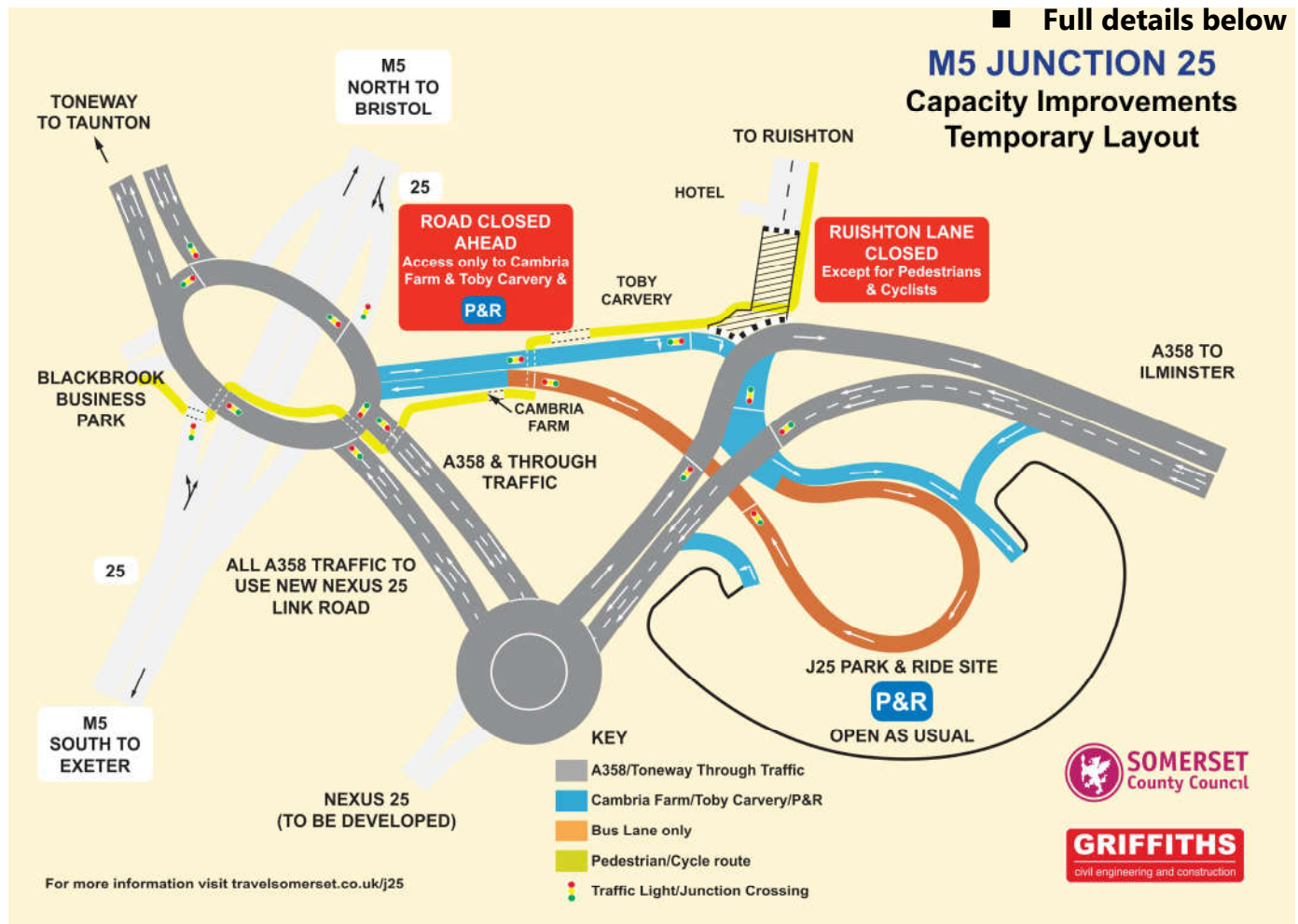


M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme Project Bulletin: January 2021

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

From 18 January 2021, all A358 traffic will need to use the new Nexus Link Road to access Taunton, the Junction 25 Roundabout and when heading towards Henlade/Ilminster direction. From this point onwards the old section of the A358 between the Park & Ride (P&R) and Junction 25 Roundabout will be closed until the project is complete, at which point it will reopen to eastbound traffic only.



M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme – January 2021 – Continued

Some Key Q&As about the new road layout

How do I get from Henlade/Ilminster on the A358 to Taunton?

All A358 traffic in both directions will use the new Nexus 25 Link Road. As you approach Ruishton Junction from Henlade/Ilminster direction you will no longer be able to go straight on. The A358 will now connect with the new Nexus 25 Link Road and you will now go via the new Nexus 25 Roundabout and then exit onto the Junction 25 Roundabout. From here you can access the M5 (in both directions) or go straight on for the Toneway into Taunton. Access from the new Nexus 25 Link Road onto the Junction 25 Roundabout will be under signal control.

