
Hammersmith Bridge update



MAYOR OF LONDON



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Dear neighbour,

This leaflet updates you on our work with the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and the Department for Transport to repair Hammersmith Bridge, launch a temporary ferry service and restore the vital cross-river connection from Barnes to Hammersmith. The Hammersmith Bridge Taskforce asked us to set up a ferry service and to manage the bridge works on behalf of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham who own the bridge.

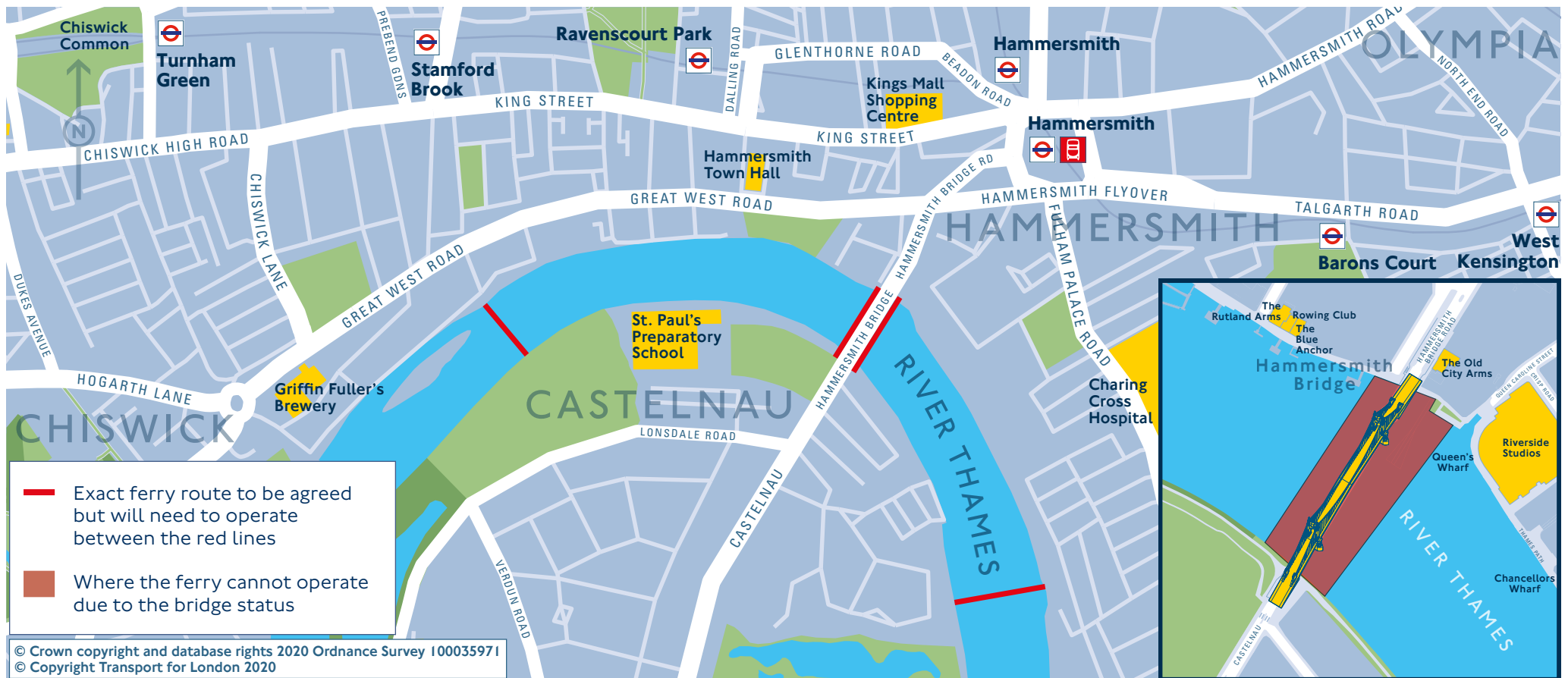
Temporary ferry

The Hammersmith Bridge Taskforce agreed that a ferry is the best way to restore a connection across the river for pedestrians and cyclists in the immediate term.

On 31 October, we agreed a wider funding support package with the Government, which confirmed our immediate funding for the ferry as an interim measure. We then started an urgent procurement process to identify a suitable operator. Once this is concluded, we aim to appoint an operator in February 2021 and have services running in spring 2021, subject to the necessary consents and interests in land being granted.

The operator will have to follow specific minimum service requirements. These state the ferry must operate at least from 6am to 10pm on weekdays, with a minimum capacity of around 800 passengers per hour.

The boroughs are working to provide access to the ferry service on both sides of the river, including the provision of lighting and signage as required. We will engage with local people on the ferry plans once we have further details.



Fixing the bridge

Our six-month emergency funding settlement agreement with Government means that we have now been able to instruct our contractors, Kier Group, to start the first stage of works on Hammersmith Bridge at the start of December.

Over the coming weeks, you may notice contractors doing investigative work on the western side of the bridge. This will help engineers understand the overall condition of the bridge

and identify any further cracking before they move on to the next stage. This will continue until the end of March 2021.

We will then need to do stabilisation work and have developed detailed plans for how this should happen. Funding for this second stage has not been confirmed, but we expect the works to take 11 months. After this, the bridge can open for pedestrians and cyclists, and vessels can pass underneath. At the same time, the Hammersmith Bridge Taskforce will also be reviewing the new proposal put forward by the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham and Foster & Partners.

Our progress

Since the bridge first closed to motor traffic in April 2019, we have continued to work to find a long-term solution and to secure funding to fix and reopen the bridge to buses and other vehicles.

We are working with Government, the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and other partners and stakeholders.

We have spent £16.7m on investigations, feasibility, design, monitoring and early works. We have also committed a further £4m over the next four months. This is for repair work and to set up the ferry service, alongside improvements to bus services, traffic lights and road monitoring to help keep traffic flowing. We will continue to work with all stakeholders and with the Hammersmith Bridge Taskforce to agree a long-term solution.

Since the bridge closed in August 2020, we have improved local bus provision, with route 533 set to increase to six buses per hour during peak hours from 14 December.

Six

buses running every hour on route 533 during peak hours



£16.7million

spent by TfL on investigation, design, monitoring and early works



Why not just build a temporary bridge?

We developed plans for a temporary pedestrian and cycle bridge in spring 2020. However, following the full closure of bridge in August 2020, the Hammersmith Bridge Taskforce decided that a temporary ferry would be the quickest way to restore a cross-river connection for people who walk and cycle, rather than a temporary bridge that would take longer to put in place. The ferry can run at the same time as emergency stabilisation works are carried out, which will enable river traffic to move freely again.

Keeping you informed

We are committed to keeping you updated on progress of the ferry and the works to the bridge.

For more information, email customerservice@tfl.gov.uk or visit tfl.gov.uk/hammersmith-bridge



24 hour travel information

0343 222 1234*



Check your travel

tfl.gov.uk/travel-tools

*Service and network charges may apply. See tfl.gov.uk/terms for details.