

Introduction

Oxford City Council has appointed Stantec to undertake options appraisal work, and to work with them to manage the consultation process for the Gasworks Pipe Bridge.

The Council want to keep key stakeholder groups updated on progress made in identifying a solution for the Gasworks Pipe Bridge, which has been closed for the safety of the public. The closure is the result of the pedestrian walkway having insufficient capacity to carry crowd loading.

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide a summary of:

- Approach to engagement
- The next steps being taken

Approach to Engagement

Communication with stakeholder groups has already commenced. In the forthcoming months, the stakeholder groups will continue to be updated through a combination of the methods below:

- Monthly virtual call for Councillors with Stantec and OCC officers
- A monthly update bulletin to all stakeholders
- Regular update emails to all stakeholder groups relating to progress events

Progress updates on the bridge, to inform the wider community, will be posted on the Oxford City Council website.

Recent Activities

- Provided an update and overview document to Councillors.
- Meeting held at the bridge to provide Councillors with an update.
- Undertaken engagement via email updates with community groups.
- New signage for the diversion put into place following damage to the original.
- Regular progress meetings between Oxford City Council and the Stantec project team.
- A technical review of the Isis Gasworks Footbridge Assessment Report - 18 February 2021 | Oxford City Council.
- Completed the Heritage Statement, which is required to understand the heritage context of the pipe bridge for the optioneering assessment work.
- Commissioned an Access Assessment.
- Completed the high-level sifting process on the options.
- Started communicating with utility providers.

Next Steps

Over the next couple of weeks, we will:

- Continue the regular progress meetings between Oxford City Council and the Stantec project team.
- Continue to progress the detailed options appraisal work within the selected option
- Continue to progress the position with utilities and set up a tracker.
- Commission an Ecology Desktop Study.