

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]

[Video : Alan is standing, with New Elvet bridge in the background throughout his clip.]

As you can see behind me, we have made an awful a lot of progress on the New Elvet bridge project. A lot of the covers of come off that scaffolding and since the last update and the reason for that is that we've completed an awful lot of the hydro demolition work that was going on behind those covers.

[Video: Scaffolding through which you can see the new north half joint]

We've completed most of the concrete repairs to the northern joint and that allows us to drop the deck back in its original position, while we complete the repair to the southern joint.

[Video showing the metal work in the exposed southern joint]

While the deck was raised, and the work was being done underneath and inside the deck on the concrete repairs; we did find that there was a little bit more damage then we're expecting and in that concrete. So there was some extra work to do to do those repairs.

[Image showing exposed metal work]

[Video showing a time lapse of the bridge being lowered back into its original position]

The lowering of the bridge deck was a very technical operation a huge piece of civil engineering and it's a considerable milestone for this project because it does allow us to now move on to the next phase.

[Video Alan is standing, with New Elvet bridge in the background throughout his clip.]

We are also taking the opportunity to while the bridge is closed to do an number of other maintenance pieces of work on the bridge. So there is an awful lot of maintenance to do before we reinstate the road carriageway and the pedestrian pavements.

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

[Video: Dan is standing in front of New Elvet Bridge]

Works going really well, on the project at the moment and on Sunday the 18th of April we lowered the central deck section back down; at the north half joint, so its back in position where it started. That's going to allow us to reconstruct the south half joint now its in position.

[Video showing a time lapse of the bridge being lowered back into its original position at the new north joint]

[Image showing new concrete repairs]

Throughout the works there's been ongoing concrete repairs. They have been in all areas of the bridge and that's inside the bridge on the underside of the bridge.

[Video: Dan is standing in front of New Elvet Bridge]

[Video: Side elevation of New Elvet Bridge showing the scaffolding and cradles beneath the bridge]

There are couple of areas that we haven't accessed yet which is the central section and the cradle will move along to access that.

[Image showing exposed metal work on the bridge.]

Although the hydro demolition breakout operations have been completed; which is primarily the biggest operation. We still have some surface preparation with hydro demolition techniques to undertake.

[Video: Dan is standing in front of New Elvet Bridge]

Over the next few months, once we have constructed the south half joint constructed and we've got sufficient strength in the concrete you'll see the temporary system from the top of the bridge slowly being removed and taken away from site.

[Video: Side elevation of New Elvet Bridge showing the scaffolding and cradles beneath the bridge]

That will allow us to continue with the reinstatement. Along with the other works we will be continuing the works to the underside of the bridge from the suspended cradles, they will progress across the bridge to access the other areas.

[Video Alan is standing, with New Elvet bridge in the background throughout his clip.]

It's great to see now we have the road map to recovery people coming back into the city. It's a nice day today we've got tables and chairs out around the city and people are enjoying this wonderful city is visitors and residents.

[Video of people walking over Old Elvet Bridge with outdoor seating on the bridge]

[Video of the river from Old Elvet Bridge with people in row boats and others sitting on the bank of the river at tables and chairs in a pub's beer garden.]

[Video Alan is standing, with New Elvet bridge in the background throughout his clip.]

Throughout this project we've had to work with Covid safe secure operating procedures which has been a real challenge so the work force and done a fantastic job to keep this operation safe and also thanks to the residents and businesses who managed the traffic management really well and have taken to the new routes around the city perfectly so thank you very much.

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

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