

M5 Junction 25 Improvements Scheme

Project Bulletin: June 2019

Project Update

On Sunday 19th May work began to re-model the Junction 25 gyratory system. This phase of works will continue for several months and for the most part work is taking place between 8pm and 6.30am in order to keep disruption for road users to a minimum. Operatives start to put traffic management arrangements in place between Sunday and Thursday nights at approx. 7pm ready for work to start at 8pm. This involves reducing lanes on the gyratory roundabout and approach roads. We are undertaking a flexible working approach and are not working on Friday evenings when traffic volumes are at their highest. Work is progressing well with no major issues so far.



Progress Away from Public View

Away from public view the earthworks continue at the Gateway Park & Ride site to construct a new access road into what will be the Nexus 25 employment site. We are, where possible, retaining material on site to be used later during embankment works. Additionally, the old Chicken Sheds have been demolished to make way for the new access road. Concrete from this demolition is being recycled as suitable material for incorporation into the temporary works on the site. This is in line with Griffiths Sustainability Targets to maximise recycling.



KEY PROJECT FACTS AND FIGURES IN MONTH

- Recycled 100% of concrete material from chicken sheds for reuse in the Works
- Old shed building carefully dismantled to enable reuse at an equestrian centre.
- Employed three local operatives in month
- Worked almost 7000 hours to date Accident Free

M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme – June 2019 – Continued

Griffiths Invest in Cleaner, Safer Dumpers for use at M5 Junction 25

As part of their continual investment in health and safety, Griffiths has purchased a fleet of the latest Dual Vision Dumpers and has deployed four of them on the M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme.

New to market, the Dual Vision Dumpers were developed by manufacturer Wacker Neuson in response to concerns raised by the construction industry regarding visibility in traditional dumpers. Griffiths was one of the first to place an order for the new dumpers following its close involvement in the new design, working alongside other industry members and manufacturers.

The dual-view feature allows operators to turn 180 degrees to face away from the skip once loaded, giving the operator an unobstructed view of the highway when travelling from the work area. The cab on the dumper provides protection to the operator from road noise and fumes and enables work to continue in all weather conditions, mitigating the risk of delay to works due to bad weather.

The new Dual Vision Dumpers also have low emission levels and are assisting Griffiths in meeting the performance indicators set out in its award-winning Sustainability Challenge.

Griffiths' Operations Director Simon Dunn said "I am really pleased that the first site in the company to receive these new Dual Vision Dumpers is our M5 J25 project. Investment in these state-of-the-art dumpers is in response to Griffiths' focus on Zero Harm to both our workforce and the travelling public."



A358 preferred route announcement

You may have seen this week's preferred A358 route announcement from Highways England and wondered how this ties in with the works underway at Junction 25?

The current upgrade of Junction 25 is a standalone scheme which offers benefits to both congestion and the local economy while the wider A358 improvement scheme is developed. Work currently underway will be an essential building block for later improvements. Somerset County Council will be working closely with Highways England as the scheme is developed.

For more information about the A358 announcement, please visit www.highwaysengland.co.uk/Taunton-to-Southfields

Community Engagement Events



Sally Visits Ruishton Primary School

Sally Safesteps is the Griffiths company health and safety mascot and she recently visited the children of Ruishton Primary School. Sally was very impressed by the levels of engagement shown by the children who all received a Sally Safesteps sticker and a safety or construction related booklet. These interactive sessions aim to make learning about safety signs and civil engineering fun.

Griffiths are in the process of creating a schedule of visits for Sally to local schools and community groups around the J25 Project and would be keen to hear from those interested such that we can tailor the visit around curriculum activities and current works on site.

Any schools or local clubs interested in meeting Sally should contact our Public Liaison Officer Jim Aitken.

Big Bang South West

Griffiths participated in the Big Bang South West Event on 25th June which involved 6,000 young students from across the South West being given the chance to hear about career opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). M5 Junction 25 Apprentice Engineer Dominic Baggs represented Griffiths giving the young students the opportunity to try their skills at setting out using the latest engineering equipment.



M5 J25 Apprentice Opportunities

Griffiths are seeking two apprentices to join our Groundworks Apprentice+ programme and be located on our M5 J25 project.

The apprenticeship will take the form of day release with one day per week in college and 4 days on site learning from our experienced workforce.

Anyone interested in applying for one of the positions should email their CV to southwest@alungriffiths.co.uk



M5 Junction 25 Improvement Scheme – June 2019 – Continued

Upcoming Work

The next significant step will be later in July when we begin work on the Toneyway between J25 and Heron Gate Roundabout. Overnight road closures will be required to put the necessary traffic management in place. We will provide full details of this in our next bulletin.

Public Information Centre

Our Project Information Centre within the Gateway Park & Ride site, opened on 14th May and will be open every Tuesday between 1.30pm and 3.30pm, except during Christmas and Easter holidays. Please pop in if you have any questions about the scheme.



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