

Dear Resident/Bridge user,

Spencer Group has been appointed by Northumberland County Council and Scottish Borders Council to carry out an essential major refurbishment of the Union Chain Bridge, coinciding with the bridges' bicentenary. We're excited to be working on such an iconic bridge and the planned works will ensure the lifespan of the bridge for future generations.

Unfortunately, due to the nature and scale of the repair work the bridge will have to be closed for some time to carry out refreshment works. Details of the planned diversion route can be seen overleaf or online and will be clearly communicated on signage around the bridge. Our team are committed to pro-actively engaging with the local community throughout the duration of the project and will keep you informed of progress by means of a regular newsletter.



Union Chain Bridge will be closed from 1st October 2020 until January 2022 with no access at any time to vehicles, foot passengers and cyclists whilst we carry out refurbishment works.

Please turn over for details of the project and the diversion route that will be in place during the works



Should you have any concerns please contact us by telephone or email using the details below.

Diane Rowe - Customer Relationship Manager at Spencer Group







The project will involve:

- Removing and replacing the entire timber bridge deck
- Removing all hanger rods
- Removing all the suspension chains
- Refurbishing the existing masonry towers using sandstone, as that used originally to match the colour and geological characteristics, along with the same type of mortar
- Restoring the main chains with links repaired instead of replaced wherever possible. Every link and chain that can be repaired will go back in exactly the same place as previously
- Installing new suspension chain anchorages either side of the bridge
- Re-installing the refurbished suspension chains
- Installing the new hanger rods

The improvement works will also see Spencer Group remodel the English and Scottish approach roads to incorporate parking for visitors to the bridge, which is accessible to both vehicles and pedestrians and is a popular tourist attraction.

We apologise for any disruption these essential works may cause, we will keep you informed throughout the project with further newsletters.

