

## **Temporary Road Bridge**

### **Q: When will there be a temporary road bridge in place between North and South Workington?**

A: Cumbria County Council has a targeted date for the temporary road bridge to be completed and open to traffic by 28 May 2010. Rugby-based engineering firm Morgan Est will be building the bridge and will employ a 'hit the ground' running approach to ensure the bridge is open by the target date.

### **Q: Why will it take until the end of May 2010 for the bridge to be open?**

A: The construction of a bridge in these circumstances is a complex exercise which requires a wide range of activities to be completed. We have to ensure the temporary road bridge is designed and robust enough to deal with the expected levels of traffic. This means that we have to select a site suitable for the weight of the bridge and traffic.

Pre-flood the Northside and Workington (Calva) bridges were dealing with some 37,000 vehicle journeys per day.

We have been working on this project since the floods first hit – planning the best place to put the bridge, drawing up potential designs, surveying the geography of the area, working up traffic management plans and going through the tender and procurement process.

The works programme is being kept as short as possible by carrying out different elements of the project concurrently so that the bridge and its foundations are built at the same time as the approach roads.

There are many aspects to the construction of the bridge - including design, earthworks, site clearance, the building of the bridge foundations, road works to and from the bridge, the bridge itself, drainage, lighting and so on. The actual bridge construction where people will see a bridge going up and spanning the river is just a part of all this work and may take around 4 weeks.

### **Q: What sort of bridge is planned?**

A: It will be a two-lane, 350 tonne temporary road bridge (Janson bridge) suitable to take vehicles including HGV's up to a gross vehicle weight of 44 tonnes and will have a separate footway for pedestrians and cyclists.

It will be 67 metres long and 12 metres wide.

The project will require an estimated 500 tonnes of concrete and a further 900 tonnes of tarmac for the bridge surface and approach roads.

**Q: Will HGV's be able to use the bridge?**

A: Yes, HGVs with up to a gross vehicle weight of 44 tonnes will be able to use the bridge. This is important for local businesses who need freight to be able to travel to and from the area easily and economically.

**Q: Will Workington (Calva) Bridge be demolished?**

A: Workington (Calva) Bridge is a Grade II listed structure. Currently we are in discussions with a range of interested parties who need to be involved and have a say in precisely what will happen to this bridge. Repair of the bridge has not been ruled out.

**Q: Where will the temporary road bridge be?**

A: It will be built around 200 metres east (upstream) of the collapsed Northside bridge.

**Q: Why are we not putting the bridge at the site of Workington (Calva) Bridge?**

A: If we placed the temporary bridge at the site of Workington (Calva) Bridge, this would prevent us from putting a permanent bridge back at this site.

**Q: Who will be building the bridge?**

A: Morgan Est will be building the bridge. Up to 35 workers will be on site building the bridge and approach roads, seven days a week.

**Q: How will it be built?**

A: Our aim is to minimise disruption to residents even though work will be undertaken up to 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week on specific activities to complete the project in the shortest possible time.

**Q: How will the temporary bridge affect traffic flows?**

A: We are already examining and planning for new traffic flows around the bridge location to be effective from when the temporary road bridge opens.

As we will only have one temporary crossing there will inevitably be some congestion and traffic queues, particularly at peak times.

**Q: How long will the temporary road bridge be in place?**

A: We believe a realistic timescale time for a new permanent road bridge to be in place is 2 years – the temporary road bridge will need to be in operation until a permanent bridge is open.

**Q: Will both Northside Bridge and Workington (Calva) Bridge be replaced permanently?**

A: We are currently examining and determining the options for permanent bridges in parallel with the temporary bridge solution.

**Q: When will a decision be taken about the location of the permanent bridges?**

A: We are currently identifying and evaluating appropriate sites and will be in a position to announce this imminently. However, our top priorities are to deliver a temporary road bridge solution in Workington and to alleviate the road congestion at the Fitz (A595/A66), and Belle Vue (A595/A594) roundabouts.

