



Department for Transport

Huw Merriman MP
Chair, Transport Select Committee
House of Commons
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Baroness Vere of Norbiton
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7 June 2022

Dear Huw,

M56 junctions 6 to 8 Statutory Instrument (SI)

As you are aware, in January the Government agreed to implement the Transport Select Committee's recommendations to pause the rollout of all new All Lane Running Smart Motorway schemes. In our response to the Committee, we explained that schemes already in construction would be completed, as they were all over 50% complete and leaving traffic management in place for the duration of the pause would lead to significant disruption to the travelling public and potentially lead to drivers using less safe A-roads.

The M56 section between junctions 6 and 8 is one of those schemes which was already under construction when the pause was announced, and we are now preparing for its completion. Variable mandatory speed limits are a key part of an All Lane Running smart motorway, enabling the management of traffic flows and incidents. In order to operate a variable mandatory speed limit on this stretch of motorway, an SI is required. This SI will permit the operation of variable mandatory speed limits on the M56 between junctions 6 to 7.

Following consultation between 2-30 September 2019, the Government yesterday laid the SI in Parliament.

*Yours,
Charlotte*

BARONESS VERE OF NORBITON