

This update provides information regarding the ongoing closure of Helsingtom Moss Bridge on the carrying the U5603 Savinhill Road, and plans for its replacement.

Helsingtom Moss Bridge is a single-span masonry arch bridge which crosses Main Drain, a tributary of Helsingtom Pool, just to the east of Brigsteer. The bridge is on a narrow road, the width between parapets is just under 5m. A location plan is attached.

Severe cracking has been observed to the abutments and arch barrel that would indicate failure of the foundations. The bridge was assessed as being at immediate risk of collapse. The bridge is currently closed to all traffic. The decision has been made to replace the bridge with a new structure on new foundations.

The project is to be let as a 2 Stage Design and Build contract with the contractor being responsible for completion of a full design and obtaining all necessary consents, permits and orders to allow construction works to commence as soon as possible after 1st April 2022, and where required making best use of the in-river working window of 16th June to 30th September 2022. Following completion of the design stage the contractor will confirm the construction price and should this be acceptable to the County Council the contractor will proceed with the construction works. If the price is not acceptable to the County Council a tender process will be initiated to gain alternative prices.

The timing of the works will be influenced by constraints including any impact on protected species as well as any constraints imposed by the Environment Agency. The County Council will liaise with the local community during the development and planning stage so that all parties can make suitable provisions to minimise disruption.

The aims of the projects are:

- To rebuild the bridge to provide a structure of full capacity, without weight restrictions
- To comply with appropriate design standards
- To comply with constraints imposed by the Environment Agency and other Consenting Authorities
- To minimise as far as possible disruption to the farming community, businesses and residents during construction.

The current anticipated programme is as follows:

Expressions of interest returned	5 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Expected issue of mini-competition	29 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Expected return of mini-competition	29 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Proposed start of design works	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
Ground Investigations, Preliminary Ecology Surveys and other preliminary on-site works informing design	Summer 2021
Obtaining approval from consenting authorities	Winter 2021/22
Finalisation of Design	Spring 2022
Indicative commencement of rebuilding works	16 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
Indicative completion date	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022

It is recognised by Cumbria County Council that this project may have a significant impact on the local community, businesses and tourists both during the current road closure and during the construction phase, resulting in diversions and inconvenience. We will work with all parties to do our best to minimise these inconveniences where possible.

Any enquiries regarding the project should be sent to Carol Last, Community Development Officer