



FACT FINDING VISIT TO SILVERSTONE

A summary of observations, discussions, and
issues to consider for the November 2012
U.S. Formula One Grand Prix

Table of Contents

Silverstone Racetrack and Venue Information.....	03
Planned Itinerary and Information Gathered.....	04
Meetings with Local UK Government Officials.....	06
Guided Tours of Public Safety Infrastructure.....	07
Observations: Park-and-Ride Operations.....	08
Observations: Traffic Flow and Traffic Management.....	09
Observations: Command Center Operations and EMS.....	10
Observations: Campsites and Contingency Planning.....	11
Observations: Economic Development and Education Partnerships.....	12

Exhibits

2012 British Grand Prix: Circuit Map and Race Overview.....	13
2012 British Grand Prix: Roadway Closure Information.....	14
Northampton County Council Investment in the Silverstone Circuit.....	21
The Silverstone Academy: Information and News Release.....	23

Silverstone Venue Information

- Situated on 800 acres
- Accommodates 123,000 spectators
- 18,000 parking spaces
- 40,000 campsites
- 140 one-way shuttle buses carrying 70 passengers each
- 4,200 helicopter takeoffs and landings during the F1 race weekend
- 76 miles from London (population 7.6 million)
- 63 miles from Birmingham (population 1.0 million)

Silverstone Race Track



Planned Itinerary for Silverstone Visit

Thursday, July 5th

- Travel to Silverstone

Fri. - Sun. July 6th- 8th

- Meetings with Silverstone race administration officials and local government officials

Monday, July 9th

- Return to Austin

Why go to Silverstone?

- Comparable in size, setup and capacity to Circuit of the Americas
- No language barriers for conversations or to read information such as handouts, signage, plans, and other event information
- Timing allows for public safety and traffic management plans to be modified to account for new information, if needed

How Was Information Gathered?

- Primarily through on-site meetings with government and track officials
- Guided tours of the track facilities
- Observations to and from the track

Information was gathered on the following:

- Strategic planning efforts and economic development partnerships between Silverstone and local governments
- Park-and-ride operations
- Traffic flow and management
- Wayfinding
- Command center operations
- Emergency medical services
- Helicopter operations
- Campsites

Meetings with Local UK Government Officials

- Jim Harker, Leader, Northamptonshire Council
- Mary Clarke, Leader, South Northamptonshire Council
- Martin Tett, Leader, Buckinghamshire Council
- Sue Smith, Chief Executive, South Northamptonshire Council
- Richard Harrington, Aylesbury Vale Advantage Managing Director



Guided Tours and Observations of Public Safety Infrastructure

Silverstone on-site public safety features include the following:

- Law enforcement presence
- Command center
- Fire protection
- Emergency medical services stations
- Medical center
- Dedicated medical helicopter, with an additional on-call medical helicopter



Observations: Park-and-Ride Operations

- Shuttle buses are one-way before and one-way after the race and operate on Saturday and Sunday only
- Silverstone utilizes 140 buses carrying 70 passengers each to bring approximately 9,800 visitors to the track
- Charter buses are also used and carry approximately 15,000 visitors
- Shuttle buses use the same access roads, pick-up, and drop-off points as vehicular traffic
- While stalled in the Friday traffic backlog, charter bus operators were encouraging passengers to get out and walk on the highway to the track rather than staying on the bus

Take Away

- COTA's plan for extensively utilizing shuttles to carry 72,500 visitors, using them all three days, and separating them from vehicular traffic is an appropriate plan
- Communicate with charter buses early and often about any traffic delays and that emptying buses anywhere except the main drop off point is not advised



Observations: Traffic Flow and Traffic Management

- Contraflow lanes were used on Saturday and Sunday only
- Way finding signs are used intermittently and there were few visible law enforcement officers for directing traffic
- Local governments provide leaflets on the Internet that can be printed on letter size paper which provide information on how to get to the track by vehicle and information on road closures
- Silverstone encourages carpooling in this form:
 - 2-4 tickets purchased = 1 car pass
 - 5-8 tickets purchased = 2 car passes
- When contraflowed, Dadford Road and Winterhills Road, provide 7 total traffic lanes into the Silverstone Circuit and are used jointly by vehicles and buses

Take Away

- Contraflow lanes should be considered on Day 1
- Consider utilizing leaflets with road closure information, similar to those used by Silverstone
- COTA is considering at least 4 personal seat licenses as a requirement for 1 car pass, which is a good start
- 10 contraflowed traffic lanes are planned for vehicles going in/out of COTA with separate access points for buses



Observations: Command Center Operations and EMS

- 8 ambulances are staged around the track, including 20 paramedics, doctors, and ground posts
- The Medical Center can treat injuries and illnesses ranging from minor scrapes to emergency resuscitation and is linked directly to the Command Center
- The Medical Center is staffed 24x7 to provide care to overnight campers and race team mechanics who service race vehicles at night and treated over 800 patients at the 2011 Grand Prix
- The Command Center monitors all activity on the track ranging from helicopter landings and take-offs to campsites

Take Away

- The on-site EMS personnel should be prepared to handle injuries that race team mechanics may incur in the middle of the night
- The EMS staffing and coverage plan for the Austin F1 event is broader than the Silverstone EMS plan
- The Command Center Operations plan for the Austin F1 event is similar to Silverstone



Observations: Campsites and Contingency Planning

- There are 40,000 campsites that are used within the immediate vicinity of Silverstone
- Record rainfall caused campsite vehicles to get stuck upon entrance and led to a 3-4 mile traffic backlog
- Helicopters cannot fly in inclement weather, further reducing access to the track
- Twitter and radio (87.7FM) were used to broadcast information about closed parking lots and to request that 30,000 people not show up on Saturday
- Silverstone closed 50% of its parking on Saturday due to the rain

