

## **M42 Closure Communications Toolkit – ‘How to’ Guide**

### ***Creating a road network fit for the future HS2 Interchange Station***

We have created a ‘ready-made’ toolkit to help you communicate the closure of the M42 between **junctions 6 and 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 and 6 (southbound)**, from **Friday 7 August 2020 to Monday 10 August 2020**, to your employees and customers.

We encourage you to make use of the pre-prepared materials in this toolkit. Our ‘how to’ guide provides you with simple instructions on how to use the toolkit effectively, saving you time and minimising your workload.

The toolkit contains:

- FAQs
- Social media posts
- Summaries ranging from 100 to 500 words
- Image
- Flyer (see separate PDF)
- HS2 Update (see separate PDF)

All materials contained within the toolkit are ‘ready to go’ and can be copied and pasted into your organisation’s communications templates and channels for distribution. Ensure that all hyperlinks have carried over before circulating content.

***Please note: At no point should any facts, such as time and dates of the closure, be altered.***

**FAQs:** The FAQs have been written to provide you with concise answers to any questions you may receive from your employees or customers regarding the M42 closure. Upon responding to an enquiry, we advise signposting that individual to the HS2 Helpdesk for further information on: Freephone: **08081 434 434** Email: **hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk**

**Social media:** We have provided social media content promoting the M42 closure. These posts can be adapted to suit your organisation’s tone of voice.

We have produced two Twitter posts that are listed as 1,2 in the toolkit, two posts for Facebook listed as 1,2 and two posts for LinkedIn listed as 1,2. The dates we would recommend sharing each post are included in a timetable at the end of this guide.

**Summaries:** Summaries provided in the toolkit can be included in your organisation’s newsletters, bulletins or all-staff emails, for example, to employees and customers. Summaries have been drafted between 100 and 500 words.

**Image:** An artist’s impression of the highways bridge that will span the M42 is included on page 9, which can be saved and used to illustrate social media posts and summaries.

**Flyer:** A flyer has been included which summarises the key closure information and HS2 contact channels. This flyer could be distributed via email to employees and customers, or printed for communal areas and noticeboards at your workplace.

**HS2 Update:** We have included this quarters HS2 Update newsletter for the Interchange area, from July to September 2020, which can be distributed via email to employees and customers, or printed for communal areas and noticeboards at your workplace.

A **notice of works** further detailing the closure will be sent two weeks prior to the closure. This is in accordance with our usual pre-works procedure. This leaflet can also be distributed to your employees and customers.

### **Further information**

If you require further information on how to use the M42 closure communications toolkit, please contact LM's Engagement Manager, Fiona Woolston ([fwoolston@lm-jv.com](mailto:fwoolston@lm-jv.com))

### **Content distribution**

Social media channel	Post number	Date
Twitter	1	W/C 06.07.20
	2	W/C 03.08.20
Facebook	1	W/C 06.07.20
	2	W/C 03.08.20
LinkedIn	1	W/C 06.07.20
	2	W/C 03.08.20

We recommend that you share one of the longer summaries W/C 06.07.20 (300-500 words). As we near the closure date, make use of the shorter summaries (100-200 words) to continue pushing the message out to your employees and customers.

The HS2 Update should be distributed early July and the flyer can be distributed as required.

## **M42 Closure Communications Toolkit**

### ***Creating a road network fit for the future HS2 Interchange Station***

#### **FAQs**

##### ***Who is responsible for carrying out works near the future HS2 Interchange Station?***

Early works for HS2 are being carried out by a joint venture between Laing O'Rourke and J. Murphy & Sons, known as LM. LM has been carrying out works near the A452, A45 and M42 since 2018. We refer to this area as the **Interchange area** because it will be the home of the future **HS2 Interchange Station**. Located near to the National Exhibition Centre and Birmingham International Airport, the Interchange Station will be a major transport gateway for the region, providing high speed rail connections to London, Birmingham and the North of England.

