



**National Asset Delivery  
Technical Surveys and Testing**

**Site Information for**

**SWAD 2023 Tree Condition Surveys:**

**M4 SMART Motorway**

## 1 SITE INFORMATION

### 1.1 Site boundary, extents and access arrangements

This 2023 Tree Condition Survey is for the following length of the National Highways Strategic Road Network (SRN), of approximately 7km:

- M4 SMART Motorway (and any normal motorway between marker posts 188/0 and 181/0)

The *Consultant* must inspect all trees alongside the motorway length stated above where they are considered to be within falling distance of the highway, and in addition inspect all trees within National Highways soft estate that have the potential to affect pathways used by the public through or within plots (footpaths, cycleways, bridleways) and also inspect all trees within National Highways soft estate that are within falling distance of the estate boundary where they may present a hazard to third party property or users on other public and private roads and pathways. For all trees with identified hazards and / or defects, the *Consultant* must undertake a detailed Technical Survey (Formal Survey) to assess the level of risk and make management recommendations including any treatments and re-inspections if required before the next detailed inspection on these routes programmed for June 2027.

The inspection requires entry into the M4/M5 SMART Motorway Zone (sections under variable speed limits), which operates a 'Permit to Access' system to manage any disruption or hazard to live carriageways. SMART Motorway Induction is required and Permit to Access prior to any site visit.

This inspection includes some areas alongside the M4 that are outside the SMART Motorway Zone, for completeness of inspecting the M4. As such the inspection extends between marker posts 188/0 and 181/0.

The National Highways 'South West Network Induction' is also required and is available to support the *Consultant* with their induction. Evidence of staff induction is required

All field staff must have a MAPPA Motorway Pass if not in possession of a National Highways Passport. Application details will be provided for MAPPA Pass if required.

It is a requirement that all persons working on the National Highways network wear Class 3 high visibility long sleeved yellow jackets and trousers, white helmet, gloves, eye protection and protective footwear at all times. Other personal protective equipment identified in the *Consultant's* Risk Assessment must also be worn as and when appropriate.

No access should be made onto private land without prior consent of the landowner (and tenant, if applicable).

The *Consultant* must place and be competent to place 'Surveying' signs on the network where field staff are visible to road users for periods exceeding 15 minutes. Such signs are information signs, not instruction signs, therefore the person(s) placing them do not require Chapter 8 sector scheme certification. Signs must be placed 1.2m away from traffic and facing oncoming traffic.

If stopping or parking in the hard shoulder, verge or a maintenance hard standing space, the survey vehicle must be marked up appropriately for Highways Maintenance (Chapter 8 compliant). If an unmarked private vehicle is used, it may only be used in the same way as any other road user (i.e. no stopping or parking in the verge, nor parking within maintenance hard standings).

Some stretches of the network may require temporary traffic management to safely inspect / survey the trees. These road lengths will need to be identified by the *Consultant* early on and details provided to the Technical Surveys Manager at [SWSurveys@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:SWSurveys@nationalhighways.co.uk)

Traffic management and road space booking will be arranged by the Technical Surveys Manager and provided by National Highways supply chain at no cost to the *Consultant*.

Some 4 to 6 weeks is usually required to make the necessary arrangements for traffic management and it is subject to road space being available. The provider of traffic management would become Lead Contractor for these elements of the survey and their safety requirements will need to be complied with.

It is prohibited to cross any live National Highways carriageway on foot, including slip lanes up to the node point where the National Highways network switches to County road. Crossing a live County road is not prohibited.

The Regional Operations Centre (ROC) must be advised in advance of accessing the network, and follow their instructions on retaining regular contact.

## **1.2 Pavement**

No detail.

## **1.3 Drainage**

No detail.

## **1.4 Geotechnical**

No detail.

## **1.5 Soft Estate and Environment**

This survey requires knowledge of the National Highways operational estate. The extent of the estate is contained within a GIS layer provided with this package.

Detailed requirements for this survey are provided separately in the 'Tree Condition Inspections / Surveys - Supply Chain Brief' for the 'SWAD 2023 Tree Condition Surveys - Motorways: M4 SMART Motorway'.

## **1.6 Traffic Signs, Road Markings**

No detail.

## **1.7 Lighting**

No detail.

## **1.8 Structures and Buildings**

No detail.

## **1.9 Tunnels**

No detail.

### **1.10 Technology**

No detail.

### **1.11 Statutory Undertakers**

No detail.

### **1.12 Traffic**

No detail.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY  
DO NOT COMPLETE AT THIS STAGE