Welcome to

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Highways England commitment to supporting economic growth

One of Highways England’s new strategic outcomes is supporting economic growth. We will do this by modernising and improving the strategic road network (SRN) to relieve congestion and reduce delays to open up new areas for development - helping businesses to flourish and encouraging investment.

At a local level, we already do a lot to support growth, and we are working to build on this, including:

- Strengthening our work with local partners to support the preparation of sustainable and robust options for development that make the best of opportunities around the strategic road network.
- Refreshing our approach to planning - we will launch a new, simplified, planning guide in the autumn.
- Developing our proposals for working with a wide range of stakeholders to produce our first Strategic Economic Growth Plan. We will discuss this with as many of you as we can throughout the autumn and the early part of next year.
- Developing proposals and exploring potential schemes for our new £100m growth and housing fund, which will fund key improvements to the SRN to unlock the swift delivery of nearby growth projects that are otherwise ready to go. We will set out our proposals in the autumn.
- Developing economic intelligence – building our understanding as to the growth that is being delivered or proposed around the strategic road network, to help us better understand the impact of our work and investments and inform our decision-making.
- Reviewing many other aspects of the way we work – including the way we invest and procure, and the way we deliver highways schemes to improve how we support UK businesses and growth.

Nigel Edwards, Divisional Director Strategic Planning, says

“The change we are committed to is not superficial. It is a fundamental shift in our focus and the way we work. We will continue to listen as we evolve our approach and adapt to ensure we are responding to feedback and local priorities, while maintaining a safe and resilient strategic road network.”

If you would like to know more about our approach to supporting growth, or have any ideas or views you would like to share with us, please email our growth and economic development team at growthandplanning@highwaysengland.co.uk.

We look forward to working with you as we move forward on this exciting journey.
Highways England’s road safety vision

Highways England has set itself a challenging long term vision which requires a fresh approach to road safety from the company and from organisations outside it.

**Objective** - No-one should be harmed when travelling or working on the strategic road network.

**Approach** – We will continuously improve road safety and invest in our road network to prevent incidents from occurring, whilst reducing their severity.

**Target** - We will achieve year-on-year reductions in those harmed across our network. (On-going reduction in network of Killed & Seriously Injured (KSI’s) to support a decrease of at least 40% by the end of 2020 against the 2005-09 baseline of 2,691).

Our vision adopts the safe system approach putting safety at the heart of planning, design and engineering without sacrificing other operational requirements. It is based around five overarching pillars of road safety. Relationships with other organisations in road safety will be strengthened by road safety coordinators. They will develop area incident and casualty reduction plans and regional plans.

We are working closely with many teams across Highways England to identify safety priority locations across the network on motorways, dual and single carriageways. We now have £250m of designated funds for road safety for 2015-20, £105m for road safety improvements; £100m for cycling and £45m for innovation. Innovation funding will be spent on new initiatives that go beyond business as usual for example safety technology, alternative data and information technologies.

A delivery plan involving key delivery partners within the company will tackle three pillars of the safe system approach - roads, vehicles and people. We will continue to work closely with other external organisations.

We have begun giving a series of presentations for key internal stakeholders and are working to implement a comprehensive communications plan to embed the safe systems approach across the business.

If you would like further information, please contact: SaferRoadsStrategy@highwaysengland.co.uk

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**ROAD SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**
Collect data and carry out evidential research to monitor implementation and effectiveness of the vision

**SAFER ROADS**
Raise inherent safety and protective quality of the network for the benefit of ALL road users.

**SAFER VEHICLES**
Encourage deployment of improved vehicle safety technologies for both active and passive safety.

**SAFER PEOPLE**
Develop intelligence led, innovative programmes to improve road user behaviour, with measurable outcomes.

**POST COLLISION RESPONSE**
Improve post incident responsiveness to minimise the impact on casualties and the road user.
The southbound carriageway. We should have done this by early August when drivers will feel the full benefits of Dart Charge. There will then be some work on the verges either side of the carriageways lasting until later in the summer - but this should not affect your journey.

Traffic safety system
The new traffic safety system now in operation on the approach to the tunnels is there for your protection. It prevents oversized vehicles or those carrying hazardous goods from entering the tunnels and stops traffic in the event of an incident.

Read our leaflet for more information. Please follow instructions on road signs, keep within speed limits, watch out for traffic signals and be prepared to stop if a red light shows.

Drivers of oversized vehicles or carrying hazardous goods need to be in the correct lane or report to our marshalling area otherwise they will be stopped by the new system, turned around and could receive a fine or points on their driving licence. Our leaflet provides more information for these drivers.

