

**From:** [REDACTED]@dft.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Thu 4 Jan 2024 10:02:20 +0000  
**To:** [REDACTED]@nationalhighways.co.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@dft.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@nationalhighways.co.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@nationalhighways.co.uk>; "RSD Programme Office Mailbox"  
<rsdprogrammeofficemailbox@nationalhighways.co.uk>; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@nationalhighways.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: M42 new MSA proposed mainline operating regime J5A to J6

Thanks for this [REDACTED] and for your very clear briefing which enabled us to frame the issue accurately to seniors.

Your understanding is correct and proposed way forward is fine for the M42 scheme.

As discussed, when extending this principle to other similar schemes going forward, we noted that we will need to consider similar schemes on a case-by-case basis. You have put in some time for us to discuss further our approach to similar schemes going forward.

We will feed this back to DfT colleagues as required. [REDACTED] is on leave today but can come back tomorrow in case he has further thoughts.

Many thanks [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (he/him) | Senior Policy Sponsor, Smart Motorways, Department for Transport  
3rd Floor | [REDACTED]  
Post to: Great Minster Hse, 33 Horseferry Rd, London, SW1P 4DR

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 8:15 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; RSD Programme Office Mailbox ; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** M42 new MSA proposed mainline operating regime J5A to J6  
**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]

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

**Safety, Engineering & Standards**

National Highways | Temple Quay House | 2 The Square, Temple Quay | Bristol | BS1 6HA

**Mob:** [REDACTED]

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



This email may contain information which is confidential and is intended only for use of the recipient/s named above. If you are not an intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any copying, distribution, disclosure, reliance upon or other use of the contents of this email is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender and destroy it.

**National Highways Limited | General enquiries: 0300 123 5000 | National Traffic Operations Centre, 3 Ridgeway, Quinton Business Park, Birmingham B32 1AF |**  
<https://nationalhighways.co.uk> | [info@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:info@nationalhighways.co.uk)

*Registered in England and Wales no 9346363 | Registered Office: Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4LZ*

Consider the environment. Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

---

This email has originated from external sources and has been scanned by DfT's email scanning service.

---

---

The information in this email may be confidential or otherwise protected by law. If you received it in error, please let us know by return e-mail and then delete it immediately, without printing or passing it on to anybody else.

Incoming and outgoing e-mail messages are routinely monitored for compliance with our policy on the use of electronic communications and for other lawful purposes.