Take Away

- Contingency planning will be key for the Austin F1 event to deal with unexpected issues such as significant rainfall, which can occur in November
- Social media and an FM or AM radio station should be considered for conveying information



Observations: Economic Development and Education Partnerships

- Northamptonshire is home to 1,500 High Performance Technology companies employing over 21,000 people and contributing £2 billion (\$3.1 billion) to the local economy
- Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) provided a £10million (\$15.4 million) secured loan to Silverstone Circuit to bridge a funding gap for the new pit and paddock building which opened May 2011
- NCC provided a £1.5million (\$2.3 million) revenue contribution to expedite the Silverstone Masterplan
- NCC provides support on planning and highways matters, such as the provision of park-and-ride facilities on NCC land
- Silverstone Circuit partnered with the University of Northampton and Tresham College to establish The Silverstone Academy
- The Silverstone Academy will open September 2013 and will allow up to 540 young people aged 14-19 from the area to train for a career in Motorsport and High Performance Engineering or Event Management

Take Away

- Educational partnership between COTA and local schools, colleges, and universities should be explored

New Pit and Paddock Building



The Silverstone Academy



BRITISH GRAND PRIX, Silverstone, 17 June 2012

CIRCUIT LOCATION

Silverstone is situated right in the heart of the UK, approximately 90 minutes north of London and 60 minutes south of Birmingham.

GPS Circuit West Main Entrance: 52°4'25.16"N, 1°1'17.81"W

HOW TO ARRIVE TO THE CIRCUIT

From the Birmingham Airport (90 km/56 miles):

- Take the M42 South to Junction 3A.
- Take the M40 and exit at Junction 11 and follow A422 to join the A43 at Brackley.
- Join A43 signposted to Northampton. Silverstone is signposted from the A43.

From the Heathrow Airport (110 km/68 miles):

- Take the M4 Westbound.
- Exit at Junction 4B and take M25 North.
- Exit the M25 at Junction 16 - M40 West.
- Take the M40 and exit at Junction 10. Join A43 signposted to Northampton.
- Silverstone is signposted from the A43.

From the Luton Airport (78 km/48 miles):

- Take the M1 North.
- Exit the M1 at Junction 15A.
- Follow signs for the A43 to Oxford. Silverstone is signposted from the A43.

ACCREDITATION CENTRE LOCATION

Silverstone Circuit - after leaving the A43, follow the signs to Silverstone Circuit and join the Dadford Road. Take the first left and follow signs for the Accreditation Centre.

GPS Accreditation Centre: 52°4'35.27"N, 1°1'24.93"W

ACCREDITATION CENTRE OPENING HOURS

Friday, 15 June:	08:30 - 17:00 h
Saturday, 16 June:	08:30 - 18:00 h
Sunday, 17 June:	08:00 - 13:00 h

RACE SCHEDULE ON SUNDAY

Moto2™ race	11:20 h local time
MotoGP™ race	13:00 h local time
Moto3™ race	14:30 h local time



For more information, please contact [ticketing](#).

2012 British Grand Prix: Roadway Closure Information

2012 FORMULA 1 SANTANDER BRITISH GRAND PRIX

INFORMATION for LOCAL PEOPLE

Friday July 6th to Sunday July 8th

The British Grand Prix Inter Agency Group is working to keep traffic disruption and delays to a minimum over the weekend of the 2012 British Grand Prix. We want to make sure that you are all aware of any diversion routes, closures and changes to bus routes.

The group includes the Highways Agency, Silverstone Circuits Ltd, Northamptonshire County Council, South Northamptonshire Council, Aylesbury Vale District Council and Northamptonshire Police. We have been working together for many years and hope that our continued partnership and experience will help keep traffic moving over the Grand Prix weekend.



The A43

- Closed to through traffic from 5am to 9pm on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- One-way systems in place between Towcester and Welsh Lane (B4525) during these times.
- The one-way system may be lifted between 11:30am and 12:30pm, during these days for local access.

The decisions about the A43 have been made to benefit not only race goers but also for the safety and convenience of non-Silverstone traffic to prevent people being held up by vehicles heading to the circuit.

We realise that in many cases, the Friday closure will have more of an impact on your journey than the Saturday or Sunday restrictions. We are working together to minimise disruption to residents, drivers and local services. We have designed this leaflet to highlight the arrangements and explain the measures being taken to minimise the impact of those closures on your journey.

What will happen to my Friday refuse collection?

Your wheeled bin and recycling box collections will be unaffected by the Grand Prix. However, collections may be at a different time than usual so please ensure your wheeled bin and recycling box are out for collection by 7am.

Will local access be maintained?

Local access is permitted between the M1 and Towcester and between M40, Brackley and the Welsh Lane Interchange. Between Welsh Lane Interchange and Towcester, the A43 will only be available for those accessing the Silverstone circuit.

Which bus services will be affected?

Stagecoach service 8 is the only bus service affected on Friday and Saturday.

Service 8 will continue to operate between Northampton, Towcester, Brackley and Bicester but will NOT serve the villages of Whittlebury, Silverstone or Syresham

For bus service information please contact Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or visit www.traveline.info

There are no bus services affected on Sunday.

