

Hon Stephan Knoll MP

Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government

Wednesday 17 July 2019

Major traffic switch at Darlington

The Darlington Upgrade Project has reached a major milestone, with motorists to have access to sections of the newly-constructed lowered motorway for the first time from 5am, Saturday, 20 July.

This is the first of several major traffic switches at Darlington which are necessary to enable project works to progress to completion.

Traffic will, for the first time, be able to use the new Main South Road bridge to the lowered motorway.

The switch will mean the majority of traffic will utilise the northbound carriageway of the lowered motorway (two lanes southbound and two lanes northbound).

A minimum of two lanes on the surface roads, each side of the lowered motorway, will also be available, to maintain community access.

The project is being constructed in stages to ensure traffic continues to flow efficiently through this important section of the North-South Corridor.

Works to implement the first of these major switches will commence at 5am, Saturday, 20 July, with the changed traffic arrangements in place by 6am, Monday, 22 July.

Changed access arrangements will take place at the following locations, with full details available on DPTI's website:

- Southern Expressway to Ayliffes Road;
- Main South Road (northbound) to Ayliffes Road;
- Main South Road (northbound) to South Road;
- Ayliffes Road (southbound) to Southern Expressway;
- South Road (southbound) to Southern Expressway; and,
- Southern Expressway to the Flinders Medical Precinct.

Independent experts from Aurecon and WGA have witnessed and verified additional investigations, including soil testing and data analysis, confirming the revetment walls associated with the traffic switch have met the necessary safety assurances. Remediation works are also continuing on the eastern revetment wall.

"This is a significant milestone in the Darlington Upgrade Project which will mean traffic will be on the lowered motorway for the first time," said Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government Stephan Knoll.

"This is the first of a number of major traffic switches which are necessary to enable works to continue on other sections of this important project.



“We are urging motorists to drive with care through the area and to allow additional travel time during the switch.

“Traffic controllers will be in place and signage will alert motorists to the changed traffic conditions.”

Emergency services have been notified of the changed traffic conditions.

Another major traffic switch is planned which will see traffic moved onto the new Ayliffes Road bridge and an additional two switches will then be undertaken on Main South Road, with further information to be provided in due course.