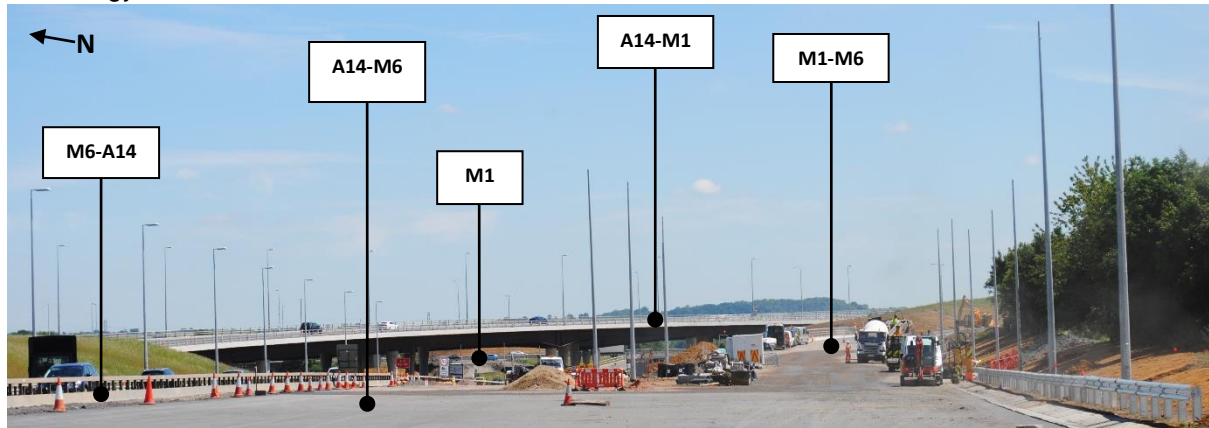


M1 Junction 19 Improvement Scheme Update – July 2016

Major site activities

We are fast approaching a number of important project milestones, the first of which is the planned opening of the permanent M1 to M6 northbound link road on Friday 29 July. We have been installing drainage, laying road surfacing, fitting safety barriers, waterproofing the new bridge structure and preparing the verges for planting. We have also commissioned new lighting and the communications technology.



When outstanding work is completed, traffic will be switched from the current temporary road onto a new free-flow link which passes over one of the six new bridge structures. This will enable us to start work on the remaining section of the new local link road leading to Catthorpe village.

We have been constructing the permanent A14 to M6 westbound carriageway using a particularly robust material which is made by mixing aggregates with cement. We

lay surfacing over the hardened mix to form a durable carriageway surface which typically requires less maintenance when compared to roads built from more traditional products (e.g. asphalt). It can also be laid as a thinner layer than other sub-base materials which is quicker, more cost-effective and better for the environment. We plan to switch traffic out of the current contraflow arrangement in early August meaning there will be one lane running on both eastbound and westbound carriageways. This will allow us to carry out work in the central reserve area, and we expect to open this link fully in September.

We have repaired and strengthened a local farm track as part of the scheme. It will be used by Highways England to access one of the new attenuation ponds. We have widened approximately 1500m of track, created a new farm bypass and replaced around 300m of concrete slabs.



Our teams working during the night shift have successfully installed 4 advanced directional signs (ADS), 13 variable message signs (VMS) and 31 advanced motorway indicator (AMI) signs on the

M1. These signs will eventually enable active traffic management which involves the use of overhead signs to manage traffic flows through speed restrictions and by opening/closing lanes. We have had to implement a number of road closures to complete these works safely due to the size of these signs and the space required for lifting equipment. However, we have made good progress and brought more areas of the site into a finished state.

Sign installation on M1 southbound carriageway



Shawell Lane traffic signals

Further to our notice in the May newsletter, we request that all road users comply with the traffic signals which are due to be reinstated at the new Shawell Lane junction near the M6 overbridge for a further period of approximately 6 weeks. There have been a number of occasions where red lights have been ignored, which risks a serious collision with the 30 tonne dumper trucks using this route. We appreciate that these temporary traffic signals are inconvenient, but **they are there for your safety**. We will continue to turn them off as soon as we finish each shift. Many thanks in advance for your continued patience and cooperation.

M1 Junction 19 in the community

Gloster plane after painting



Skanska has been in discussions with the Sir Frank Whittle Trust group regarding assistance with maintenance works required on the iconic replica of the Gloster aircraft which has been on the A4303/A426/Rugby Road roundabout since 2003. The re-painting of the memorial was completed on Friday 22 July. Skanska and HW Martins provided equipment to help them carry out this work safely. Skanska has been pleased to support the Trust's refurbishment of its important historic landmark.

Protecting our Environment

We have started work on another wetland area adjacent to the M1 northbound carriageway. We will source the following range of plants as locally as possible: species rich grassland, marsh and wet grassland, marginal and aquatic plants and reeds. When the work is completed, there will be 8 new wildlife ponds (60-575m²) and approximately 1,545m² of marsh and wetland habitat. This habitat provision will enhance opportunities for biodiversity by providing foraging for primary consumers (e.g. invertebrate species), which will in turn help species further up the food chain to thrive (e.g. bats).

New wetland area adjacent to M1



Please contact Oilly Beech for regular updates with a copy of the road closures schedule using the contact details below, or visit our webpage: www.highways.gov.uk/m1-j19



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