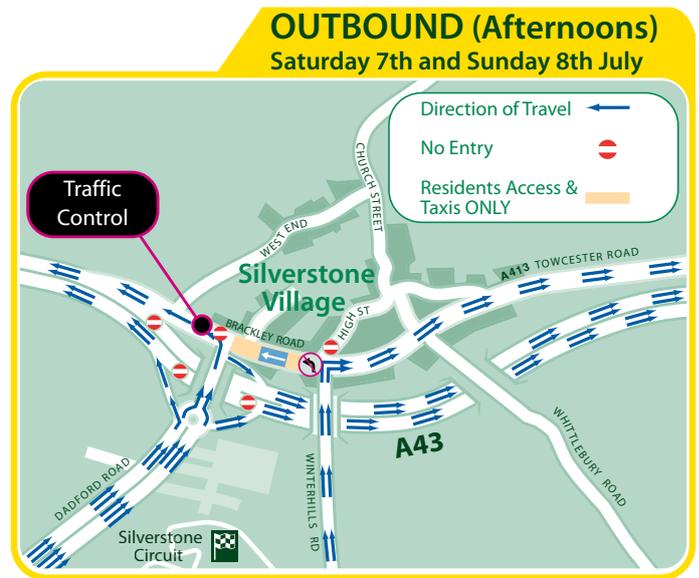
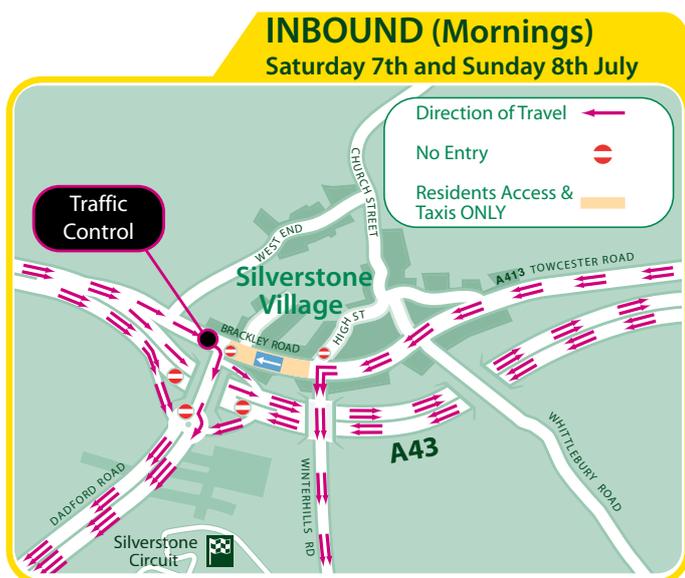
Will my child's school bus service be affected on Friday?

Buses picking up children who live in Silverstone, Whittlebury, Pury End and Paulerspury who attend Sponne School in Towcester will be affected by the Friday road closures. However, unless otherwise informed, pick up and drop off points will stay at the same time and place.

Silverstone village one-way systems and road closures.

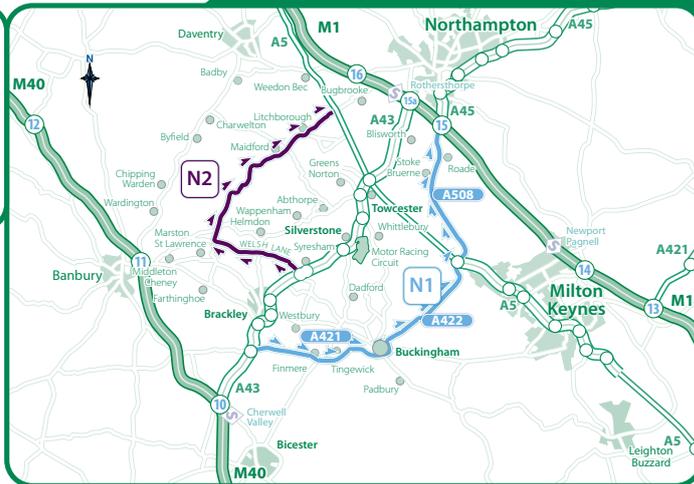
The maps show the road closures and one-way systems operating in Silverstone Village on Saturday and Sunday. The arrangements for Friday will be similar. However, the main A43 road (Brackley Road/Towcester Road) through Silverstone will remain two-way throughout Friday.

The section of Brackley Road, between High Street and Dadford Road, is for resident access, buses and taxis only. On Saturday and Sunday the section of road will be made one way (east to west - from High Street to Dadford Road) and no traffic will be allowed to enter High Street from Brackley Road. On Friday to Sunday traffic control will operate at the junction of Brackley Road and Dadford Road.



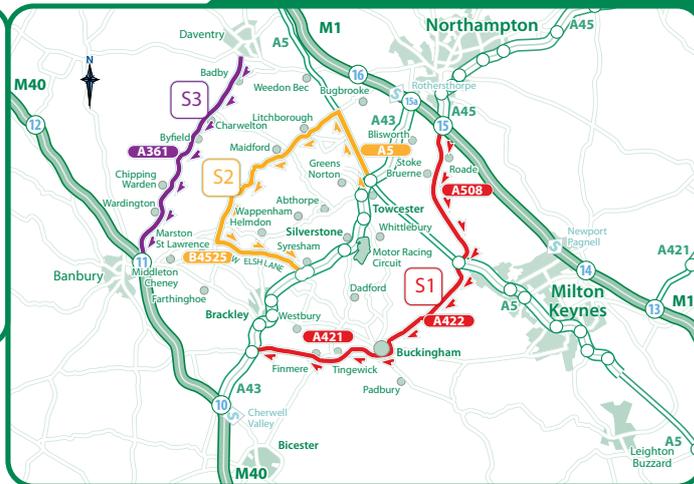
Going North? Your Diversion Routes

- ROUTE N1** □ A421 from A43 to Buckingham
 □ A422 to A5
 □ A508 to M1 Junction 15
- ROUTE N2** □ B4525 (Welsh Lane) from A43
 then minor roads to A5



Going South? Your Diversion Routes

- ROUTE S1** □ A508 from M1 J15 to A5
 □ A422 to Buckingham
 □ A421 to A43
- ROUTE S2** □ Follow A5 north from
 Towcester to Litchborough
 turn, then minor road and
 B4525 towards the A43 at
 Welsh Lane interchange
- ROUTE S3** □ A361 from Daventry to
 Banbury & M40 J11



i If you need help using this or any other Highways Agency information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will assist you.

