

## **Transcript: New Elvet Bridge Reconstruction Project**

[Video: Shot of New Elvet Bridge, covered in scaffolding from the air.]

[Text: New Elvet Bridge Reconstruction Project]

[Text: Funded by Department of Transport (with logo), Durham County Council (with logo). In partnership with Jacobs (with logo), Balfour Beatty (logo).]

[Text: Alan Patrickson, Corporate Director Neighbourhoods and Climate Change]

[Audio: Alan is standing outside and the sound of traffic can be heard in the background throughout his clip.]

[Alan Patrickson] So here we are now December 2020, it's been a tough year for everyone and that includes the engineering teams on New Elvet Bridge behind me. We have managed to keep the work on track though, we have been using safe operating practices the teams have been changing what they do to make sure that we are Covid secure and the project is on programme.

[Video: Shot of New Elvet Bridge, covered in scaffolding taken from the air.]

[Video: Speeded up video of the work taking place on Elvet Bridge.]

[Alan Patrickson] So, the work that has happened to date on the bridge. We have taken the road surface off the bridge along with the pedestrian pavements and we have erected this superstructure around the bridge which is there to take away that central section as it is lifted.

The central section has been lifted now, so that is about a foot higher than the bridge on either side. And now what is happening is we are doing hydro-demolition on both the northern and the southern joints so that we can reconstruct those before that central section of the deck is lowered back.

[Text: Dan Fawcett, Project Manager, Balfour Beatty]

[Text: Dan is standing in front of a sign which reads New Elvet Bridge, Essential Maintenance. Funded by Department of Transport (with logo), Durham County Council (with logo). In partnership with Jacobs (with logo), Balfour Beatty (logo). [www.durham.gov.uk/newelvet](http://www.durham.gov.uk/newelvet)]

[Audio: Dan is standing outside and the sound of traffic can be heard in the background throughout his clip.]

[Dan Fawcett] Into the New Year we are going to continue the, the removal of the existing defective concrete and start reconstruction of the new reinforced concrete joints. We will then be lowering the deck section back into position to allow us to construct a southern section which is going to be continuous rather than a joint, that will reduce any future maintenance requirements.

[Image: Shots of a metal structures and scaffolding supporting the bridge. Shots of ongoing work on bridge.]

[Dan Fawcett] Though once the decks are in position and we have reformed both of the joints and we've, we've released the deck back onto the new bearings we will continue with the Cathodic Protection Installation to the underside of the bridge on the central span of the bridge over the river.

[Video clip: Computer generated animation of work on New Elvet Bridge being removed and the bridge having a road added. Computer generated animation of work on New Elvet Bridge showing flow of traffic over the bridge.]

[Dan Fawcett] Following on from that the bridge will be fully painted for the new coating system and we will continue with the deck works, getting the surfacing reinstated and the footways and the street lighting back in place ready for the reopening. Currently we are looking at completing the works in Autumn next year.

[Alan Patrickson] So, residents and visitors to the city will know that the traffic management is still in place of course. The traffic management system is working well, it is keeping traffic flowing around the city while still making public transport available throughout our city by keeping our busses, keeping our cars and good vehicles flowing.

[Image: A picture of a sign showing a no right turn and a diversion sign.]

[Video clip: A car driving over a junction box. A stretch of road with Ahead Only written on it. A bus going around a roundabout. A sign showing a bus lane and a sign saying, "New Road Layout Ahead".]

[Alan Patrickson] So, some of the temporary measures we have got around the city. We have got one or two places where we have got some altered priorities, where you cannot take a right turn, where normally you would be able to. They are just in place while we are doing the works and the other major change is that we have the bus lane around Quarryheads Lane to keep public transport flowing as well as we possibly can.

So, I would just like to thank everyone, residents and visitors to the city for your continued patience with the traffic management and with the project. It is a really important piece of work for us in the city centre to get this bridge right and we will try to keep you updated as the year goes on.

[Video: Shot of New Elvet Bridge, covered in scaffolding from the air.]

[Text: Durham County Council. Like it, Comment, Share. [www.durham.gov.uk/newelvert](http://www.durham.gov.uk/newelvert) Find out more.]