



Introduction

This document is intended to provide a general methodology in regards to the inspection works on Britannia Bridge, including how Spencer Group will coordinate with Caernarfon Harbour to mitigate all potential disruptions to vessels travelling through the strait.

Areas of Access

The scope of the Bridge inspection project covers the following groups listed below:

- 1a. Towers above highway deck
2. Towers below the highway deck/railway
- 2a. Railway arches and land spans
4. Anglesey railway abutment internal elements upper voids
5. Anglesey railway abutment internal elements lower voids
6. Wharf Wall

The only area which has the potential to affect the shipping channel is the group 2a:

Railway arches and land spans, since this will require inspectors using rope access techniques to access the main arch steelwork.

Boats will not be required to work within the shipping channel to facilitate this project; however a rescue boat will be on standby in a local harbour in case of emergency.

Scope of Works and Methodology

The scope of the works is inspection only, with all access to the steelwork arches using rope access, with no temporary works required. This provides flexibility in long term planning of the project and in day-to-day activities. We have planned the most efficient methods possible in order to minimise risk to the shipping channel and provide a method of fast demobilisation if required.

The works will encroach into the shipping channel (beneath the steelwork) by only a couple of metres: the size of an operative hanging on a rope beneath the structure. This will provide adequate clearance for the majority of vessels using the shipping channel.

The inspection works are visual / tactile only so there is no requirement for any operatives to hang a large distance (out of arms' reach) beneath the steel structure, or for the use of any complex equipment other than small tools used as standard for such inspections. The access to the work area will be from the top down, returning by climbing back up once those works are complete. The only exception to the above would be in case of emergency descent, whereby an operative would lower themselves (or be lowered by another member of the team) into the rescue boat.

There are minor testing and trial works in addition to the inspections, including concrete coring and minor paint trials, however neither of these will be carried out over or in close proximity to the watercourse.

programme to Caernarfon Harbour prior to works commencing on site, with emphasis on the activities which have the potential to affect the shipping channel. In turn we would request that Caernarfon Harbour reviews these activities against any key dates of large vessel movements under the bridge and advise Spencer of these dates. If acceptable to Caernarfon Harbour, the works will stand down whilst the vessels pass under the bridge and all operatives shall climb up into the bridge steel structure, out of the shipping channel. There are alternative options to reschedule the works around vessel movements, if required for multiple vessels accessing the channel in one day.

We shall inform Caernarfon Harbour of any changes to our works programme following the change, and ensure the change causes no problems with shipping in the Strait.

Emergency Plans

Emergency contact details shall be shared between Spencer and Caernarfon Harbour, each supplying a 24-hour emergency contact number to the other. In case of emergency on site, Spencer shall inform Caernarfon Harbour and keep them informed until the navigation channel is clear. It is also expected that Caernarfon Harbour would inform Spencer of any unplanned change to shipping in the Strait which may impact the works or the safety of the rope access team.

Communication with Caernarfon Harbour

We shall establish and maintain communication with Caernarfon Harbour throughout the project in order to ensure the project runs smoothly and the navigation channel is not affected by the works. Spencer shall issue the works

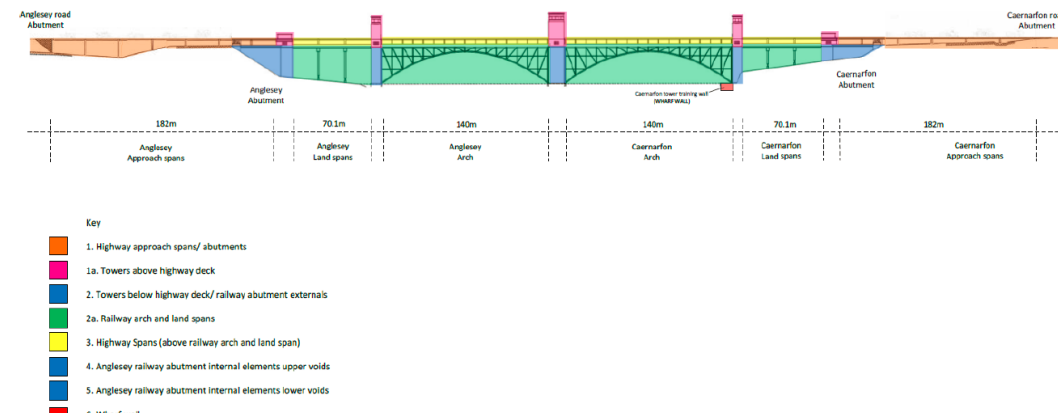


Figure 1 Project Inspection Areas