##### ***What work has LM already undertaken in the Interchange area?***

To date, LM's early works have included undertaking different types of surveys, vegetation clearance and utility diversions along the future HS2 railway route.

##### ***What work is LM undertaking on the local road network in the Interchange area?***

To ensure that the local road network is fit for purpose when the future HS2 Interchange Station is operational, LM is expanding and improving the existing network and creating new routes on HS2 land. These works will be concentrated on and around Northway Island, and on the B4438 and Northway. To link the new network with existing routes, LM will build four connecting highways bridges.

##### ***What is currently happening alongside the M42?***

The first of four new highways bridges in the Interchange area to be built by LM will span the M42. Work is well underway on this highways bridge. LM has successfully installed the shell units that make up the bridge abutments, which connect the deck of the bridge to the ground at the end of its span and support its weight. In June, LM began constructing the bridge deck alongside the M42 on HS2 land using steel beams and pre-cast units in preparation for installation. Installation will require the closure of the M42 for one weekend between junctions 6 and 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 and 6 (southbound), starting after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020 and reopening before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020.

##### ***How are you minimising disruption in the area during the construction of the M42 bridge?***

To minimise disruption in the local area during construction works, LM has adopted a construction method called Design for Manufacture and Assembly (DfMA). This means that LM is making the bridge shell units off site in a factory in Nottinghamshire. Once each unit has been finished, it is brought to the Interchange area and put together alongside the M42.

Traditional methods of bridge building require prolonged road closures and disruptive equipment such as cranes. By using the DfMA method of construction, the quantity and duration of traffic measures on the local road network can be minimised and the time needed to install the bridge over the M42 is drastically reduced.

##### ***What further works will be carried out before the bridge deck is installed over the M42?***

Throughout July, ongoing preparation works will continue, such as vegetation clearance and surveys. To safely carry out these works, temporary traffic measures will be required intermittently on the M42, A446 and A452. To continue to minimise disruption during peak travel

times, where possible, these traffic measures will be in place overnight. LM will also stagger works along these routes to avoid overburdening the road network.

You can subscribe to [HS2 in Solihull](#) to receive updates on these traffic measures.

***Will I still be able to drive along the M42 during the construction of the highways bridge?***

Temporary traffic measures will be required on the M42 throughout July. Advance notice of these dates will be given nearer the time of work. To minimise disruption during peak travel times, where possible, traffic measures will be in place overnight. You will still be able to travel along the M42 in both directions throughout preparation works.

You can subscribe to [HS2 in Solihull](#) to receive updates on these traffic measures.

***Will the M42 be closed at any point during construction?***

Once all preparatory works are finished, sections of the M42 will be temporarily closed so LM can install the bridge deck. The area between junctions 6 and 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 and 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020. If work progresses faster than expected, the M42 will be reopened earlier if possible.

You can subscribe to [HS2 in Solihull](#) to receive updates on the closure.

***Will the diversions be clearly marked and signposted?***

During the temporary closure, diversions will be in place and clear signage will be displayed along the route for drivers. To help keep traffic flowing, free vehicle recovery will be provided should a vehicle break down along the planned diversion routes.

LM has worked with Highways England and local authorities to ensure that no other major roadworks are being carried out in the area during the temporary closure of the M42. This will help avoid any further delays to your journey.

You can view the diversion routes [here](#).

***When will the connecting highways bridge spanning the M42 be complete?***

The bridge across the M42 will be fully completed by the end of 2020.

***Will the M42 closure schedule change?***

All of LM's works are subject to change depending on site and weather conditions, or they could be affected by unforeseen incidents on the road network. LM will keep you informed of any adjustments to the M42 closure schedule at [www.hs2insolihull.co.uk](http://www.hs2insolihull.co.uk).

