Given the air pollution and congestion, daytime motorway drivers in some regions are going to be getting used to lower speed limits.

We are trying to pack more and more vehicles onto the same piece of tarmac. This means problems will potentially be more disruptive.

Despite the benefits of sophisticated incident detection, there are still far too many stories of stranded vehicles not being detected, even on brand new smart motorways.

That additional capacity is lost again every time there is an accident or incident, which will require at least one lane to be closed.

Communication is needed between the police and Highways to manage an accident scene, as you would expect, and the

The nature of smart motorways generally being busy roads with many constraints means they are more claustrophobic, with lanes running close to the concrete barriers.

SMART MOTORWAYS CONS

We are making our roads dependent on technology. There are plans in place to deal with power cuts and problems at the control centre, but have they been able to counter every

Speed limits and speed cameras are annoying. Although that's an irresponsible attitude, you're never going to be able to convince drivers to think differently.

There are plenty of circumstances where someone can become stranded in the road. More refuge areas would be an obvious solution, but that would cost more money.