

NOTICE TO MARINERS NO. 6/23

(Small Craft Notice)

River Wye, Chepstow

Maintenance work, Chepstow Railway Bridge

Mariners are advised that, commencing from 29th May 2023 essential maintenance and refurbishment work is to commence on Chepstow Railway Bridge across the river Wye. This will involve the installation of a scaffolding structure around and beneath the bridge for the entire span of the river. Works are expected to take approximately 6 months but will be weather dependent. Passage for vessels will still be possible throughout the period of the works but will be restricted. Available airdraft of the main "trussed" span of the bridge will be reduced by approximately 1.4 metres.

The lower extremity of the scaffold structure will be well lit, with works taking place 24hrs per day.

The works will also include a temporary access bridge from the West bank to the most Western set of piles (Chepstow side) – i.e. across the high airdraft channel section at a height approximately equivalent to the main truss section of the bridge. Therefore, airdraft closest to the West bank will be greatly reduced, and less than that of the rest of the bridge span. Additionally, a pontoon will be in use at various times around the base of the Westernmost bridge support piles, also greatly reducing the available width of that channel.

The below picture from works in the past illustrates the temporary bridge position.



Mariners are therefore advised to use the main channel under the trussed section of the bridge for the duration of the works and should proceed with caution paying due regard to tidal height in relation to the reduced aircraft.

It is planned that the scaffold encapsulation will gradually be withdrawn in phases from East to West bank as work progresses.

Notices to Mariners may be viewed on the Trustees' website:

www.gloucesterharbourtrustees.org.uk

Owners, Agents and Charterers should ensure that the contents of this Notice are made known to the Masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.

S Henderson
Harbourmaster

26th May 2023