

A52

Clifton Bridge repair scheme newsletter

September 2020

Welcome to the second edition of the A52 Clifton Bridge repair scheme newsletter.

Our work is continuing to repair and strengthen the bridge that carries the A52 over the River Trent, Clifton Lane and Queens Drive in Nottingham. We are on track to complete the scheme by February 2021, although we will begin opening some lanes across the bridge by the end of November 2020.

Why is this work needed?

During February 2020, Clifton Bridge was undergoing planned repairs, when our team discovered water damage to the steel underneath the road. While the structure is safe, we've put in place some traffic restrictions to prevent the need for more disruptive repairs in the future, and to allow our teams to work safely. The decision for partial closure of Clifton Bridge was not taken lightly, as we know how important this bridge is for getting you, our customers, into and around the city of Nottingham. We're looking at a phased approach to repairs, which should allow us to open more lanes as soon as possible.



A52 Clifton Bridge

The story so far...

Before repairs could begin, our structural engineers had to conduct a very detailed investigation and design process. Clifton Bridge has a complex design, and great care has been taken in planning a repair project that will keep the bridge open for many years to come.

The work involves adding new steel cables to the outside of the structure, which will allow for easier maintenance in future. We're also repairing the drainage systems and concrete as part of this repair programme.

Safety is our top priority, and we'll still need some lane restrictions over the top of the bridge while the work takes place, so our teams can carry out their work effectively.

As part of the repair work we have erected scaffolding underneath the road, which meant that Clifton Lane has been reduced to two lanes (normally four), with traffic running in one lane in each direction. This is vital to allow our teams to work safely, and access the areas underneath the bridge to repair it. These lane closures will remain in place until our works are finished beneath the bridge.



Engineers conducted an investigation

For the safety of our teams, there will also be occasional full closures of this section of Clifton Lane. But these will be done overnight, when there will be less impact on our customers.

We are aiming to reopen additional lanes by the end of November 2020 once it is safe to do so.

This is complex work and we're exploring all options to see if we can bring this forward to minimise disruption to your journeys.

MERGE IN TURN

We have had lots of enquiries about how to enter the traffic management sections at the start of our roadworks.

Some enquirers believed that they should use only a single lane to queue, and that anyone using the second lane was a "queue jumper." This is not the case, you should use both lanes and merge in turn.



According to the Highway Code, merging in turn is when vehicles are travelling at a very low speed, for example when approaching road works. When in slow moving queues, drivers should use all of the available road space, then take turns to merge at the front of the queue.

Using the "Merge in Turn" technique can help reduce the length of the queue and minimises disruption at junctions.

Taking note of our customers, we have placed "Merge in Turn" signs at the entrance to our roadworks.

Going the 'extra mile' to help the community

The Coronavirus lockdown provided an unexpected opportunity for us to help the local community.

Nottingham Outlaws Rugby League club is based right next door to Clifton Bridge, providing sports facilities for adults and kids, for over 20 years. When the lockdown was imposed on all sports events, Nottingham Outlaws found their 2020 season at an end, and with it the revenue they needed to rent and maintain their ground.

Our contactors needed a safe and secure compound from where they could work on the repair program. The Outlaw's predicament provided an opportunity for our contractor, Balvac, to have an ideal site compound, and to give the Rugby Club some much needed financial support.

Balvac took over the lease for the Lenton Lane stadium for the rest of the year, saving the club a significant sum of money. But our help has gone much further than simply paying the rent.

Given the location next to the River Trent flood plain, the Lenton Lane site has a previous history of flooding. So to help prevent such occurrences in the future, we recycled around 200 tonnes of porous road surface from our nearby repair scheme on the M1, to resurface the car park.

In addition, we have also improved the perimeter fencing, installed a permanent monitored security system and lighting, and enhanced disabled access by marking out two dedicated disabled parking spaces improving access to the clubhouse. Inside the clubhouse, we have improved the electrical and plumbing installations, adding much needed hot water to the toilet blocks.

