



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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## M4 Corridor Enhancement Measures Programme

Newsletter

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# Easing the flow

## M4 Corridor, Magor to Castleton – the problem

**T**he Welsh Government acknowledges that congestion and unreliable journey times have been a fact of life on the M4 around Newport for many years. Associated problems affect other roads and residents within the corridor area too. So the M4 Corridor Enhancement Measures Programme was set up to solve travel-related problems caused by growing use and outdated design of the M4 here.

## What has been done so far

**P**ractical measures to make travel safer and easier on the M4 between junctions 23a and 29 began in 2008. This work includes replacing sections of steel central barriers with concrete ones, the introduction of Variable Speed Limit systems and the deployment of traffic officers. To ease congestion, improvements have been made to the

roundabout at Junction 24 at Coldra and there are plans to create a link through Llanwern steel works between Junction 23a and the Newport Southern Distributor Road.

The Welsh Government talked to people at the beginning of the year – organisations representing the interests of the general public, businesses, the voluntary sector, as well as ordinary people and residents of the area – and the feedback has established broad agreement about what the travel-related problems are in the M4 Corridor, between Magor and Castleton.

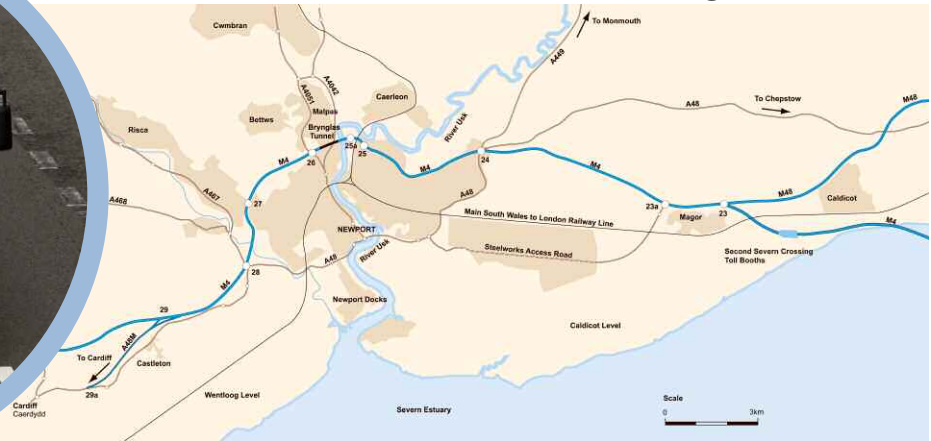
## Who's going to fix it?

**T**he Welsh Government understands that travel-related problems are complex and affect a wide range of people, so as a next step the Welsh Government is creating a Stakeholder Forum. This is a group bringing together representatives from the Welsh

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This leaflet is also available in large print from Rob Booth, Welsh Government,  
Tel 029 2082 6458

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## M4 Corridor, Magor to Castleton



Government and local authorities, statutory consultees such as the Environment Agency and the Countryside Council for Wales, non-governmental and voluntary organisations, transport bodies and business groups that represent the wide range of people interested in and affected by travel related problems in this area. The Forum will help the Welsh Government to explore possible solutions.

### Possible solutions

**H**aving listened to the feedback given by the public and other bodies, the Welsh Government are appraising a wide range of possible solutions. These fall into four categories:

- **Highways infrastructure** This is about building and improving highways networks so that they work more efficiently for travellers and cause less problems for people living near them.
- **Road network management** This is about managing our existing roads better, and includes ideas about how to minimise peak-time congestion, traffic associated with popular events and improve the response to accidents or bad weather so that there is less disruption for everyone.
- **Alternative travel modes** This is about getting more people to travel and access services, homes, work and leisure without driving a car.
- **Smarter Sustainable Choices and Promoting Well-being** This means thinking of ways of organising our lives so that we can prevent

further travel-related problems. This might be achieved through:

- government policy (better strategic land-use planning, linking travel and access plans to health, economy and environment agendas);
- action by businesses or individuals (flexible working hours, reducing travel by working from home, car sharing).

### What happens next?

**T**he Stakeholder Forum is going to explore and possibly expand this list. It will consider the potential benefits or disadvantages of each of the possible solutions. The Welsh Government's technical team will then develop a series of Options for solving travel-related issues within the M4 Corridor, again working with the Stakeholder Forum to ensure the best possible alternatives are explored rigorously. Each Option is likely to include several different types of measures from the four categories described above.

### Where you fit in

**A** second newsletter will be published this autumn to keep you informed of the progress. Towards the end of the year, you'll be invited to give your opinions on the Options. Your views will help the Welsh Government come to a decision about which Option to follow.

For more information visit [www.wales.gov.uk/transport](http://www.wales.gov.uk/transport) or a new dedicated website [www.m4cem.com](http://www.m4cem.com)