

## M2 junction 5 improvements scheme update – May 2022

### Construction update

Our compound is now up and operational, which can be spotted from the A249, north of Stockbury roundabout. We have clearance and preparation works happening on most approaches to the roundabout, making the most of the mil winter and spring we had to carry out as much earth works as possible.

We have had a closure on Oad Street in place since April 25. During this time, we have widened the carriageway, installed new drainage and kerbing, and surfaced part of the road. (Pictured right, Oad St just before surfacing)



Progress on the Maidstone Road/Oad Street link taken from the top of the hill looking down towards the A249.



Progress on the Maidstone Road/Oad Street link taken from our site compound looking up.

### What's happening over the next couple of months

We have some weekend lane and total closures on the A249 southbound carriageway, north of Stockbury roundabout in June. More information on these is detailed on our [project website](#).

We are making progress on the Maidstone/Oad Street link road. We will be installing drainage on the A249 southbound carriageway, north of the junction, and we will be lifting our closure on Oad Street on 20 June. The closure will return in the autumn and when we have finalised dates for these they will be shared on our website.

Our piling work continues on the western verge of the A249 northbound, preparing for a retaining wall as part of the link roads. Over the next few weeks, you will see preparation works start to happen on the roundabout as well as on a second location under the bridge.

### In the community

Every day's a school day for our social value and stakeholder team. Sandra Saxton and Ellen Dennison visited Westlands School's careers fair in April to talk to students about careers in construction and engineering.

From year 7 to year 13, it was great to see so many young people engaged and interested in a career in infrastructure.

Brownie's promise! With the helping hand of Site Engineers Georgina Watson and Ciara McAuley, the Maidstone Brownies showed us how to build self-supporting structures with just marshmallows and spaghetti.

In small groups of six, they worked together to try and build the tallest tower. We were very pleased to help the girls on their way to their "Think Like an Engineer" badge.



Thank you to Stockbury Parish Council. In April, we joined them in the community bus for a guided tour of the lane network in and around Stockbury.

It was very helpful for us to gain a better understanding of the routes and the safety concerns locals have on these routes.

### Meet the team!

Want to know more about the scheme and upcoming closures?

Our Stakeholder and Communications Officer will be at the Oad Street Food and Crafts between **10am and 12pm and then again from 5pm and 7pm, on Wednesday 13 July** to meet with you. There is parking on site and the café can be found on Oad Street, Sittingbourne ME9 8LB

We are on hand to answer any questions you have about the timeline of the project, the closures we have planned, or local community engagement opportunities. This will be the first of our monthly drop in clinics, which will be held on the morning of every second Wednesday of the month, sign up to our [project website](#) for updates of where it will be held each month.

**Facebook - @HighwaysSEas**  
**Twitter - @HighwaysSEAST**