

Smart motorways should be quick and easy to build, because they require very little new tarmac.

Removing the hard shoulder significantly increases capacity. The electronic variable speed limits further increase capacity.

Accidents and incidents are much safer with all the CCTV coverage and electronic signs to manage traffic and provide information.

The vast majority of high-speed roads in Great Britain do not have a hard shoulder, so losing one is hardly a new experience for drivers.

SMART MOTORWAYS

PROS

All the electronic equipment can make setting up roadworks, especially in an emergency, much safer.

Smart motorways actually have the facility to increase the motorway speed limit to 100mph.

Smart motorways squeeze more capacity out of our existing infrastructure. This means fewer people will take unsuitable short-cuts through village streets.

In an emergency, it is often possible to drive to a 'refuge area' (lay-by). The new 'refuge areas' are safer than hard shoulders, and much less likely to be abused.

The government have been running lots of education campaigns to tell people about smart motorways.