Safety at roadworks



The Highways Agency is working with the industry and road users to reduce the risks of working on the roads.

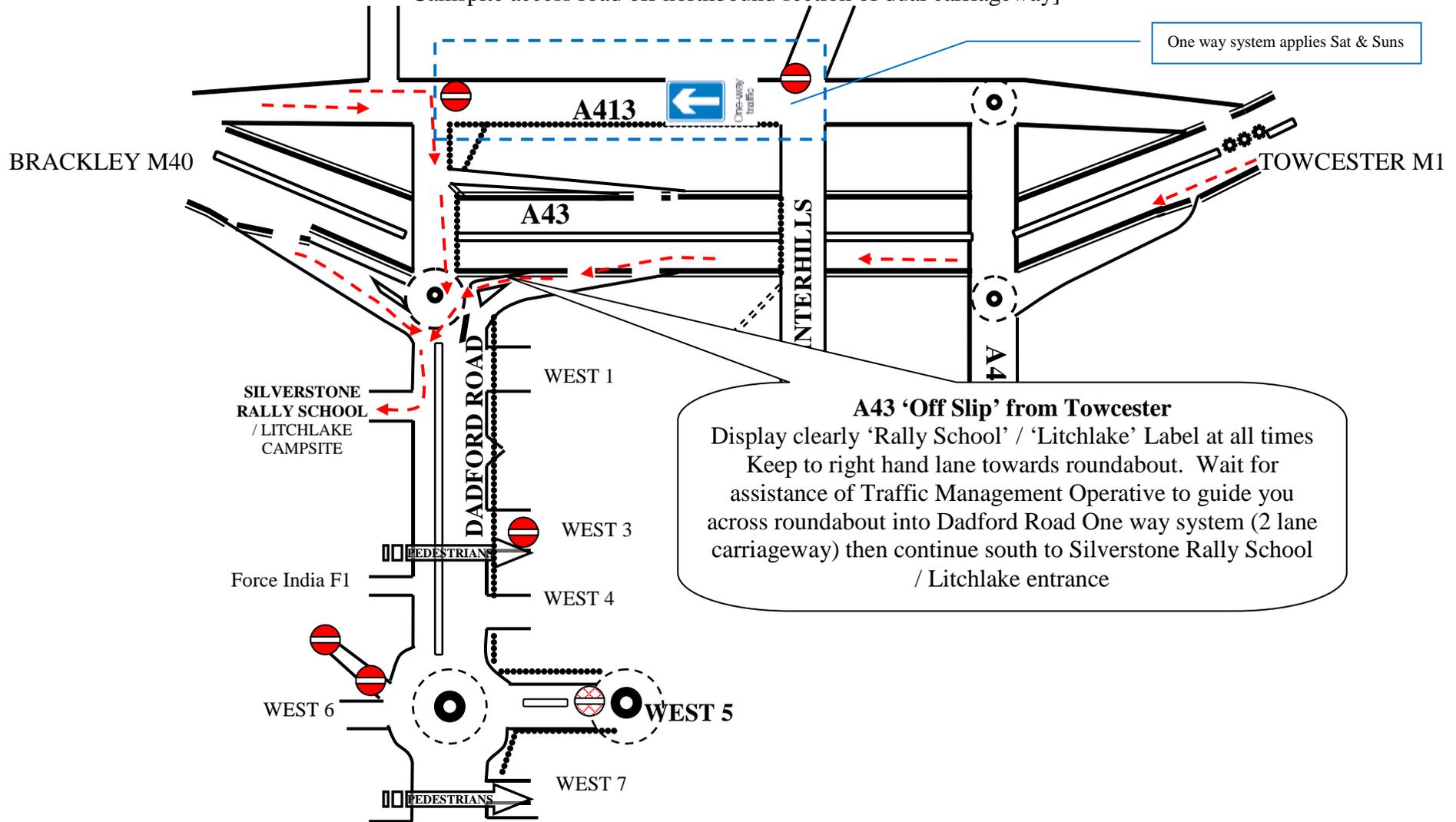
For the safety of roadworkers and all road users, when you are approaching roadworks:

- Keep within the speed limit – it is there for your safety.
- Get into the correct lane in good time – don't keep switching.
- Concentrate on the road ahead, not the roadworks.
- Be alert for works traffic leaving or entering roadworks.
- Keep a safe distance – there could be queues in front.
- Observe all signs – they are there to help you.