Nottingham Outlaws Chairman Richard Johnson said: ***"The agreement to use the ground has been a life saver for the club. The rent has meant that we will survive this year. The ground improvements have massively improved the security of the club."***



Outlaws Rugby League club

The COVID-19 related improvements have meant that we have been able to get back to training much earlier than anticipated. The speed of execution, professionalism and desire to support a community club shown by Highways England and Balfour Beatty has been remarkable and is something we are very grateful for. It's also fantastic to see the club being used during this enforced closure and we're also very happy to play a small part in helping to repair the Clifton flyover."

Highways England project manager, Richard Waterfield, said: ***"We are delighted to be able to support a local community rugby club. We hope the club, its players, staff and supporters continue to benefit from these for years to come. We appreciate and understand the difficulties the city of Nottingham is feeling right now with the traffic restrictions on the bridge, so by helping to support a local community club, it goes some small way to having a more positive impact in the short term on the city of Nottingham."***

The club still has access to its playing field, and now that restrictions have been eased, they are training in readiness for next season.



Nottingham City Council Workplace Travel Service

To encourage Green Travel, the City Council are offering their Workplace Travel Service scheme to any business operating within the city of Nottingham.

The Workplace Travel Service is there to provide support to businesses, their employees and customers to get them moving in a greener, more sustainable way. For more information see www.transportnottingham.com/projects/workplace-travel-service

The Workplace Travel Service provides specific support services that are designed to help staff and customers begin to cycle as part of their commute, including:

- **Cycle lessons for staff**
- **Cycle route planning support**
- **Dr Bike – free onsite bike repair services**
- **Cycle buddying for journey to and from work**
- **Walk/cycle route planning**
- **Technical advice for cycle parking**
- **Guided walks and rides around your workplace**
- **Maintenance classes**
- **Personal travel planning to improve employees' commute**

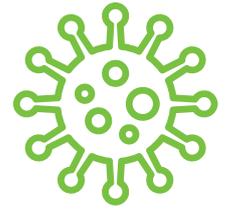
The City Council can also provide grants of up to £25,000 to help meet the costs of workplace travel improvements to encourage greener transport such as cycle parking, shower/changing room facilities and electric vehicle charge points.

Get in touch to help you make the swap to greener transport.

Email workplacetravelservice@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

What can I do?

Public transport – if you can:



- **Travel at off-peak times**
- **Use quieter stations and stops – get off a stop early if it's less busy**
- **Keep changes to a minimum, for example, between bus and train**
- **Walk for more of your journey, for example the first or last mile**
- **Book your tickets online in advance or pay by contactless**
- **Wear a face covering (subject to some exceptions)**
- **Please do not travel if you are self-isolating, feeling unwell or are showing any symptoms of Coronavirus, including a new continuous cough or high temperature**

Transport operators are working hard to keep you safe if you do need to travel, and to help control the spread of the virus, you should follow

[the safer travel guidance for passengers](#)

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-for-passengers?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=#public-transport

You can keep up to date with all the latest travel and transport news in the city by visiting

www.transportnottingham.com

where you can sign up to Nottingham's Transport newsletter, and use the city travel planning tool to help you plan your journey. You can also keep up to date by following **Transport Nottingham** on Twitter and Facebook.





Let's Keep
Nottingham
MOVING



Nottingham
City Council

How we are minimising disruption

Together with Nottingham City Council, we identified seven important junctions which were affected by increased traffic. We are working with the City Council and NET Tram to mark these as Yellow Box Junctions, to help your journey go more smoothly.



What happens if you break down?

If you break down in the A52 roadworks, or in the Traffic Management section under the bridge on Clifton Lane, please switch on your hazard warning lights, stay in your vehicle and await our recovery team, who will take you and your vehicle to a safe location.

Only if it is safe to do so, leave the vehicle and stand behind the safety barrier until help arrives.

If you need help accessing this or any other Highways England information, please call 0300 123 5000 and we will help you.

Contact us

If you have any questions, or if you would like to know more about our work, please contact us.



Email:

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Telephone:

0300 123 5000



Visit our webpage:

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/east-midlands/a52-clifton-bridge-repair-scheme/>



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