

# NEWSLETTER



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CELTIC ROADS GROUP (DUNDALK) LTD

## The Dundalk Western Bypass PPP Scheme

### “ NEARING FINAL COMPLETION ”

The Dundalk Western By-Pass motorway was opened to traffic ahead of schedule on Sunday 25th September 2005 at 8.00 a.m. to coincide with the “All-Ireland Final” in Dublin. Celtic Roads Group was happy to facilitate the supporters attending the match at Croke Park between Dublin and Tyrone that day. The following day, Monday 26th September 2005, the motorway was temporarily closed between 7.00 a.m. and 12.00 p.m. for the official opening ceremony, which was performed by Mr Martin Cullen T.D. Minister for Transport in the presence of Cllr Peter Savage, Cathaoirleach Louth County Council. This section of motorway was not due for completion until February 2006.



The opening of this section of motorway added a further 11km of motorway to the existing 43km already operated by Celtic Roads Group. Celtic Roads Group now operate and maintain the M1 motorway from Gormanston, in County Meath to just south of Ballymascanlan in County Louth. Celtic Roads Group with their operator (Northlink) will operate and maintain this section of the M1 motorway for a further 28 years.

Since the opening of the motorway at the end of September, our construction works have concentrated a greater focus on completion of the side roads and more laterally the planting and landscaping works of the motorway. The planting works could only commence, due to seasonal factors, in November 2005 after the motorway had been opened, but are on programme to be completed by March 2006.



We have now completed and handed over Tateetra Road, (Old) Ardee Road, Scotch Green Road, Grey Acre Road and Doylesfort Road to Louth County Council. We are continuing to carry out the outstanding works to the other side roads (Castleblaney Road, Littlemills Road, Carrickmacross Road, Armagh Road and in the Ballymascanlan area). These works predominantly consist of footpath, cycleway and domestic entrance construction.

The Armagh Road construction works are the only remaining works that require significant traffic management. The extent of traffic management will be kept to a minimum, and in any case should not be required after early February 2006.



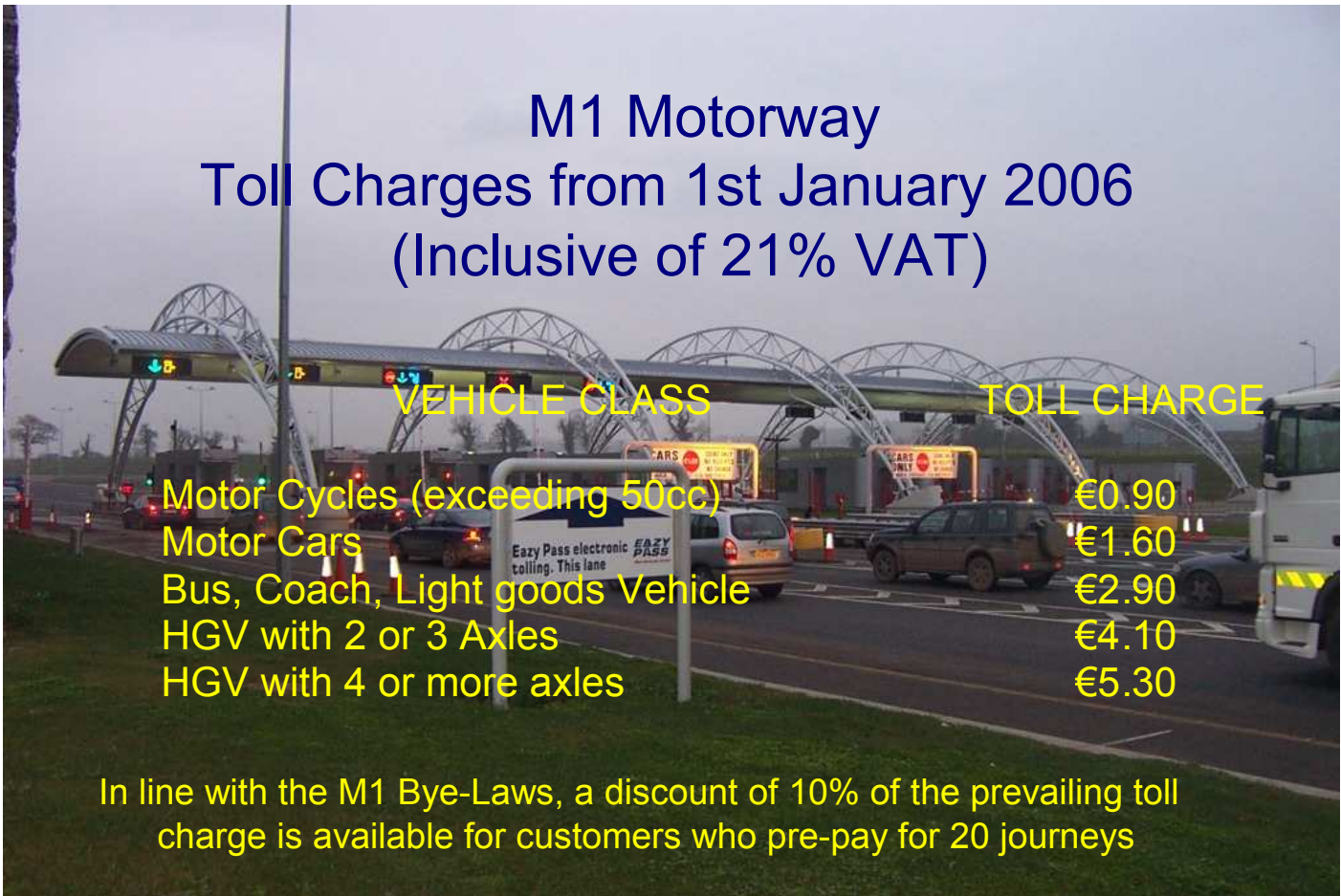
We have also programmed to finish all side road construction works, including the accommodation works for adjacent landowners by March 2006. This includes works to the Ballymascanlan area. These works will not have any significant interference with traffic.

On the main motorway we are currently carrying out other improvement works which include a major upgrade to the tolling system at the plaza, traffic counter installation and anti-skid surfacing. The toll system upgrade will further improve the driver experience passing through the plaza. Some minor traffic alterations will be utilised and these will be notified to the roadusers by our variable message sign boards and extra advance signage. We are also applying anti-skid surfacing to the interchange slip roads to improve safety on the off ramp approaches to the secondary roads. These works will be carried out off-peak on a phased basis over the coming weeks, again advance warning signage will be in place to advise motorists. These works are in addition to our ongoing routine maintenance programme which includes a comprehensive winter maintenance service.



Celtic Roads Group would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who co-operated with us during the construction of the Dundalk Western By-Pass. We have attempted at all times to minimise the impact of this project on our neighbours and road users.

We hope that we have been successful in this regard and apologise for where we have not.



M1 Motorway  
Toll Charges from 1st January 2006  
(Inclusive of 21% VAT)

VEHICLE CLASS	TOLL CHARGE
Motor Cycles (exceeding 50cc)	€0.90
Motor Cars	€1.60
Bus, Coach, Light goods Vehicle	€2.90
HGV with 2 or 3 Axles	€4.10
HGV with 4 or more axles	€5.30

In line with the M1 Bye-Laws, a discount of 10% of the prevailing toll charge is available for customers who pre-pay for 20 journeys

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