‘2012 SANTANDER F1 BRITISH GRAND PRIX’ – Silverstone Rally School / Litchlake Campsite

Dadford Road:- Access on Friday, Saturday & Sunday Morning from A43 (During One Way INBOUND Phase)

[NB One Way system during Outbound Phase of traffic operation NO Access from A43 on Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoon.
Access will be via Dadford Road (south) single carriageway to West 10 / 11 roundabout and north to Silverstone Rally School / Litchlake
Campsite access road off northbound section of dual carriageway]



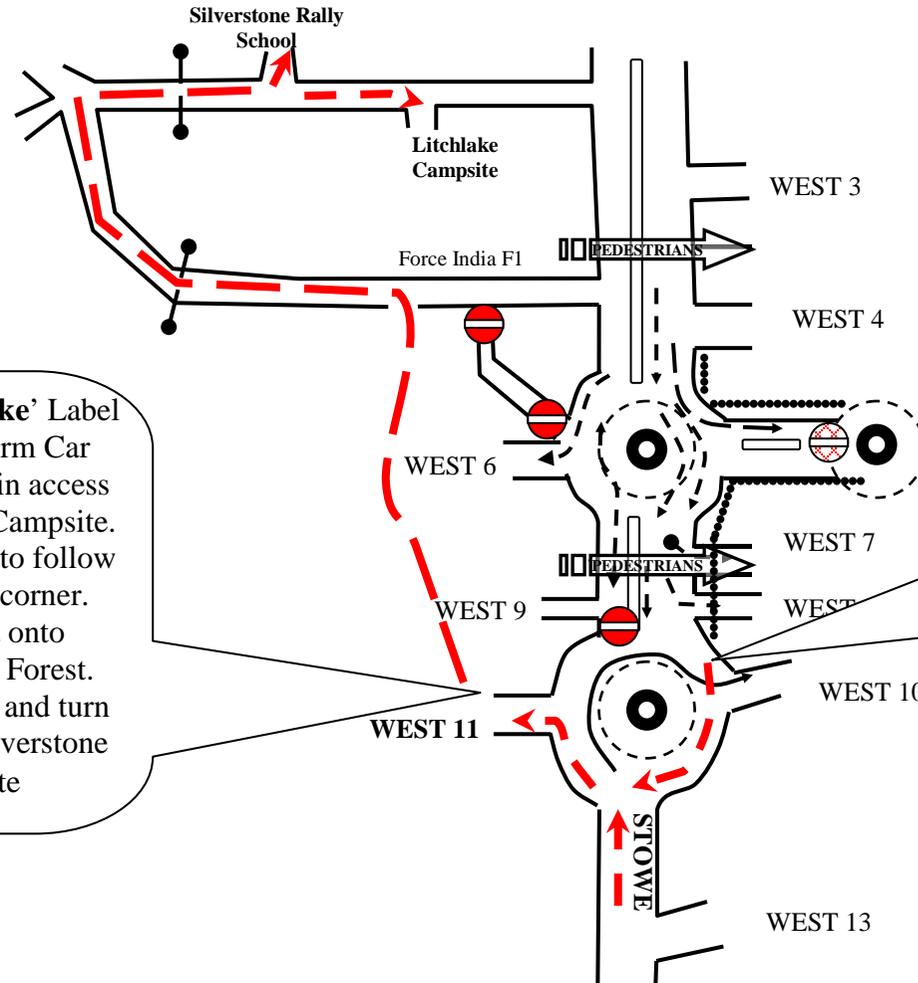
‘2012 SANTANDER F1 BRITISH GRAND PRIX’ – Silverstone Rally School & Litchlake Campsite

Dadford Road:- Access on Friday, Saturday & Sunday Morning from Stowe (During One Way INBOUND Phase)

[NB No Access to A43 from Dadford on Friday, Saturday or Sunday morning during Inbound Phase of traffic operation

One Way system during Outbound Phase of traffic operation. No Access from A43 on Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoon.

Access will be via Dadford Road (south) single carriageway to West 10 / 11 roundabout and north to Silverstone Rally School / Litchlake Campsite access road off northbound section of dual carriageway]



Display clearly ‘Rally School’ / Litchlake’ Label
Enter Car Park Gate **West 11** and Inform Car Park Steward of your requirement to gain access to Silverstone Rally School / Litchlake Campsite. Take directions from Car Park stewards to follow route through Car Parks to north west corner.
Wait for M/cycle escort and exit left onto roadway and through gate leading into Forest. Follow Forest Route to first cross roads and turn right and travel through gate back to Silverstone Rally School / Litchlake Campsite

Any ‘Rally School’ / ‘Litchlake’ vehicles southbound on Dadford Road should continue around roundabout into West 11

2012 British Grand Prix: Roadway Closure Information

A43 Closure

2012 Formula 1 Santander British Grand Prix

Friday July 6th to Sunday July 8th

The British Grand Prix Inter Agency Group is working to keep traffic disruption and delays to a minimum over the weekend of the 2012 British Grand Prix.



The group includes the Highways Agency, Silverstone Circuits Ltd, Northamptonshire County Council, South Northamptonshire Council, Aylesbury Vale District Council and Northamptonshire Police. We have been working together for many years and hope that our continued partnership and experience will help keep traffic moving over the Grand Prix weekend. This leaflet will highlight the diversion routes in place during the weekend of the British Grand Prix, and help you plan your journey throughout the event.

Which roads are closed?

The A43 between M1 Junction 15a in Northamptonshire and M40 Junction 10 in Oxfordshire will be closed to through traffic on Friday 6, Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 July for the 2012 Formula 1 Santander British Grand Prix at Silverstone.

Why a closure?

We are anticipating that the A43 will be busier than usual during the weekend of the British Grand Prix, so the route will be closed to through-traffic during the event. This will benefit all road users, as long distance and local through traffic will not be delayed by congestion caused by vehicles heading to the circuit.

Where are the diversion routes?

During all three days, non-race traffic will be diverted along the A508, A422 and A421, or vice versa (see map). However, since this route is mainly single-carriageway, where possible, we would encourage drivers to use alternative motorway and dual carriageway routes for long distance travel.

Local drivers will have access between the M1 J15a and Towcester, and between Brackley and the Welsh Lane interchange. However, the section between Towcester and Welsh Lane will only be available for those going to the British Grand Prix.

