

Brock to return as busy Bank Holiday and half-term forecast

I have received notice today from the Kent Resilience Forum that the decision has been taken by them to deploy Brock for the Whitsun Half Term.

The M20 London bound between Junctions 9 & 8 will be closed overnight on Thursday 18th May for the removal of the current National Highways maintenance works, then the M20 in both directions will be closed between junctions 8 & 9 overnight on Saturday 20th May to implement Brock. The contraflow on the London bound carriageway will be in operation from Sunday morning 21st May. The intention is then to remove Brock overnight of 3rd June and reinstate the maintenance works.

Below is their media release and relevant links to further information:

The Kent Resilience Forum (KRF) says the Operation Brock contraflow system on the M20 will be deployed this coming weekend ahead of the Spring bank holiday and expected high passenger numbers heading through Kent to Europe.



The contraflow system between Junctions 8 & 9 on the M20 will be activated at 6am on Sunday 21 May after work to install it overnight on Saturday 20 May.

Operation Brock enables strict management of HGVs on the M20 if necessary, acting as a pressure valve to minimise the impact of congestion further down the motorway, whilst allowing traffic to continue in both directions through a contraflow system.

The decision by the KRF, made up of a group of organisations and agencies including Kent County Council and Kent Police in conjunction with National Highways, has been driven by increased cross channel bookings for tourist traffic over the Whitsun Bank Holiday weekend.

The other risk factor that has led to the decision to install Operation Brock ahead of the Bank holiday is the ongoing closures of the Roundhill Tunnel on the A20 at Folkestone.

If Brock is not active, and there are delays at the Port of Dover, this has a knock-on effect on the surrounding roads and can also impact traffic flow into the Eurotunnel terminal.

Should traffic start to build at the Port and/or Eurotunnel, KRF is advising drivers to check their route before setting off, allow extra time for the journey and pack the car with a few essentials like food, water, regular medication and anything else your family needs if caught up in traffic.

The Operation Brock contraflow is expected to remain in place until the weekend of the 3 and 4 June. **For more information, go online:**

- A good place to start is KCC's [Check Before You Travel](#) page
- National Highways travel updates are [here](#)
- Weather forecasts, warnings and information from the Met Office can be found [here](#)

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Distribution:

All ABC elected members, KCC Ashford members, Directors/MT & Damian Green MP. In addition, this will also be shared with Parish, Town and Community Councils.