Newsletter

SCAN ME

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Project Introduction

Armley Gyratory is a key junction on the Inner Ring Road to the west of Leeds city centre. It is a major entry/exit point for traffic travelling through and into the city with an estimated 100,000 vehicles passing through daily.

Improvements to the gyratory aim to:

- Improve safety for all road users
- Allow traffic to flow more freely, minimising traffic impacts on local roads
- Provide more appealing and accessible routes for pedestrians and people who cycle
- Help facilitate improvements elsewhere in the city, like closing City Square to vehicles
- Improve the local environment through new landscaping

This project is part of Connecting Leeds' work on several major highways schemes, which are all part of transforming travel in the city and across the district.



Sept 2023- Aerial photo of Armley Gyratory looking west towards Armley

The story so far

During a series of night closures throughout August, the Armley team were successful in completing the majority of the final surfacing work on the Armley Gyratory.

There were some challenges during the night works, with the team facing poor weather throughout the month and difficult ground conditions. Despite these challenges, the completion of the widening of the central gyratory and entry island approaches has been achieved, along with completing the underground drainage, 90% of white lining, the vehicle restraint system and improving the public walkways was also substantially completed, significantly widening the paths for shared use and accessibility.

To complete phase one of the Armley Gyratory project, remaining works include completion of the installation of new traffic signals, street lighting and progress landscaping which includes planting new trees.

During partial night closures of the gyratory on **Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 September**, additional surfacing and lining works are to take place. Please be aware that this work is highly weather dependant, so there is 1 additional continency date on Wednesday 27 September.

Please visit www.leeds.gov.uk/armleygyratory for the diversion map for these upcoming partial night time closures.



The new, wider public walkway heading towards Wellington Road (south)

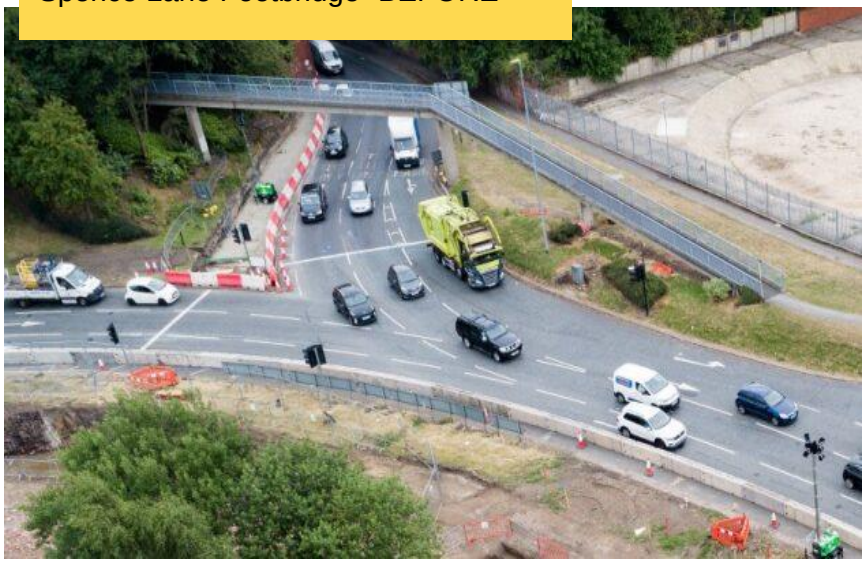
What happens next?

The removal of the Spence Lane footbridge over the Armley Gyratory is scheduled to begin at the end of September, marking the commencement of phase two of the Armley Gyratory scheme. This will be the first of three footbridges around the Gyratory which will be removed and replaced with new footbridges with more accessible footways, set to complete next year.

Built in the early 1970's the fifty-year-old footbridges are to be removed and then replaced with new footbridges that better meet the needs of non-motorised users and people with disabilities. All the new upgraded footbridges have been designed to ensure they will need less maintenance work and inspection, over future decades.

Spence Lane footbridge is the largest of the three footbridges set to be replaced, stretching 22.6 metres and weighing around 50 tonnes. It will be removed by one of the world's most powerful all terrain cranes.

Spence Lane Footbridge- BEFORE



Spence Lane Footbridge- AFTER



Visuals provided by Aecom

To allow for this Spence Lane work to be completed, motorists are advised there will be a weekend partial closure, starting **8pm Friday 29 September, until 5:30am Monday 2 October**. The approach to the Ingram Distributer (A643) and the Wellington Road exit will be closed over this weekend, re-opening with lane restrictions. Please see the vehicle diversion map below.