We will be using the Highways Agency electronic message signs at strategic points on our motorway network to inform people when the road is closed, so that drivers can easily change to an alternative route.

Diversion Route

Heading South

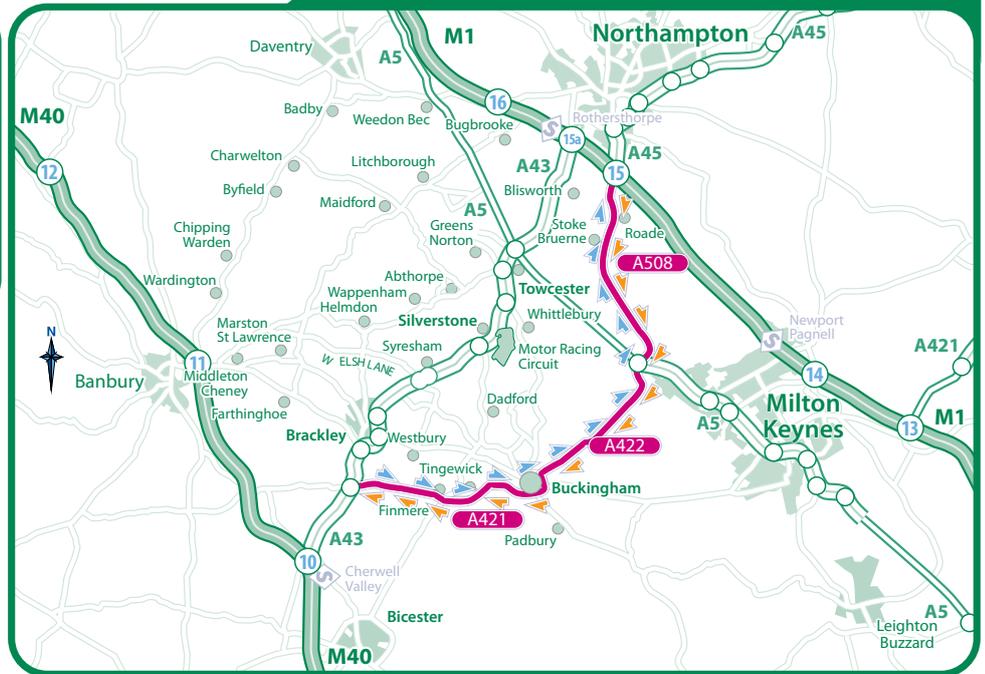


- A508 from M1 J15 to A5
- A422 to Buckingham
- A421 to rejoin A43

Heading North



- A421 from A43 to Buckingham
- A422 to A5
- A508 to M1 J15



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If you need help using this or any other Highways Agency information, please call **0300 123 5000** and we will assist you.

Safety at roadworks



The Highways Agency is working with the industry and road users to reduce the risks of working on the roads.

For the safety of roadworkers and all road users, when you are approaching roadworks:

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- Concentrate on the road ahead, not the roadworks.
- Be alert for works traffic leaving or entering roadworks.
- Keep a safe distance – there could be queues in front.
- Observe all signs – they are there to help you.



Northamptonshire County Council - working with Silverstone

1. What is Northamptonshire County Council?

Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) is responsible for a wide range of services across Northamptonshire, including education, highways and transport, planning, fire and public safety, social care, libraries and waste management.

It manages an annual budget of over £1 billion revenue and £100 million capital

Our strategy map and core purpose outline our vision of being “proud to make Northamptonshire a great place to live and work” for everyone who lives, works, studies or plays in the county.

Almost 700,000 people live in Northamptonshire. It is one of the most dynamic areas in the UK – home to the fastest growing population and experiencing significant jobs growth.

Northamptonshire is well connected with 95% of the country's population within 4 hours drive. It is connected by 73 miles of motorway and 204 miles of trunk roads, and has good access to international airports and the east and south coast ports.

NCC's key role is as a 'trusted advocate' for Northamptonshire, investing in and delivering measures which promote a more prosperous future for local people and businesses. This includes commitment to continue innovative investments in infrastructure and business and supporting key sectors such as High Performance Technologies (HPT) with Silverstone at its heart.

Northamptonshire is home to a community of 1,500 HPT companies employing over 21,000 people and contributing £2 billion to the local economy.

2. What did we do with Silverstone Circuit?

With a real threat of no Grand Prix taking place in the UK Northamptonshire County Council funded Silverstone Circuit with investment in the form of a £10m secured loan and a further £1.5m revenue contribution to be paid over a 5 year period. It has also provided support for a number of other key initiatives:

£10million loan

With a £30m investment in the pit and paddock facilities required if Silverstone was to retain the British Grand Prix, NCC stepped in to bridge the funding gap through a £10m loan to Silverstone Circuits in 2010. This was crucial to the success of Silverstone's contract to retain the Grand Prix until 2027 and marked the foundations for a strong relationship with shared ambitions in terms of HPT and job creation through the early implementation of the Silverstone masterplan.



The £10m loan secured confidence in the future of the Circuit and Northamptonshire at the heart of the British motorsport industry.

The impressive new Silverstone Wing (pit and paddocks - see previous page) opened in May 2011 and has been widely acclaimed.

£1.5million Revenue Investment

NCC has built on this relationship, investing a further £1.5m over the 5 year period ending March 2015 to expedite the Silverstone Masterplan, the first investments supporting enhancements to the specification of the Silverstone Wing including the conference centre which is the only one of its capacity and quality between London and Birmingham. The Silverstone Masterplan and technology park in particular has the potential to **provide over 4,000 new jobs** and is the incentive for NCC's intervention.