Dart Charge
Over 800,000 drivers have already set up Dart Charge accounts and are saving up to a third on each crossing. Thousands more are paying for one off crossings each day. If you are planning a journey via the Crossing this summer, maybe for the first time since Dart Charge was introduced, you need to pay in advance or by midnight the day after crossing. Paying Dart Charge is easy – you can pay online, by phone, at Payzone retail outlets or in advance, by post. The Crossing is still free to use between 10pm and 6am.

www.gov.uk/highways/dartford

Find out more about Dart Charge at:

Ways to pay Dart Charge:

- [www.gov.uk/dart-charge](http://www.gov.uk/dart-charge)
- 0300 300 0120
- +44 (0) 300 300 0120
- [www.payzone.co.uk/Store-Locator](http://www.payzone.co.uk/Store-Locator)
- by post (in advance only):
  - Dart Charge Customer Services PO Box 842, Leeds LS1 9QF.
  - Go online to download or call to request a payment form
HGV Road Safety Operation

Road safety initiative is extended across police forces in England. Last year the Highways Agency partnered with South East police forces to pilot a unique motorway driver safety intervention named Operation Tramline.

The police used a hand held video camera from an unmarked HGV tractor unit to observe and record poor and dangerous driving behaviour on motorways.

During the three month pilot it became clear that the elevated position in the HGV tractor unit helped the police to observe not only dangerous behaviour from HGV drivers but also the behaviour of car drivers and other light vehicles. Some of the hazardous driving behaviour captured on camera includes:

- texting
- face timing
- seat belt offences including a driver who had not worn a seat belt for over 20 years
- reading the newspaper
- using mobile phones

Over 450 offences were detected during the pilot and based on this success Highways England have leased a HGV tractor unit for two years and agreed to make it available to police forces to use as a national safety operation.

Police forces taking part in the initiative must comply with the responsibilities listed in a service level agreement which includes a requirement for them to provide the insurance for the vehicle, fuel and the necessary resource to undertake the operation.

The national project started on 30 March with Surrey police in the South East throughout April. In May Greater Manchester police used the tractor unit on North West Smart motorways and it was then used by police forces in the East region. It is now scheduled to tour the country on a monthly basis.

Simon Sheldon-Wilson, Highways England, Executive Director commented:

“The Roads Investment Strategy requires us to reduce by 40% the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads. As part of our Highways England delivery plan we’ll be doing a number of things supporting improvements in engineering, education and enforcement to achieve and exceed the reduction. So it’s important we develop relationships with partner organisations and this initiative is a great example of how we’ll work with police forces to tackle poor driver behaviour on our roads.

Doing what we can to reduce incidents on our network not only improves safety but reduces congestion and provides more reliable journeys for the four million customers that use our motorways and trunk roads each day”
The paper counterpart to the photo card driving licence is abolished.

Since 8 June 2015 the paper counterpart is no longer valid and will no longer be issued by DVLA. You should now destroy your paper counterpart as it has no legal status, but you must keep your current photo card driving licence.

Old-style paper driving licences (issued before the photo card was first introduced in 1998) remain valid and should not be destroyed.

The counterpart was introduced to display driving licence details that could not be included on the photo card including some vehicle categories you are entitled to drive and any endorsement/penalty points. Since 8 June 2015 all new penalty points (endorsements) are recorded electronically and will not be printed or written on either photo card licences or paper driving licences.

To view and share your licence details
The View Driving Licence service is the digital alternative to the counterpart so GB drivers can view their driver record online and are now able to share their details with third parties.

This innovative range of services puts drivers in control of their own personal data and who they share it with.

If you’re asked to provide evidence of your driving record (entitlements and/or penalty points) to a third party, for example a vehicle hire company or employer, you can do this by accessing our Share Driving Licence service. A check code will be generated which you can then pass on to anyone that needs to view your driving licence details. This service also gives you the option of printing a copy of the information and should be used by holders of both paper and photo card driving licences. To help you understand how to share your information we’ve created a step-by-step guide.
To check a driver’s licence details
If you require evidence of a driver’s entitlements or endorsements, you can use the Check driving Licence service. With the driver’s consent you can check their licence details using the check code provided by the driver. This service also gives you the option to print or save a copy of the information.

To help you understand how to redeem a driver’s information DVLA have created a step by step guide.

Further information can be found on our GOV.UK campaign page:

www.gov.uk/dvla/nomorecounterpart