

Edinburgh bridges set for makeover as drivers warned over possible disruption

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A £1.7m project to repair and re-paint two railway bridges in Edinburgh City Centre will get underway in January 2022.

Network Rail will begin work on the bridges at Calton Road and New Street on January 10, with grit blasting, steelwork repairs, steel strengthening and painting all scheduled for completion by August next year.

Drivers are being advised to plan ahead as a lane closure will be in place on Calton Road from 17 January until 19 August 2022 and then New Street will be closed to all traffic between 26 April and 19 August 2022.

During the New Street road closure, a diversion will be in place via Calton Road, Watergate, Canongate and Cranston Street, and vice versa.

The work is designed to enhance and protect the structures against the elements for up to two decades as part of Network Rail's commitment to running a safe and reliable railway.

Ahead of the project beginning, Network Rail has organised an online public information event on Thursday December 9 to offer members of the public the chance to ask questions directly to members of the project team. You can book a slot by visiting <https://scotlandsrailway.com/projects/edinburgh/events>.

Christina Thomson, Scheme Project Manager at Network Rail, said: “The investment we’re making in the bridges will not only extend their lifespans but will allow us to continue running a safe and reliable railway in and around Edinburgh.

“We’re pleased to confirm that while New Street will close during the second phase of the works, Calton Road will remain open throughout the project, with a lane closure in place. Drivers should plan their journeys in advance as some delays may occur while the lane and road closures are in place.

“We are thankful to the community for their patience and understanding while we carry out these essential works.”

If you have any questions about this work, you can contact Network Rail’s 24-hour national helpline on 03457 11 41 41. For the latest information and progress updates follow on Twitter @NetworkRailScot.

Photo credit: Network Rail