£1.5million Fit For Market investment

A joint venture with Silverstone Circuit saw £1.5 million invested in delivering the Masterplan, which will include an advanced technology park, three hotels, welcome, experience and heritage centres, an educational campus and 'motor city'.

Strengthening relationships

Working in partnership with Silverstone Circuit NCC provides strong support on planning and highways matters. A good example of this is the joint work on the provision of park and ride facilities on NCC land. The new University Technical College at Silverstone is a key initiative to bridge the relationship between skills provision and employers labour market requirements necessary to support a growing HPT sector.

3. Why did we do it?

To retain the British Grand Prix

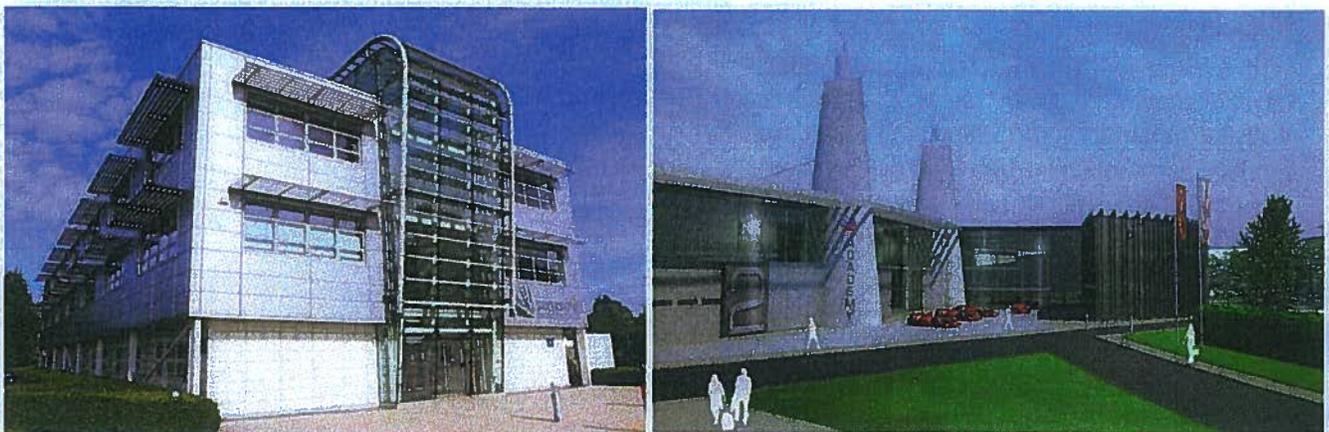
Research in 2008 demonstrated the value of the British Grand Prix, including a total expenditure of £54million directly attributable to the UK economy of which £44.4 million was spent in Northamptonshire. It generates over 1,300 full time equivalent jobs.

Following the completion of the Wing Complex the 2011 British Grand Prix was arguably one of the most successful Grand Prix's ever with Sunday's public attendance above 96,000 and total attendance on the day, including corporate hospitality, closer to 120,000. With further improvements and the implementation of the master plan attendance is expected to continue to increase.

To support the continued growth in the High Performance Technology Sector

With 1,500 companies across Northamptonshire employing 22,000 people and contributing around £2 billion to the local economy, this is a key growing sector.

The provision of the University Technical College is another example of ongoing support. Specialising in High Performance Engineering, Event Managing and Hospitality, the facility will provide space for over 500 students and is planned to be open by September 2012.



Silverstone Academy

Special points of interest:

- The proposed University Technical College: Silverstone Academy will provide a facility for over 500 individuals aged 14-19 in High Performance Engineering or Events Management and Hospitality.
- The proposal is being put forward as a result of a partnership between Tresham College of Further and Higher Education (who already house their National College for Motorsport provision at the Silverstone Circuit), the University of Northampton and Silverstone Circuits Ltd.
- The proposal to establish a University Technical College at Silverstone, a world-class location, will inspire young people to achieve academic and technical excellence.
- The initial catchment area covers a 20 mile radius of Silverstone including 46 secondary schools and up to 38,000 students.
- Northamptonshire is at the centre of "Motorsport Valley" an ideal location for work relevant training with plenty of work experience throughout the year.
- There are 200 major motorsport companies employing 6,000 people and 450 High Performance Engineering companies employing over 16,000 people within Northamptonshire. Events management and Hospitality is the second largest employer in the sub region of the South East Midlands.
- Silverstone is a world brand, internationally recognised as a centre of excellence where outstanding performance and cutting edge technical achievement is demonstrated.
- The British Racing Club (BRDC) as landowners, have given their support to the establishment of a University Technical College within the Silverstone Circuit.

Our Proposal

The Silverstone Academy will be situated in Northamptonshire, central England, within the heart of the 'Motorsport Valley' to provide high quality skills training in:

- **High Performance Engineering and Motorsport**
- **Events Management**

The proposal for the new University Technical College: Silverstone Academy will provide high quality skills training to 14 -19 year olds and has been submitted as a result of a partnership between:

- **Tresham College of Further and Higher Education (lead sponsor)**
- **The University of Northampton**
- **Silverstone Circuits Ltd**

The University Technical College: Silverstone Academy will work closely with local and national employers to provide support, work experience and apprenticeships for students. Industry and education will be embedded within the Silverstone UTC to motivate and engage with young people in a real and genuine amalgamation of



An artists impression of the proposed University Technical College: The Silverstone Academy.

technical skills, enterprise, innovation and learning.

For students aged 14-16, the curriculum framework developed by sponsors and partners will include a technical, skills and craft based education in the two specialisms alongside core GCSE study.

16-19 year olds qualifications will include the Advanced Diploma; Apprenticeships; Level 3 Diploma together with an option for A Level study and subjects at Level 2.

