

**GATESHEAD NEWCASTLE JOINT BRIDGES COMMITTEE**  
**AGENDA**

**Thursday, 8 December 2016 at 2.00 pm in the Gateshead Civic Centre**

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From the Acting Chief Executive, Mike Barker

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Item Business

**1. Appointment of Chair**

**2. Appointment of Vice Chair**

**3. Apologies for Absence**

**4. Membership of the Committee**

The membership of the Committee is as follows:

**Representing Gateshead Council**

Councillor M Brain  
Councillor J Eagle  
Councillor K Ferdinand  
Councillor J McLurey

**Representing Newcastle Council**

Councillor G Bell  
Councillor G Allison  
Councillor S Fairlie  
Councillor I Graham

**5. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 December 2015 are attached for approval.

**6. Joint Tyne Bridges Capital Budget (Pages 7 - 8)**

Report of Head of Highways and Local Services, Newcastle /  
Strategic Director, Communities & Environment, Gateshead

**7. Joint Tyne Bridges Revenue Budget (Pages 9 - 12)**

Report of Head of Highways and Local Services, Newcastle /  
Strategic Director, Communities & Environment, Gateshead

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**Joint Tyne Bridges Committee**

18 December 2015

(12.00 pm - 12.30 pm)

Meeting held Committee Room, Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne

**Present:**

Councillor: G Bell (Chair)

Councillors: G Allison, D Down (Newcastle City Council), J McElroy and B Coates (Gateshead MBC)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

A Swan	Newcastle City Council
N Burn	Gateshead Council
J Miller	Democratic Services

10 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

**RESOLVED** – that Councillor Bell be appointed Chair of the Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year.

11 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

**RESOLVED** – that Councillor McElroy be appointed Vice- Chair of the Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year.

12 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Graham and Fairlie (Newcastle) and Councillors Hamilton and McClurey (Gateshead)

13 **MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE**

The membership of the Committee for the 2015/16 municipal year was noted.

14 **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19 MARCH 2015**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## 15 JOINT TYNE BRIDGES REVENUE BUDGET

Submitted: Report by Head of Highways and Local Services, Newcastle/ Strategic Director, Communities and Environment, Gateshead (previously circulated and copy attached)

The committee considered the report which set out details the expenditure for 2014/15, reviews the expenditure for 2015/16 and recommended a budget for expenditure on the Joint Tyne bridges for 2016/17.

In response to a query it was noted that funding for lighting of the bridges was not covered by the Local transport Plan and would need to be part of a capital bid.

The Chair commented that in times of financial constraint for local authorities it was important to explore all avenues to create a revenue stream for the bridges.

**RESOLVED** – that:-

- i. The expected expenditure for 2015/2016 is £52,998 compared with a budget provision of £46,375 be noted.
- ii. The programme of maintenance and repair works to be carried out in 2016/17 be approved.
- iii. A budget provision of £53,535 for 2016/2017, as detailed in paragraph 5 and Appendix A of the report be approved.

## 16 JOINT TYNE BRIDGES CAPITAL BUDGET

Submitted: Report by Head of Highways and Local Service, Newcastle / Strategic Director, Communities and Environment, Gateshead (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes)

The committee considered the report which outlined the progress made on the planned 2015/16 Capital works programme for the Newcastle and Gateshead Joint Bridges and recommended a Capital budget to be expended on the Joint Bridges in 2016/17.

Tyne Bridge repainting

In response to a member's query as to whether budget provision for the inspection of the Tyne Bridge proposed for 2016/17 should take place sooner, it was explained that the funding stream for repainting the bridge was 2-3 years down the line so it was felt that it would be appropriate to carry out the inspection in 2016/17.

The repainting would be funded by a Capital grant via a Tyne and Wear wide bid, which the government may say should be submitted via the North East Combined Authority.

Swing Bridge

In response to a query as to whether because of their poor condition any work was proposed on the staithe on the Swing Bridge, it was explained that any such work

would be the responsibility of the Port of Tyne Authority, who had taken measures to stop unauthorised access to the bridge but were not proposing any other works.

