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8 February 2022

To Residents and Businesses,

## **Hammersmith Bridge Restoration Project: Stabilisation Works and Traffic Management update**

I am pleased to let you know that work on the Hammersmith Bridge Restoration Project is due to start on-site later this month.

This follows extensive investigations by world leading specialist bridge engineers working for Hammersmith & Fulham Council. They have developed an alternative £8.9m stabilisation programme for the bridge which will save £21m for local and national taxpayers compared to the previous proposal.

The stabilisation works are necessary to prevent future closures of the 136-year-old bridge to pedestrians, cyclists and river traffic below. They will take about nine months to deliver, a considerably shorter programme than the previous Transport for London proposal.

As part of the Phase 1 stabilisation works, Hammersmith & Fulham Council's specialist contractors will be removing all the casings of the four cast-iron pedestals. This work is being undertaken by our term contractor FM Conway and their sub-contractors, Freyssinet Ltd and Taziker Industry Ltd.

Once the four casings have been removed, the contractor is required to infill the pedestals with concrete, install steel frames around the pedestals and jack up elements of the structure to replace the bearings as part of the stabilisation works.

The casing removals and jacking operations will be undertaken using lifting cranes that will be positioned on the carriageway at both entrances to the bridge.

### **New rules to keep bridge safe for users**

While this work is taking place, we are determined to keep the bridge open to pedestrians and cyclists and restrict any necessary closures to off-peak times. To enable the works to be undertaken safely we will need to close off the main carriageway section of the bridge.

**This means that cyclists and e-scooter users will no longer have access over the main carriageway. Instead they will have to dismount and share the footways with pedestrians.**

**Continued**

The provision of temporary footway ramps installed at all pedestals will enable pedestrians and dismounted cyclists and e-scooter users to be diverted away from the works and onto the footways.

Additionally, to ensure the safety of bridge users, we will be introducing a one-way system for pedestrians, dismounted cyclists and e-scooter users. These changes will all be prominently sign-posted at the entrances to the bridge. Safety marshals will also be in attendance. The tow path under the bridge on the Richmond side will remain open.

The project team and contractors have considered various work methodologies that would cause minimum impacts. The traffic management proposed in this letter is the best and safest option available to the contractor.

Importantly, the closure of the carriageway will also provide sufficient workspace for the contractors to work simultaneously on all four pedestals, thus reducing considerably the contractors' works programme.

## **Works to start in late February**

With the preliminary works starting on both the north and south side of the bridge later this month, we understand that the traffic management may cause some inconvenience to the bridge users.

Therefore, the contractors will continuously review their work progress and methodologies to establish if any improvements in the traffic management could be made to enable earlier re-opening of the main carriageway for cyclists and e-scooters.

The contractors have advised that the access over the bridge will only be interrupted for safety reasons when jacking operations are in progress. This will only be undertaken for short periods during off-peak hours and advance notification will be given.

Finally, I must convey my sincere apologies in advance, for any inconvenience the proposed traffic management will create. I hope you understand, that the nature and complexity of the works in conjunction with the Grade II\* listed bridge structure and locality, means that some impacts are inevitable.

You can find out more about this project at [www.lbhf.gov.uk/hammersmithbridge](http://www.lbhf.gov.uk/hammersmithbridge) or by emailing [bridgeproject@lbhf.gov.uk](mailto:bridgeproject@lbhf.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Ian Hawthorn

**Assistant Director Environment  
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