***How can I get in touch if I would like further information?***

If you have any questions regarding the M42 closure and the bridge deck installation, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk. You can contact the Helpdesk on:

Freephone: **08081 434 434**

Email: [\*\*hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk\*\*](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

***How can I stay in touch with HS2?***

You can subscribe to HS2 in Solihull at [www.hs2insolihull.co.uk](http://www.hs2insolihull.co.uk) to receive live news updates about all of HS2's works in Solihull and associated traffic measures, including the M42 bridge deck installation.

## **Social media posts**

### **Twitter**

1. The M42 between junctions 6 & 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 & 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020. For more information, please visit: <https://hs2insolihull.commonplace.is/>
2. REMINDER: The M42 between junctions 6 & 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 & 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020 and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020. For more information, please visit: <https://hs2insolihull.commonplace.is/>

### **Facebook**

1. M42 PARTIAL CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT: The M42 between junctions 6 & 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 & 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020. This is to facilitate the installation by LM of one of several new connecting highways bridges in the HS2 Interchange Station area.

During the temporary closure, diversions will be in place and clear signage will be displayed along the route for drivers: [www.highwaysengland.co.uk/hs2-works](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/hs2-works)

For more information, please visit: <https://hs2insolihull.commonplace.is/>

2. REMINDER: The M42 between junctions 6 and 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 and 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020.

Over this weekend, diversions will be in place and clearly signposted: [www.highwaysengland.co.uk/hs2-works](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/hs2-works)

For more information, please visit: <https://hs2insolihull.commonplace.is/>

### **LinkedIn**

1. Work is well underway on a new highways bridge that will span the M42. LM on behalf of HS2, has successfully installed the shell units that make up the bridge abutments, and is now constructing the bridge deck alongside the M42 on HS2 land, using steel beams and pre-cast units.

When all preparatory works are finished, sections of the M42 will be closed to allow for the installation of the bridge deck. The area between junctions 6 & 7A (northbound) and

junctions 7 & 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020.

You can subscribe to HS2 in Solihull at <https://hs2insolihull.commonplace.is/> to receive live news updates about all of HS2's works in Solihull and associated traffic measures, including the M42 bridge deck installation.

2. Preparatory works in advance of the installation of a new highways bridge that will span the M42 are nearing completion. To finish the job, LM on behalf of HS2, will close sections of the M42 in both directions. The area between junctions 6 & 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 & 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020.

During this temporary closure, diversions will be in place and clear signage will be displayed along the route for drivers: [www.highwaysengland.co.uk/hs2-works](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/hs2-works)  
To help keep traffic flowing, free vehicle recovery will be provided should you break down along the planned diversion routes.

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## **Summaries**

### **100 words**

To ensure that the local road network is fit for purpose when the future HS2 Interchange Station is operational, LM on behalf of HS2, will close the M42 between junctions 6 and 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 and 6 (southbound) after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020.

If you have any questions regarding the closure, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk on:  
**Freephone: 08081 434 434      Email: [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)**

To receive updates about the closure, subscribe to HS2 in Solihull at [www.hs2insolihull.co.uk](http://www.hs2insolihull.co.uk)

### **200 words**

To ensure that the local road network is fit for purpose when the future HS2 Interchange Station is operational, LM is expanding and improving the existing network and creating new routes on HS2 land. To link the new network with existing routes, LM will build four connecting highways bridges. The first of these new bridges will span the M42.

Sections of the M42 will be temporarily closed to enable the bridge deck installation in August 2020. The area between junctions 6 and 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 and 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020. During this closure, **diversions** will be in place and signage will be clearly displayed along the route. If work progresses faster than expected, the M42 will be reopened earlier if possible. The bridge will be fully completed by the end of 2020.

If you have any questions regarding the closure, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk on:  
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### **300 words**

To ensure that the local road network is fit for purpose when the future HS2 Interchange Station is operational, LM on behalf of HS2, is expanding and improving the existing network and creating new routes on HS2 land. LM will build four connecting highways bridges. The first of these new bridges will span the M42.

LM has successfully installed the shell units that make up the bridge abutments, and is now constructing the bridge deck alongside the M42 on HS2 land, using steel beams and pre-cast units.