Enrichment activities for learners will include work experience, Young Enterprise, Sport, Citizenship and Languages.

The University Technical College: Silverstone Academy will be based upon inclusiveness whilst seeking to stretch and challenge all students through a personalised learning approach, not only concentrating on gifted and talented individuals but also supporting those who find learning challenging.

The proposed UTC will offer a unique opportunity to students who wish to pursue a career in the two specialist areas through supported Apprenticeships, Diplomas, professional and qualification programmes taught by industry trained professionals and highly experienced tutors.

Our supporters



Support from Richard Phillips, Managing Director of Silverstone Circuits

“Over the past half decade Silverstone has enriched the lives and prospects of thousands of young people. From the youngest in its Learning and Discovery Centre, dealing with children from 5 years of age upwards, engaging them in projects in ICT, numeracy and literacy, through the National College for Motorsport dealing with young motorsport engineers to its interaction on a number of fronts with a number of universities and colleges including, Northampton College and University, Cranfield, Bath, Oxford Brookes, Swansea, Reading, Sheffield, Buckingham, Leeds, Tresham and Moulton.

Its success in education stems from its strong and attractive brand and its ability to immerse students in a working venue environment in a variety of disciplines including venue management, catering, hospitality, engineering and paramedic disciplines, enabling access to its state of the art kitchens, workshops, medical facilities and one of the most experienced event management teams in the world.

Silverstone is keen that a University Technical College would not be restricted to its building footprint but would become a key part of embedded education on the 800 acre estate and further providing a catalyst for students to engage with the thousands of companies that thrive in Motorsport Valley and beyond.”

Our Vision

We believe it is important for young people to have ‘their college’ associated with the pinnacle of achievement, which is Formula 1 and Moto GP, at the same time ‘rubbing shoulders’ and working alongside local, national and international companies. The proposed University Technical College: Silverstone Academy will be truly inspirational and be the catalyst to outstanding technical, skill and craft based learning, focused on academic excellence.

Industry and education will be embedded within the Silverstone Academy and will support, motivate and engage with young people in a real and genuine combination of technical skill, enterprise, innovation and learning. Academic excellence with clear



National College of Motorsport students during a practical learning session.

progression routes will be set in the context of preparing individuals for the world of work. Students at the Silverstone Academy will combine hand and mind to learn in a very practical way, integrating national curriculum requirements with academic, technical and applied learning.

There is a clear demand for the attributes, skills and academic achievements of the young people who will attend the Silverstone Academy.

The aim is to drive up standards and attainment levels within a strong ethos which promotes an “employability culture” and a “can do” attitude to the world of work.

Educational partnership successful in bid for Silverstone University Technical College

Published Monday 10th October 2011

An educational partnership has welcomed news that the government has agreed to establish a University Technical College within the heart of Motorsport valley.

The partnership is between The University of Northampton, Silverstone Circuits and Tresham College of Further and Higher Education.

The Silverstone Academy is planned to open by September 2013 and will allow up to 540 young people aged 14-19 from the area to train for a career in Motorsport and High Performance Engineering or Event Management in realistic working environments at one of the UK's most prestigious venues.



University Technical Colleges are a relatively new concept in education that will provide technical education for students to learn in a practical way integrating national curriculum requirement with technical and vocational elements leading

on to higher level qualifications and apprenticeships. The college ethos and curriculum will be heavily influenced by local and national employers who also provide vital support and work experience to enable students to progress into the £600m industry.

The government-funded project will be developed in Silverstone, co-sponsored by The University of Northampton and led by Tresham. The Silverstone Academy will be equipped to the highest standards to provide students with clear progression routes into higher education or further learning in technically based work.

Professor Nick Petford, Vice Chancellor of the University of Northampton, commented:

As a university with established teaching and research excellence in areas including high performance engineering, computing and numerous other science-focused and environmentally-based disciplines, we are delighted to co-sponsor important developments for young people within the county. The UTC will add real value to technical education for the future of Northamptonshire. Students at the academy will learn in a very practical way, integrating national curriculum requirements with technical and vocational elements.

Professor Nick Petford

Paul Fletton, Acting Principal at Tresham, stated:

We have worked extremely hard with our partners, the University of Northampton and Silverstone Circuit and have received continued support from Northamptonshire County Council during the last 16 months to secure commitment from employers to establish a University Technical College for High

Performance Engineering and Motorsport or Event Management. The University of Northampton has made a significant contribution to the design of the curriculum for the UTC which will provide students with the opportunity to develop specialist skills at the iconic Silverstone Circuit.

Paul Fletton

Richard Phillips, Managing Director for Silverstone Holdings Ltd said:

It is vitally important that young people have the option to participate in good vocational education and I believe that by so doing, they can secure jobs in their chosen sectors.

Tresham's proposal is a shining example of this vision in action.

Richard Phillips

Andrea Leadsom, MP for South Northamptonshire said:

This is exciting and important news. Silverstone is the home of Motorsport and High Performance Engineering in the UK and the world. The University Technical College will give young people the chance to develop their skills within such specialist employment areas. Events management is of equal importance to the economy within Northamptonshire and employability is profound in the area. The use of the circuit and the links with industry will provide young people with genuine hands-on experience that they can take with them into their careers.

Andrea Leadsom

Jim Harker, Leader of Northamptonshire County Council said:

The County Council is delighted that Silverstone has been selected for one of the networks of University Technology Colleges that we hope will cover the whole of Northamptonshire. It is vital that we provide the right environment for giving young people the qualifications to forge careers in 21st century occupations, such as high performance engineering, and the Council is proud to support this.

Jim Harker

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