**Road Bridges – general**

*Please note that timescales mentioned below are for when bridges are expected to be fully re-opened for public use.*

**Q: How many bridges have you opened?**

A: During and immediately after the floods, 20 bridges were closed. Currently 12 road bridges remain closed to vehicles either because they require inspection, are closed for road safety reasons or to prevent traffic congestion, have collapsed or are structurally unsafe.

**Q: When will Derwent (Gote) Bridge (Allerdale) be open?**

A: Further detailed diver inspections have shown that whilst Derwent Bridge has suffered some scour damage, this is minimal and not sufficiently serious to prevent use by vehicles – there are nevertheless some minor repairs required including underwater repairs and repairs to the parapet walls. However, this bridge remains closed to vehicles for traffic management reasons to assist with the recovery and clean up of Main Street, Cockermouth. It is open to pedestrians to allow a vital community link.

*Estimate cost:* to be confirmed

*Timescale:* to be determined

**Q: When will Ouse Bridge (Allerdale) be open?**

A: Ouse Bridge has now been checked but requires repairs before it is safe to open to both vehicles and pedestrians. The necessary repairs are weather dependent as they need to be carried out underwater, which involves putting divers in the water. This will not happen until it is safe to do so.

*Estimate cost:* £80k

*Timescale:* 30 April 2010

**Q: When will Broughton Bridge (Allerdale) be open?**

A: Broughton Bridge has suffered from scour damage to one of the bridge piers. It therefore requires repairs before it is safe to open to both vehicles and pedestrians. These repairs are weather dependent as they need to be

carried out underwater, which involves putting divers in the water. This will not happen until it is safe to do so.

*Estimate cost:* £50k

*Timescale:* 31 March 2010

**Q: When will Isel Bridge (Allerdale) be open?**

A: Isel Bridge is closed to vehicles for road safety and traffic management reasons to prevent congestion on surrounding road network. It will remain closed until we are able to open it without causing serious disruption or deterioration to the road network around this bridge. It is open to cyclists and pedestrians.

*Estimate cost:* not applicable

*Timescale:* 31 March 2010

**Q: When will Cocker Bridge (Allerdale) be open?**

A: Cocker Bridge is structurally sound although it does require some repairs to its parapets. However it remains closed to vehicles for traffic management reasons to assist with the recovery and clean up of Main Street, Cockermouth. It is open for pedestrians.

*Estimate cost:* to be confirmed

*Timescale:* 28 February 2010

**Q: When will Southwaite Bridge (Allerdale) be open?**

A: Southwaite bridge is now open to local vehicles with traffic light controls. It requires repairs to its walls as well as some resurfacing works so is currently unsuitable for HGV's.

*Estimate cost:* to be confirmed

*Timescale:* 14 February 2010

**Q: When will Low Lorton Bridge (Allerdale) be replaced?**

A: We are currently consulting with statutory bodies and are initiating preliminary designs for replacement. Replacement work for the bridge does require planning permission and the timescales shown are dependent on planning permission being granted.

*Estimate cost:* £500k

*Timescale:* 31 October 2010

**Q: When will Little Braithwaite Bridge (Allerdale) be replaced?**

A: We are currently consulting with statutory bodies and are initiating preliminary designs for replacement and estimate costs have been revised accordingly. Replacement work for the bridge does require planning permission and the timescales shown are dependent on planning permission being granted.

*Estimate cost:* £200k

*Timescale:* 31 October 2010

**Q: When will Stair Bridge, near Keswick (Allerdale) be open?**

A: We have now carried out detailed surveys of the bridge to determine bridge load capacity. The assessment is complete, but we are currently evaluating the outcome of the assessment

*Estimate cost:* to be confirmed

*Timescale:* to be determined

**Q: When will Scarness Bridge, Bassenthwaite (Allerdale) be replaced?**

A: There has been significant damage to the bridge parapets and culvert structure at this site. We are currently determining a repair schedule and aim to have specific timescales shortly.

*Estimate cost:* to be confirmed

*Timescale:* to be determined

**Q: When will Bouthray Bridge (South Lakeland) be open?**

A: Bouthray Bridge requires significant repair/replacement before it can be re-opened. We are currently consulting with statutory bodies and are initiating preliminary designs for replacement and estimate costs have been revised accordingly. Replacement work for the bridge does require planning permission and the timescales shown are dependent on planning permission being granted.