Members asked if the officers could contact the Port of Tyne authority to find out if it was proposed to undertake any survey or inspections on the condition of the staithe.

Members commented that the deterioration in the condition of the staithe was a heritage issue and may be something that the Tyne and Wear Preservation Trust or other heritage organisation may be interested in.

**RESOLVED** – that:-

- i. The progress made on the planned Capital works programme funded by the Local Transport Plan (LTP) for 2015/16 be noted.
- ii. The programme of planned Capital works to be carried out in 2016/17.
- iii. A Capital budget provision of £195k to be funded by the Local Transport Plan for 2016/17 be approved.
- iv. Officers contact the Port of Tyne Authority in relation to Member's concerns regarding the deteriorating condition of the staithe.

17 **TYNE BRIDGE**

The Chair raised the following two issues in relation to the Tyne Bridge: \_

Birds nesting on Tyne Bridge

The Chair reported that he was aware that two applications for Listed Building Consent had been received in relation to providing some form of deterrent to on the Tyne Bridge to prevent birds nesting on the bridge. He commented that there was a need for any such decisions to be taken jointly by the two local authorities. Officers advised that even if Listed Building Consent was granted, the permission of the owners would also need to be sought. Members queried what processes were in place to allow such decisions to be taken.

It was **RESOLVED** – that officers clarify the decision making process in relation to such issues affecting the bridges.

Raising revenue from the Tyne Bridge

Within the context of the difficult revenue budget positions of both councils and the need to start planning for the future, members discussed the suggestion of the Chair of the need to become more commercial in obtaining revenue from the bridges, for example, selling advertising space on the Tyne Bridge with any monies raised being used for the benefit of the bridges. In discussion it was pointed out that there were a number of broader issues that needed to be taken into account in terms of advertising such as the integrity of the bridge and the fact that it was an iconic structure. Concerns had been raised by tourists who had wanted to photograph the Tyne Bridge without any advertising on it. A member suggested that consideration should be given to toll charging as a way of raising revenue from the bridges.

The Chair asked that officers for both Newcastle and Gateshead look at the legislation in relation to advertising on the Tyne Bridge and where any decisions in relation to any proposals to move towards becoming more commercial in terms of raising revenue from the bridges would be taken.

Officers undertook to follow up on these issues, advising that the decision to allow anyone to attach anything to the bridges would need the permission of the owners, and such decisions would have to be agreed by both Cabinets, rather than by this Joint Committee.



## Newcastle & Gateshead Joint Bridges Committee

08 December 2016

### Joint Tyne Bridges Capital Budget

Report by: **Head of Highways and Local Services, Newcastle /  
Strategic Director, Communities & Environment, Gateshead**

Ward Implications: **Ouseburn/Westgate/Benwell & Scotswood/Newburn/ Ryton,  
Crawcrook & Stella/Blaydon/Dunston & Teams/Bridges**

For information		
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#### 1. Synopsis

- 1.1 This report outlines the progress made on the planned 2016/17 capital works programme for the Newcastle and Gateshead Joint Bridges and recommends a capital budget to be expended on the Joint Bridges in 2017/18.

#### 2. Recommendations

Committee is recommended to: -

- i Note the progress made on the planned capital works programme funded by the Department for Transport's Local Transport Plan (LTP) for 2016/17.
- ii Approve the programme of planned capital works to be carried out in 2017/18.
- iii Approve a capital budget provision of £362,000 to be funded by the LTP for 2017/18.

#### 3. Introduction

- 3.1 Capital works undertaken on the Newcastle and Gateshead Joint Bridges is funded from the LTP Maintenance Block allocation. In 2016/17 a sum of £195,000 has been allocated to the planned works to the Newcastle and Gateshead Joint Bridges as set out below, together with the proposed capital works to be carried out in 2017/18.

#### 4. Tyne Bridge

- 4.1 It was proposed to carry out a Principal Inspection in 2016/17, and a budget provision of £70,000 was allowed for these services. These services are progressing and the estimated outturn cost for these services is £70,000.
- 4.2 Subject to the findings of the Principal Inspection of the Tyne Bridge it is proposed that a bid for the major maintenance of the bridge is prepared and submitted to the

Department for Transport in 2017. At this time it is anticipated that the proposed any works would not commence until 2018/19 and would extend into 2019/20.