So LM can continue carrying out preparatory works safely, temporary single lane closures on the M42 will be required on various evenings throughout July and advance notice of these dates will be given nearer the time of work. To minimise disruption during peak travel times, where possible, traffic measures will be in place overnight.

Once all preparatory works are finished, the M42 between junctions 6 and 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 and 6 (southbound) will be temporarily closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020. If work progresses faster than expected, the M42 will be reopened earlier if possible.

During this closure, **diversions** will be in place and signage will be clearly displayed along the route. Free vehicle recovery will be provided along the planned diversion routes.

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Find out more about HS2 at: [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk)

### **400 words**

LM on behalf of HS2, has been carrying out works near the A452, A45 and M42, referred to as the Interchange area, to ensure the future road network is fit for purpose when the HS2 Interchange Station is operational. As part of this programme, LM is expanding and improving the existing network and creating new routes on HS2 land. LM will build four connecting highways bridges. The first of these new bridges will span the M42.

To minimise disruption in the local area, a construction method called Design for Manufacture and Assembly (DfMA) has been adopted. This means that the shell units for the modular

highways bridges are made off site in a factory in Nottinghamshire. Once each unit has been finished, it is brought to the Interchange area and put together alongside the M42.

To date, LM has successfully installed the shell units that make up the bridge abutments, and is now constructing the bridge deck alongside the M42 on HS2 land, using steel beams and pre-cast units.

Throughout July, intermittent temporary single lane closures will be required on the M42 and advance notice of these dates will be given nearer the time. To minimise disruption during peak travel times, where possible, traffic measures will be in place overnight. You will still be able to travel along the M42 in both directions throughout LM's preparation works.

Once all preparatory works are finished, sections of the M42 will be closed to enable the installation of the bridge deck. The area between junctions 6 and 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 and 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020. If work progresses faster than expected, the M42 will be reopened earlier if possible.

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## **500 words**

LM has been carrying out works on behalf of HS2 near the A452, A45 and M42 since 2018. This area is referred to as the Interchange area because it will be the home of the future HS2 Interchange Station.

To ensure that the local road network is fit for purpose when the future HS2 Interchange Station is operational, LM is expanding and improving the existing network and creating new routes on HS2 land. These works will be concentrated on and around Northway Island, the B4438 and Northway. To link the new network with existing routes, LM will build four connecting highways bridges. The first of these new bridges will span the M42.

To minimise disruption in the local area, a construction method called Design for Manufacture and Assembly (DfMA) has been adopted. This means the bridge shell units for the modular highways bridges are being made off site in a factory in Nottinghamshire. Once each unit is finished, it is brought to the Interchange area and put together alongside the M42.

By using this method of construction, LM is able to minimise the quantity of traffic measures on the local road network and reduce the time needed to install the bridge deck over the M42.

To date, LM has successfully installed the shell units that make up the bridge abutments, and is now constructing the bridge deck alongside the M42 on HS2 land, using steel beams and pre-cast units.

Throughout July, intermittent temporary single lane closures will be required on the M42 and advance notice of these dates will be given nearer the time. To minimise disruption during peak travel times, where possible, traffic measures will be in place overnight. You will still be able to travel along the M42 in both directions throughout LM's preparation works.

Once all preparatory works are finished, sections of the M42 will be closed to enable the installation of the bridge deck. The area between junctions 6 and 7A (northbound) and junctions 7 and 6 (southbound) will be closed after evening rush hour on Friday 7 August 2020, and reopen before morning rush hour on Monday 10 August 2020. If work progresses faster than expected, LM will reopen the M42 earlier if possible.

During this closure, **diversions** will be in place and signage will be displayed along the route. To help keep traffic flowing, free vehicle recovery will be provided along the planned diversion routes.

The bridge across the M42 will be fully completed by the end of 2020.

If you have any questions regarding the closure, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk on:

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### **Image**

Artist's impression of the highways bridge that will span the M42

