

Update from DCC – 21/12/23

The Structures team and engineers have undertaken the promised survey and monitoring of the slip and carriageway this week. Unfortunately, alongside the visible slip you have been looking at, the carriageway has sunk approximately 10mm in the vicinity of the crack adjacent to the sandbags – up until now this area hadn't shown any movement. In addition, the kerb line adjacent to the sandbags has dropped by approximately 15mm – this is movement we have been aware of, but is new further movement.

The Road Safety Audit report has come back in its final version today. The two main issues/recommendations are in relation to the movement above (what measures we will take to assess movement when the road reopens) and then in relation to ensuring pedestrian safety and parking access. We therefore need to continue to work through these to mitigate these issues over the next few weeks now we have that detail. We also need to continue to monitor the site given that quite substantial further movement we have seen, so we can do both of these things over the coming weeks and then reassess early in the new year. Whilst I appreciate this won't be the news you wanted, and we share your disappointment that we can't give you an opening date, I hope this assures you we are continuing to try to work towards this.

Noting the above movement, and as mentioned in my last update, we are also progressing the long term solution. We have commissioned someone to progress the longer term design, Jacobs, and it's likely you'll see them on site in the New Year as part of their work, and we will of course keep you updated on this.

As we're heading into the Christmas period, some of the teams are off, so I'm proposing to next send you an update by the 12th January 2024. I hope that's ok, and it will allow us a bit of time to progress the Road Safety Audit assessment recommendations as well as further assess the movement described. We will let you know if there are any updates before then though, and of course let me know if there's anything you need further information on.