

# Llannerch Bridge Newsletter



## The purpose of this newsletter

This newsletter is published by Denbighshire County Council. Its aim is to ensure that local residents, businesses and other interested parties are kept up-to-date on the progress with our project to replace Llannerch Bridge. Our intention is to publish a newsletter on a quarterly basis so that you know what we have done, what we are aiming to do next, and opportunities for you to get involved in the development of this project.

In this edition, we will be letting you know what has happened since the last newsletter we sent in August 2022, as well as what we're hoping to achieve before our next newsletter in Spring 2023.

## Project update: what's been happening?

Since we issued our last newsletter:

### Flood modelling works have commenced

The Llannerch Bridge site sits on the river Clwyd flood plain, which has undergone significant changes since the original Llannerch Bridge was built in the late 1700s or early 1800s. The river flows in a completely different way and the patterns of flooding are very different to how they would have been two hundred years ago. It is important to understand the impact of any works to the bridge and approaching roads on the flood plain.

The risks of not doing so include:

- Potential to increase the flood risk upstream of the bridge site
- Potential to increase the flood risk downstream of the bridge site
- Potential for any new bridge to be washed away, if not designed appropriately

We have been working with Natural Resources Wales to understand from their flood data the potential impact of a variety of different designs for a new bridge and approaching road. In brief these will cover:

- **Various scenarios for changes to river flow:** We already know that the way the river Clwyd flows down the flood plain has changed significantly since the original Llannerch Bridge was built, which was part of the reason it was washed away. We need to understand what impact the frequency and severity of future flood events may have on the general flow of the river Clwyd, as well as the surrounding flood plain.
- **How well the bridge and approaching roads will sit within the river and surrounding flood plain:** changes to the river flow and frequency of flooding events will impact on how secure the bridge site is. We are currently hoping that we may be able to retain the existing bridge structure within whatever our final design for replacement is – however we need to be certain that it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Once the modelling is complete we will be able to finalise our proposed designs for the bridge, at which point we will look forward to taking these out to consultation with the local community.

## What's happening next?

### **Finalising preferred design options for the new bridge**

Based on our conversations so far with Natural Resources Wales, heritage body Cadw and Welsh Government, we are currently working towards two preferred design options for the new Llannerch Bridge.

In order to finalise these designs, in addition to the flood modelling which is already underway, we will be appointing contractors to undertake surveys of the Llannerch Bridge site over the next 2-3 months.

We will be working in conjunction with Natural Resources Wales and Dŵr Cymru (Welsh Water) to complete these surveys. Dŵr Cymru have an extraction site not far from the Llannerch Bridge site, and we are hoping to take advantage of data they already hold in relation to the River Clwyd, as well as to ensure that any works we propose to undertake at this location will not affect their ability to continue to extract water from the Clwyd.

### **Collecting feedback from the community on our final designs**

Once we are confident that the designs of bridges we have proposed are safe, appropriate, and flood resilient, we will be taking these designs back to the community for feedback before submitting a planning application to replace the bridge.

Our intention is to use our spring newsletter to let you know how you can view these designs and provide feedback on them.

## Date of the next newsletter

The next newsletter will be published in spring 2023 (approximately late March/early April).

## Could this newsletter have been an email?

If you've picked up a paper copy of this newsletter and would prefer to receive copies of the Llannerch Bridge newsletter electronically in future, please email [public.engagement@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:public.engagement@denbighshire.gov.uk)

## Comments, queries and concerns:

**Write to:** Highways and Environmental Services, PO Box 62, Ruthin, LL15 9AZ

**Email:** [public.engagement@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:public.engagement@denbighshire.gov.uk)