*Estimate cost:* £400k

*Timescale:* 31 October 2010

**Q: When will Backbarrow Bridge (South Lakeland) be open?**

A: This bridge has been fully inspected and will remain closed until we can undertake the necessary repairs to the parapet and re-pointing works. We are currently determining a repair schedule and aim to have specific timescales shortly.

*Estimate cost:* to be confirmed

*Timescale:* 31 July 2010

### **Traffic congestion**

**Q: What are you doing to improve road congestion at the Fitz (A595/A66) and Belle Vue (A595/A594) roundabouts?**

A: Reducing road congestion at these roundabouts is our joint top priority along with the delivery of a temporary road bridge. We will be introducing some initial traffic management measures leading to Belle Vue roundabout from Fitz roundabout to help improve traffic flow through at the Belle Vue roundabout at PM peak times. These measures include new white lines and signage and will be operational from Monday 25 January.

We are continuing to encouraging people to use available public transport services and the free train shuttle. We are also encouraging local businesses to stagger work start times wherever possible.

### **Barker Crossing - Temporary footbridge**

**Q: Why is there only limited parking on Northside road (north of the bridge)? Why is there no access and no parking on the south side of the temporary footbridge?**

A: We have also introduced new traffic measures around the temporary footbridge to allow safe access, ease congestion and minimise disruption both north and south of the footbridge. Users of the bridge are asked to adhere to the new traffic measures and are reminded that the roads leading to the bridge are not suitable for large levels of traffic; drivers must not cause obstruction and must keep residents' access points clear. The new on-street parking controls are being enforced by Allerdale Borough Council and there is also a raised police presence in the area to help control traffic.

Information on the new traffic measures is available at [cumbria.gov.uk](http://cumbria.gov.uk)

**Q: What public transport is available to take me to and from the footbridge?**

A: The county council has organized bus services to help people use the new footbridge:

- Service 100 which travels from Northside and Seaton to a bus stop on Northside Road approximately every 30 minutes in the daytime. You will need to walk from the bus stop to the footbridge

Some existing services have also been re-routed to provide access to the footbridge

- Service 30 (Workington – Maryport via Flimby and Seaton) operates every 15 minutes during the daytime Monday to Saturday with an hourly evening and Sunday service which runs to the footbridge (north side).
- Service 30/31 operates from the Curwen Park at the Southern end of the footbridge to Workington, Bus Station every 15 minutes during the daytime, Monday to Saturday with a limited evening and Sunday service. Most journeys run to Whitehaven with certain journeys running to Egremont, Cleator Moor and West Cumberland Hospital.



- Service 300 Carlisle – Seaton via Maryport and Northside, operates to a bus stop on Northside Road, hourly during the daytime Monday to Saturday. You will need to walk from the bus stop to the footbridge.

You can find information on these services at [Cumbria.gov.uk](http://Cumbria.gov.uk) or via traveline at [traveline.info](http://traveline.info) or 0871 200 22 33.

**Q: Can taxis drop me off at the footbridge?**

A: Taxis can currently drop people off at the footbridge (north and south side) at the following times:

Monday	7pm	until	Tuesday	7am
Tuesday	7pm	until	Wednesday	7am
Wednesday	7pm	until	Thursday	7am
Thursday	7pm	until	Friday	7am
Friday	7pm	until	Saturday	7am
Saturday	7pm	until	Sunday	10am
Sunday	5pm	until	Monday	7am

We are not permitting taxis to drop people off at the footbridge outside these times as there are a number of bus services available that do this and there is limited space on approach roads.

**Other**

**Q: I am a local business and would like to know when the Port of Workington will be open?**

A: The Port of Workington has re-opened to shipping along with the Tidal Harbour. Dredging of the port is now complete and is now fully open.

The port is available for all cargo handling and other services with full access available by road (A596 from the north) and by rail (from north and south).

Enquiries to the port: 01900 602301

**Q: Where can I find out more information?**

A: The situation for roads and bridges changes regularly, we therefore advise you to regularly check the county council's website [www.cumbria.gov.uk](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk)