

Dear Resident,

I am contacting you to let you know the Port of Dover and Eurotunnel are forecasting their peak tourist traffic over the coming week, as people prepare to go away in the lead up to Christmas.

To help keep traffic flowing through Dover, and avoid congestion on local roads in the area, the Kent and Medway Resilience Forum (KMRF) has agreed to deploy Operation Brock on the M20 for a limited period as a precaution.

Although I understand the decision to use Brock at busy times is not always popular, the contraflow system reduces the chances of needing to close the Roundhill Tunnel when queues of lorries build up, and this helps to minimise disruption on local roads around Folkestone and Dover during the busiest travel days. The contraflow will be put out on the M20 London-bound carriageway between Junctions 8 and 9 overnight on Monday 15th December, meaning the contraflow will be in place from Tuesday 16th December. It will be removed on the evening of Monday 22nd December, with the motorway reopening as normal on Tuesday 23rd December. This allows lorries to be held on the coastbound carriageway if the Dover TAP queuing system on the A20 outside Dover fills up.

I want to assure you we have looked very closely at the predictions for crossings over the festive period and we are only keeping the Brock barrier on the M20 for the minimum amount of time necessary.

As the strategic lead for border disruption for the KMRF, I want to reassure you the focus of everyone involved in managing traffic at this busy time continues to be keeping traffic moving and keeping communities in and around Dover and Folkestone safe.

However, should any disruption occur due to delays at the Port of Dover or Eurotunnel, we want to do all we can to support you through this by offering as much help and advice as possible.

For the latest updates on any service changes and useful contacts in your community, please check the following websites:

- If you are a resident or business in the [Dover District: Cross-channel traffic disruption](#)
- If you are a resident or business in the [Folkestone & Hythe District: Roads and travel | Folkestone & Hythe District Council](#)
- For more information, or to check what is happening on the roads before you go out and about, you can visit [Check before you travel - Kent County Council](#) or **@KentHighways** or **@HighwaysSEAST** on X. While there may be some local traffic restrictions, we will continue to explore and test new ways to assist residents.

Our priority, as always, is to ensure everyone is able to get to where they want to go safely and as quickly as possible and to enjoy the Christmas period in Kent.

Simon Jones

Strategic Lead for Border Disruption

Kent and Medway Resilience Forum