

Why is the bridge shut?

Wilford Suspension Bridge is a Grade 2 Listed Structure belonging to Severn Trent Water. It is now more than 100 years old and is beginning to show its age.

An inspection in July 2008 revealed problems that required its closure on the grounds of public safety. A major refurbishment of the bridge is now required to preserve it and maintain it in a safe condition for the long term.



Corrosion to Cable Band Plates



Corrosion to Catenary Cables Adjacent Anchorage Chamber Entry

What needs to be done?

We've carried out extensive investigations above and below the waterline, including testing and analysis of the bridge, diver surveys, x-ray analysis of structural elements and laboratory testing. Design and planning for major refurbishment is now well underway. Our consulting engineers have identified the following key things that we must do:

- Reinforcement of main bridge beams
- Replacement of defective structural members and fixings
- Stripping back and replacing protective coating to steelwork
- Replacing the existing timber deck
- Installing anti-pigeon measures
- Re-pointing masonry towers and approach structures.

Other minor works have also been identified that need attention. We aim to complete the work in September 2009.

How much is it costing?

We don't know for sure until design and planning is complete, but we currently estimate the total project will cost around £1.2 million.

Contacting us

If your call relates to an **emergency/safety issue** - call us on **0800 783 4444**.

If your call is not related to an emergency, you can contact us by emailing wilfordbridge@severntrent.co.uk

Or write to us at:

Wilford Bridge Project, Severn Trent Water, Sherbourne House, St Martins Road, Coventry CV3 6SD.

Please provide your contact details, so that we can respond to you by telephone or in writing.

