

Transcript - Work begins to upgrade Junction 61 of A1(M)

Dave Wafer Strategic Traffic Manager

[Video Clips: Image of Bowburn and A1(M) road sign. Aerial camera shows the junction from the air.]
[Dave Wafer is standing at the side of a busy road; the noise of traffic can be heard throughout the duration of the clip]

[Dave Wafer] People who know the area will know that Bowburn interchange on the A1(M) motorway, junction 61 gives access to a large part of the county down towards Bishop Auckland, to the motorway and then towards Durham City as well. So it's a very popular route by commuters and people getting access around around the county.

[Video: Various clips of busy traffic on main road.]

[Dave Wafer] As well as being an important access for local communities it's also an access for Durham Services and the new development at Integra61 which is on site at the moment.

[Video Clips: Integra 61 sign. Clip of cars on busy main road. Aerial shot of road from the air.]

[Video Clips: Aerial camera shows the junction from the air. Image of Durham County Council signage.]

[Dave Wafer] The project's over £4.5million and that's come from a variety of sources, Highways England are putting some money in, it's their, their junction. The County Council are putting a significant sum in and also the service station are also contributing as well.

[Video Clips: Various clips of Durham County Council Staff working at the junction. Shot of road from the air.]

[Dave Wafer] We start on site today to increase the capacity of the junction which will help serve the area in the future, we're widening all of the approaches putting in a new set of traffic signals, this will also give facilities for pedestrians as well. The work isn't just on the junction itself it extends down to Durham Services to make sure that people can get in and out of the services both safely and conveniently into the future.

[Dave Wafer] The works will be ongoing for some time until early next year, the only way we can do the works and keep people moving during the day is to do them piece meal, so we appreciate people's patience during the works and we are working to ensure we keep disruption to the minimum.

[Video Clips: Image of traffic signs. Clip of cars on busy main road with roadworks.]

[Dave Wafer] We also ask that people observe the traffic management around, observe the speed limits. We have our workforce on the road all of the time and we just ask that they get home safely and we don't have any incidents during the works.

[Text on screen: www.durham.gov.uk/junction61 Find out more]