

Queensferry Harbour

Progress Update 3

06/12/2021



Project Update

The Queensferry Harbour Repairs project had a slight setback when the previous Project Manager, Renata, left the Council. Sean Fahy has now taken over this role and is progressing this project along with repairs to Hawes Pier, and has met with stakeholders on site to discuss progress. The Structures & Flood Prevention team are juggling a number of critical projects at the moment but continue to progress Queensferry Harbour as resources allow.

Since the last update in July, further progress has been made. The Council have appointed engineering consultants Mott Macdonald who are now assisting with the repair solution, supplementing the Structures & Flood Prevention team's engineers. This initial design, which will focus on the essential repairs due to the limited availability of budget, is almost complete, however will develop further when a contractor is appointed.

Due to the initial uncertainty of the repair solution, a contractor will be appointed on a quasi "ECI" (Early Contractor Involvement) basis. This means they will help inform the design solution before commencing works on site, and the contract will also allow the development of the design during the construction contract, whilst constrained by the overall budget. The form of contract will be the NEC4 Engineering and Construction contract, awarded following a competitive tender. The contract documents are close to completion, and we have been involving our procurement colleagues early so that tender can commence at the earliest opportunity. It is envisaged that the contract will be tendered in January, for the appointment of a contractor in February/March, with the repair works to be undertaken thereafter, as tides and weather conditions allow.

Whilst a previous site investigation included boreholes, there was still some uncertainty about the makeup of the pier structure, particularly in the most damaged north pier where the most extensive repairs are required. A trial pit was dug at the end of the pier to give us a better look at the internal makeup of the structure. This confirmed that the pier has been subjected to washout of its infill material for quite a while and that there are several voids within it.

Discussions are ongoing with Historic Environment Scotland and our Planning colleagues in relation to the listed status of the pier. The application process for listed building consent has already started.

Roads and Transport Infrastructure, Place Management
G4, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG

Tel 0131 469 3751 cliff.hutt@edinburgh.gov.uk

Recently concerns were raised about the crack on the north pier. Members of Queensferry Boat Club sent the Council a photo showing the crack from eye level, which was appreciated by the team. Whilst there is some evidence of this crack in previous inspection reports, as a precaution we blocked off access to the end of the north pier. This was done with temporary barriers; however, permanent barriers will be fixed in place until the repair work on the north pier has been carried out. As a response to this, we will be carrying out a closer inspection of the crack from a boat in December.

East Pier Davit Arm

Following an inspection of the davit on the east pier, this has been condemned for use. The davit should no longer be used for lifting, nor as an anchor for any access, mooring or any other purpose. Whilst this will come as a disappointment to pier users, the attached note explains the background to this decision.

Next Steps

The next step is to get a closer look at the crack on the north pier from a boat. This will allow us to finalise the design and put the contract out to tender.

After this we will appoint the successful contractor and begin working with them to organise the start date and work programme.

We will provide a further update once a contractor has been appointed or if there are any further updates required.