How do I get from Taunton on the A358 to Henlade/Ilminster?

All A358 traffic in both directions will use the new Nexus 25 Link Road. From Junction 25 of the M5 you will need to use the new Nexus 25 Link Road. **Do not use the old A358 route past the Toby Carvery, as this is for access only.** The new Nexus 25 Link Road is the new route of the A358 and will take you via the Nexus 25 Roundabout to Ruishton Junction and onto Henlade and all routes towards Ilminster.

How do I access the Junction 25 Taunton Gateway Park & Ride (P&R)?

The P&R site is still open but we recommend you check the FirstBus website for any service changes, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic:

<https://www.firstgroup.com/somerset/routes-and-maps/tauntons-park-ride> OR click [HERE](#)

Access to the P&R site will be maintained on a 24/7 basis.

From the Henlade/Ilminster direction - the access to the P&R site will be as it was before. You will enter the site using the slip road off the A358 which is clearly signed.

From the Taunton direction - at the Junction 25 roundabout you will continue to use the route of the old A358, past the Toby Carvery. At Ruishton Junction, you will have a signal controlled right-turn onto the A358 and then a left-turn into the P&R site.

Exiting the P&R site - all traffic (except buses) will exit the P&R site by turning left onto the new A358 and the Nexus 25 Link Road. If you are heading towards Taunton or the M5, continue along the new Nexus 25 Link Road and exit onto the Junction 25 Roundabout. If you are heading towards Henlade/Ilminster, you will still need to turn left out of the P&R site. You can then turn around at the new Nexus 25 Link Road and head back towards Henlade/Ilminster on the A358.

M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme – January 2021 – Continued

How do I access Toby Carvery?

All access to the Toby Carvery is from the Junction 25 Roundabout only. From here you can use the route of the old A358 to the Toby Carvery. When exiting the pub you will have to turn left to Ruishton Junction and there is a signal controlled right-turn only onto the new A358 and the Nexus 25 Link Road. This will take you back to Junction 25 or, if you want to head towards Henlade/Ilminster, you can use the new Nexus Roundabout to head back towards Henlade/Ilminster on the A358.

What is the route for pedestrians/cyclists?

Pedestrian and cycle routes will be maintained and clearly signed throughout the works. Whilst Ruishton Lane is closed to vehicular traffic, it will remain open for both pedestrians and cyclists. From Ruishton Lane you will be able to head towards the Toby Carvery where there will be a new temporary signal controlled crossing across the old A358. From here, you will be able to use the existing cycle path to the Junction 25 Roundabout. The new safer route in the centre of the roundabout should be used via signal-controlled crossings.

There may be times when cyclists are required to dismount, but we will keep this to an absolute minimum.

Why can't we use the old A358 route past the Toby Carvery?

The first phase of the works at Junction 25 was to construct the new Nexus 25 Link Road. All A358 traffic is now being diverted onto the new Nexus 25 Link Road so that we can close the old A358 route to the majority of traffic to allow Phase 2 of the project to commence. Phase 2 involves a significant amount of work (see below) on the old A358 route which we can now undertake safely as the A358 traffic will be using the new Nexus 25 Link Road.

M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme – January 2021 – Continued

What work is there left to do?

Now that we have transferred all the A358 traffic onto the new Nexus 25 Link Road, work can begin on the old A358, this includes:

1. Breaking out the existing carriageway along the old A358 (between Ruishton Junction and Junction 25) and remove existing kerb lines, islands and splitters.
2. Install new drainage (pipework, chambers and gullies), street lighting and service ducting.
3. New signage and base installations.
4. Placing a new stone layer and forming new kerb lines / islands.
5. Excavate verge, reduce levels, for new pavement and form new edging lines.
6. Complete cabling for street lighting and services.
7. Start pre-commissioning phase.
8. Lay final surface course, cut out signal loops and install road markings.
9. Final commissioning of all services.
10. Road Safety Audit and completion of Health & Safety File.
11. Clear site and prepare for road opening.



Drone footage: watch our latest update

Our latest drone footage is available on our project pages at Griffiths in the Community website

<https://community.alungriffiths.co.uk/projects-in-your-area/m5-j25-taunton/progress-videos/>

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We would be pleased to hear your comments. You can get in touch via our web site community.alungriffiths.co.uk or by contacting our Public Liaison Officer Jessica May on 0330 041 2184* or M5J25@alungriffiths.co.uk

*Calls to this number are charged at national call rates and included in inclusive minute plans from landlines and mobiles

Travel Somerset – for live travel alerts, roadworks information and winter weather updates

On Twitter @TravelSomerset and online 24/7 at <https://www.travelsomerset.co.uk/>

Junction 25 Somerset CC Webpage <https://www.travelsomerset.co.uk/j25/>