4.3 Details of any proposed works will be brought to the next Joint Bridges Committee.

## **5 Swing Bridge**

5.1 It was proposed to carry out permanent repairs to to the road deck in 2016/17, and a budget provision of £75,000 was allowed for these works. These works have been delayed following mechanical issues experienced by the Port of Tyne with the operation of the bridge. However it is still envisaged that the planned works will be completed before the end of March 2017. The estimated outturn cost for these works is remains £75,000.

5.2 We have continued to experience problems with the traffic control barriers on the Swing Bridge. It is proposed to carry out replacement of the barriers in 2017/18, and a budget provision of £50,000 has been identified.

## **6. High Level Bridge**

6.1 There were no proposals to carry out any capital works during this period.

## **7. Redheugh Bridge**

7.1 It was proposed to carry out additional concrete repairs to the piers in 2016/17, and a budget provision of £50,000 was allowed for these works. These works have been completed and the outturn cost of these works is £30,145.

## **8. Scotswood Bridge**

8.1 There were no proposals to carry out any capital works during this period.

8.2 It is proposed to carry out replacement of the mechanical comb expansion joints in 2017/18, and a budget provision of £300,000 has been identified.

8.3 It is proposed to carry out replacement of the laminated bearing to the north west abutment in 2017/18, and a budget provision of £12,000 has been identified.

## **9. Newburn Bridge**

9.1 There were no proposals to carry out any capital works during this period.

## **10. Background Papers**

10.1 Background papers are held by: -

Newcastle City Council, Environment & Regeneration Directorate, Technical Services,  
Contact Officer: Alastair Swan, Tel. 0191 211 5931;

Gateshead Council, Communities & Environment, Development, Transport & Public  
Protection; Contact Officer: Nigel Burn, Tel. 0191 433 3079



**Newcastle & Gateshead Joint Bridges Committee**

**08 December 2016**

**Joint Tyne Bridges Revenue Budget**

**Report by:** Head of Highways and Local Services, Newcastle /  
Strategic Director, Communities & Environment, Gateshead

**Ward Implications:** Ouseburn/Westgate/Benwell & Scotswood/Newburn/ Ryton,  
Crawcrook & Stella/Blaydon/Dunston & Teams/Bridges

<b>For decision</b>		
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**1. Synopsis**

1.1 This report details the expenditure for 2015/2016, reviews the expenditure for 2016/2017, and recommends a budget for expenditure on the Joint Tyne bridges for 2017/2018.

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 Committee is recommended to:

- i Note the expected expenditure for 2016/2017 is £55,595 compared with a budget provision of £53,535.
- ii Approve the programme of maintenance and repair works to be carried out in 2017/2018.
- iii Approve a budget provision of £45,300 for 2017/2018, as detailed in paragraph 5 and Appendix A of this report.

**3. Year End Expenditure in 2015/2016**

3.1 The year end expenditure in 2015/2016 was £48,773 compared with a budget provision of £46,375 (Tyne £10,000, Swing £10,000, Redheugh £18,575, Scotswood £6,800, Newburn £1,000). This increase reflects the additional reactive maintenance repairs on the Tyne Bridge, and the deferral of regular maintenance on the Redheugh and Scotswood Bridge.

#### **4. Review of Expenditure in 2016/2017**

- 4.1 At the meeting of 18 December 2015, the budget provision for 2016/2017 was set at £53,535. The current estimated outturn is £55,595. A review of the expenditure is given below and details are shown in Appendix A.

##### **Tyne Bridge**

- 4.2 The estimated outturn for the Tyne Bridge is £10,000 compared with a budget figure of £10,000. Works to the Tyne Bridge include minor concrete repairs, bird control measures and security measures to prevent unauthorised access.

##### **Swing Bridge**

- 4.3 The estimated outturn for the Swing Bridge is £10,000 compared to a budget figure of £10,000. Works to the Swing Bridge include repair works to the road barrier system and surfacing repairs.

