**Stephen Cranford**

I’ve been studying roads and congestion for over 15 years.

Websites allow access to traffic information based on mobile phone data which is possibly the most accurate way of monitoring roads.

I have concluded over the years that congestion has little to do with the number of lanes, it's all about the junctions. This applies to local roads, trunk routes and even 5 lane motorways.

**Examples of congested dual carriageways**

A27 Chichester – the entire bypass is frequently congested, especially approaching from Havant.

Often 2-3 miles of queues to the Fishbourne roundabout (delays of up to 30 mins)

A27 eastbound to Hill Barn in Lancing and towards the Shoreham airport traffic lights.

A24 northbound Findon to Washington.  Usually up to 2 to 3 miles of queues. Often takes 30 to 60 mins. And in the evenings it’s the A24 southbound to Washington from Ashington.

A22 northbound - towards the Boship roundabout (near Hailsham) - usually 15 minute delays from Polegate.

A24 northbound to the Buckbarn Crossroads (A272)

**Examples of Single Lane that run well**

A24 Horsham to Dorking

A27 Polegate to Beddingham  (except queues to the  Druscillas roundabout - )

A21 Lamberhurst to Hastings

A22 Hailsham to Godstone  (East Grinstead a bottle neck)

**2 lanes in to 1?**

People may think that this will *automatically* cause a delay - but not necessarily so:

If there is a speed drop then it can work very well  (Think about coming in to Worthing from Arundel on the A27 by the old Happy Eater / Cote Street. There is rarely congestion caused by the lane drop alone as the packing density increases as the speed limit reduces.

At **70mph** stopping distance  is 96 metres (**24 car lengths**) / **40mph** 36 metres (**9 car lengths**)

Whatever we do , it will never be perfect.

BUT

If you keep moving , even 15 -20 mph this feels like a massive victory.  Being stationary is the problem.

If you fix the junctions, you will pretty much solve the congestion problem.

Dualling alone won't make a lot of difference.

DON’T JUST TAKE MY WORD FOR IT – SEE THE CONGESTION FOR YOURSELF

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