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**Subject:** M42 new MSA proposed mainline operating regime J5A to J6  
**Attachments:** 20231016 M42 J5a MSA mainline proposed operating regime - NH  
Technical Note 101123.docx, 223839-ARP-HGN-ZZ-DR-CH-001018-Sheet 1.pdf  
**Importance:** High

[REDACTED]

Thank you for the discussions regarding the impact of the Third Party Developer's proposal on the M42 smart motorway to facilitate a new Motorway Service Area (MSA)

This will create a short section on the M42 without a hard shoulder from the new Junction 5a to Junction 6 in both directions, as per the attached note and drawing.

Planning was granted for this development on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

You have advised that following discussions internally with DfT, your Director of Strategic Roads is content for the development to proceed in line with attached, in relation to the changes to the mainline M42. This is based on the understanding of the position of the current Ministerial team that is acceptable to remove short sections of hard shoulder, where it facilitates development and enables benefits. In this case, these benefits include mitigation for fatigue related incidents, as this new MSA fills in a gap in rest area provision on the SRN.

I will now advise the Third Party developer and their designer, Arup that the detailed design can proceed.

If you have any queries or concerns please come back to me.

Many thanks

[REDACTED] **Head of Technical Services, Road Safety Division**

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