# Heathrow Airport delays due to electric car fire in tunnel



Passengers departing from Heathrow Airport are currently experiencing significant delays following an incident involving an electric car that caught fire in one of the airport tunnels this morning. The fire, which occurred early in the day, led to an emergency response and subsequently the closure of the M4 southbound between junctions 4 and 4a.

The electric vehicle reportedly exploded while in the tunnel designated for access to Terminals 1, 2, and 3, prompting the immediate dispatch of two fire engines to the scene to manage the extensive flames that engulfed the car. The incident not only created a hazardous situation but has also resulted in major traffic disruptions for commuters attempting to reach the airport.

In light of these events, a spokesperson for Heathrow Airport stated, "Due to an earlier vehicle fire, road access to Terminals 2 and 3 is partially restricted. Passengers are advised to leave more time travelling to the airport and use public transport where possible." The official urged travellers to stay updated through Heathrow's website and social media channels to receive timely information regarding the ongoing situation.

Additionally, passengers heading to Europe's busiest airport are being discouraged from using the affected stretch of the M4, with a recommendation to utilise public transport where feasible. Alternatives suggested include entering the airport via the M25 at junction 14 or the M4 at junction 3 to avoid the traffic chaos caused by the incident.

The unfolding situation at Heathrow Airport emphasises the challenges posed by vehicle fires, particularly in high-traffic and critical access areas. Further updates are anticipated as emergency services continue to manage the aftermath of this incident.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.rochvalleyradio.com/news/uk/passengers-travelling-to-heathrow-airport-face-delays-on-m4-after-car-catches-fire-in-tunnel/> - This URL corroborates the incident of a car catching fire in a tunnel near Heathrow Airport, causing delays for passengers. It also mentions the closure of the M4 southbound between junctions 4 and 4a.
* <https://www.heathrow.com/> - Heathrow Airport's official website would provide updates and information regarding travel advisories and road conditions, as suggested by the airport's spokesperson.
* <https://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/traffic-information/> - Highways England's traffic information page would offer real-time updates on road conditions and closures, including those affecting access to Heathrow Airport.
* <https://www.transportforlondon.gov.uk/> - Transport for London's website provides information on public transport options, which are recommended as alternatives for reaching Heathrow Airport during the incident.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london> - BBC News London often covers incidents affecting major transportation hubs like Heathrow Airport, providing updates on traffic and travel disruptions.
* <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/highway-code> - The UK Government's Highway Code guidance includes information on safe driving practices and emergency procedures, relevant to understanding the response to vehicle fires on highways.