

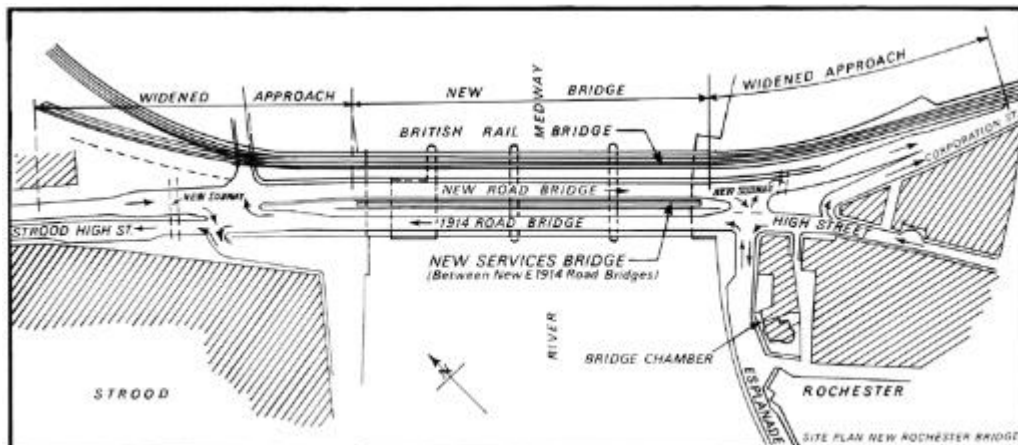
NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 16 – 2019

ROCHESTER - BRIDGE REACH - ROCHESTER NEW ROAD BRIDGE: RE-FURBISHMENT WORKS & SPAN CLOSURES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that major engineering refurbishment works are scheduled to begin on or around 8th May 2019 and are due to continue for a period of 18 months on the Rochester New Road Bridge located in the following approximate position:

51° 23.54'N 000° 30.04'E



It is intended to carry out the work in 3 main phases:

Phase 1: Strood & Old Ship Passage Spans – gap between New and Old Road bridges to have safety netting fitted and hanging scaffolding fitted until works complete then removed. Span closure required

Phase 2: Rochester Span - hanging scaffolding fitted until works complete then removed. Span closure required.

Phase 3: Main Span – works to be carried out in two parts so that half of the span remains open to navigation. Hanging scaffolding fitted until works complete then removed. Headroom

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reduced under the area scaffolded.

Phase 1 is due to commence on or around 8th May 2019 and last for approximately 4 months

Due to the long term nature of the works, this Notice will be updated at the commencement of each phase so as to reflect current span closures and other navigational safety information.

During this period, regular navigational closures while hanging scaffolding is constructed underneath the spans will take place. All river users are advised that the workboat “Prowler” will be operating in the area to assist as a safety boat when required at such times when people are working over the side of the bridge outside of safety zones. She will be maintaining a listening watch on VHF Channel 74 throughout. Once safe areas of work are complete, there is no requirement to have a safety boat since re-furbishment works will be undertaken from the bridge at road level.

The appropriate day and night signals will be displayed in accordance with Medway Ports River Byelaws 1991 Part II Section 9, which states: “When the arch or span of a bridge is closed to navigation the person in control of the bridge shall suspend the following from the center of that arch or span;

- by day, three RED discs 0.6 metres in diameter at the points of an equilateral triangle of length of side 1.8 metres with the apex downwards and the base horizontal.
- by night three RED lights in similar positions to the discs exhibited by day.

When the head room of an arch or span of a bridge is reduced from its usual limits, but that arch or span is not closed to navigation, the person in control of the bridge shall suspend from the centre of that arch or span by day a bundle of straw or suitable alternative as agreed by the harbour master large enough to be conspicuous and by night a WHITE all-round light.”

Mariners are advised to slow down, maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 74 and navigate with caution keeping well clear when passing.

Further information on current restrictions and safety information may be obtained from Medway VTS on VHF Channel 74, call sign “**Medway VTS**” or telephone **0151 949 6148** or **0151 949 6650**.

Marine Operations Department
Peel Ports London Medway

03rd May 2019