

New Bishopmill Bridge FAQs

Why does the bridge need to be fully closed?

New Bishopmill Bridge currently sees an average of 14,000 vehicle crossings a day. The bridge supports on the South side have failed and require replacing. To do this, the bridge will need to be lifted to allow bearings to be replaced. In addition to this, the whole bridge deck will be stripped back along with the footways, with new waterproofing and surfacing layers added.

How long will the closure last?

The closure is currently programmed from 16th October for up to 5 weeks. Any changes to this duration will be publicised.

What works will be undertaken?

Replacement Works:

- Scour protection – south bank
- south bearings,
- north and south expansion joint,
- deck waterproofing,
- footway surfacing,
- bridge deck and Borough Briggs junction resurfacing.

Repair Works:

- Main beam shot blast and painting,
- parapet beam cracking.

Will pedestrian and cyclist access be maintained?

Pedestrians and cyclists should reroute over Lossie Wynd Footbridge. Pedestrian traffic lights have been provided for safe crossing of Bishopmill Brae and Borough Briggs Road until the road closure goes live.

What are the diversion routes?

The diversion routes for the road closure are:

East: Cumming Street>>Alexandra Road>>South College Street>>Pansport Road>>Newmill Road>>Lesmurdie Road>>Lossiemouth Road>>North Street

West: Cumming Street>>Alexandra Road>>High Street>>West Road>>Morrison Road>>North Street

How will we avoid long tailbacks at the junction between Lesmurdie Road and Lossiemouth Road and additionally at the junction between Morrison Road and the A96?

Traffic Lights will be installed at both the junctions between Lesmurdie Road and Lossiemouth Road and Morrison Road and the A96. Initially, these will be manned by the traffic management Contractor and operated as necessary to ensure smooth running.

Why is there a Prohibition of Waiting along Lesmurdie Road?

Parked vehicles, particularly near the pedestrian islands, frequently result in queuing traffic. This will be made worse due to the inevitable increase in traffic during the bridge closure. To improve traffic flow and safety, we're introducing a Prohibition of Waiting to coincide with the closure.

What is a Prohibition of Waiting?

This prohibits vehicles from parking or waiting along the road. Drivers are allowed to stop briefly to pick up and drop off passengers but will then have to park elsewhere. We appreciate that this will cause inconvenience to residents who we thank in advance for their understanding and their co-operation.

Are public transport routes affected?

Stagecoach routes will be affected as follows:

Service 32 – Elgin – Hopeman - Burghead

Will divert via the A96 and Morrison Road. Will NOT serve Tesco due to the extra time required for the diversion.

Service 33A/C – Pinefield – Elgin - Lossiemouth

Will divert via the A96, Pansport and Lesmurdie Road. We will serve Tesco to and from Pinefield ONLY using Moray Leisure Centre to turn when the Junction on to North Street is closed.

Service 34 – Elgin Bishopmill and Lesmurdie

Will divert via the A96, Pansport, Lesmurdie Road, A941 and on to Munro Place. If there is an issue with the extra traffic causing delays Stagecoach may look at only going as far as South Lesmurdie.

Will there be an impact on the River Lossie?

Works will take place to replace the scour protection on the south bank of the River Lossie.