##### **Redheugh Bridge**

- 4.4 The estimated outturn for the Redheugh Bridge is £21,315 compared to a budget allocation of £22,035. Works to the Redheugh Bridge include regular maintenance of the bridge drainage system and the operation of strong wind warning signs.

##### **Scotswood Bridge**

- 4.5 The estimated outturn for the Scotswood Bridge is £13,280 compared to a budget allocation of £10,500. Works to the Scotswood Bridge include regular maintenance to the comb expansion joints, bridge drainage system and river outfalls and reactive maintenance to the impact damaged steel parapets.

##### **Newburn Bridge**

- 4.6 The estimated outturn for the Newburn Bridge is £1,000 compared to a budget allocation of £1,000. Proposed works to Newburn Bridge include minor surfacing repairs.

#### **5. Proposed Budget Provision for 2016/2017**

##### **Tyne Bridge**

- 5.1 An allowance of £10,000 has been identified for minor structural repairs, routine maintenance and utility payments on the bridge.

##### **Swing Bridge**

- 5.2 An allowance of £10,000 has been identified for minor maintenance repairs and routine maintenance on the bridge.

##### **Redheugh Bridge**

- 5.3 An allowance of £13,875 has been identified for regular maintenance of the bridge drainage system, reactive repairs, utility payments and provision of the security system. There is no allowance for the display of strong wind warning signs. The warning signs are now provided by variable message signs, their performance will be subject to a review at the end of the financial year.

#### **Scotswood Bridge**

- 5.4 An allowance of £10,200 has been identified for regular maintenance of the comb expansion joints, bridge drainage system and river outfalls and reactive repairs.

#### **Newburn Bridge**

- 5.5 An allowance of £1,000 has been identified for routine maintenance works on the bridge.

### **6 Background Papers**

- 6.1 Background papers held by: -

Newcastle City Council, Environment & Regeneration Directorate, Technical Services,  
Contact Officer: Alastair Swan, Tel. 0191 211 5931;

Gateshead Council, Communities & Environment, Development, Transport & Public  
Protection; Contact Officer: Nigel Burn, Tel. 0191 433 3079

## APPENDIX A

### Newcastle and Gateshead Joint Bridges Committee Bridge Maintenance Revenue Budget

	<b>Actual Expenditure 2015/2016</b>	<b>Budget Provision 2016/2017</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn 2016/2017</b>	<b>Proposed Budget 2017/2018</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Tyne-Bridge</b>				
Regular maintenance	0	0	0	0
Programmed maintenance	0	0	0	0
Reactive maintenance	22,421	9,800	9,800	9,800
Electricity Charges	411	200	200	200
Sub Total	<u>22,832</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<b>Swing Bridge</b>				
Regular maintenance	0	0	0	0
Programmed maintenance	0	0	0	0
Reactive maintenance	6,461	10,000	10,000	10,000
Sub Total	<u>6,461</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<b>Redheugh Bridge</b>				
Regular maintenance	549	9,000	9,984	9,325
Programmed maintenance	0	0	0	0
Reactive maintenance	0	1,000	1,000	1,200
Utility Payments	3,725	2,410	1,902	1,675
Security System	1,555	1,550	1,606	1,675
Strong Winds Warnings	12,784	8,075	6,824	0
Sub Total	<u>18,614</u>	<u>22,035</u>	<u>21,315</u>	<u>13,875</u>
<b>Scotswood Bridge</b>				
Regular maintenance	0	9,500	7,185	9,225
Programmed maintenance	0	0	0	0
Reactive maintenance	865	1,000	6,096	1,200
Sub Total	<u>865</u>	<u>10,500</u>	<u>13,280</u>	<u>10,425</u>
<b>Newburn Bridge</b>				
Regular maintenance	0	0	0	0
Programmed maintenance	0	0	0	0
Reactive maintenance	0	1,000	1,000	1,000
Sub Total	<u>0</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>48,773</u></b>	<b><u>53,535</u></b>	<b><u>55,595</u></b>	<b><u>45,300</u></b>