Future partial weekend closures are planned to complete the works which will be communicated and available on the project website, alongside all necessary diversion maps: www.leeds.gov.uk/armleygyratory

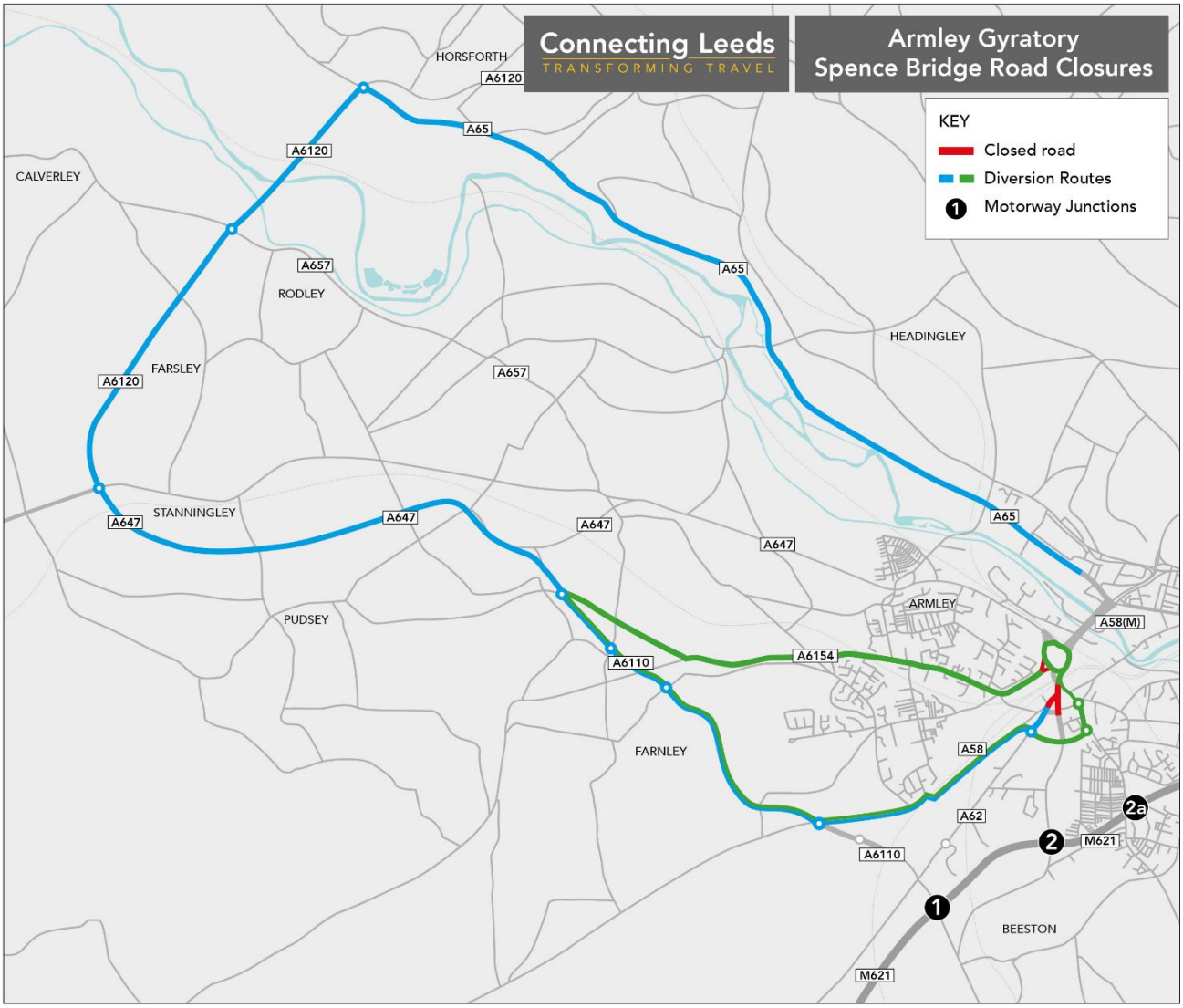
Throughout the phase two works to construct the new footbridges, there will be a diversion in place for those walking or wheeling around the gyratory until spring 2024. Please see the footway diversion map on the following page.

The current phase two Armley structure programme:

Spence Bridge (2a) Spring 2024 bridge construction completion.

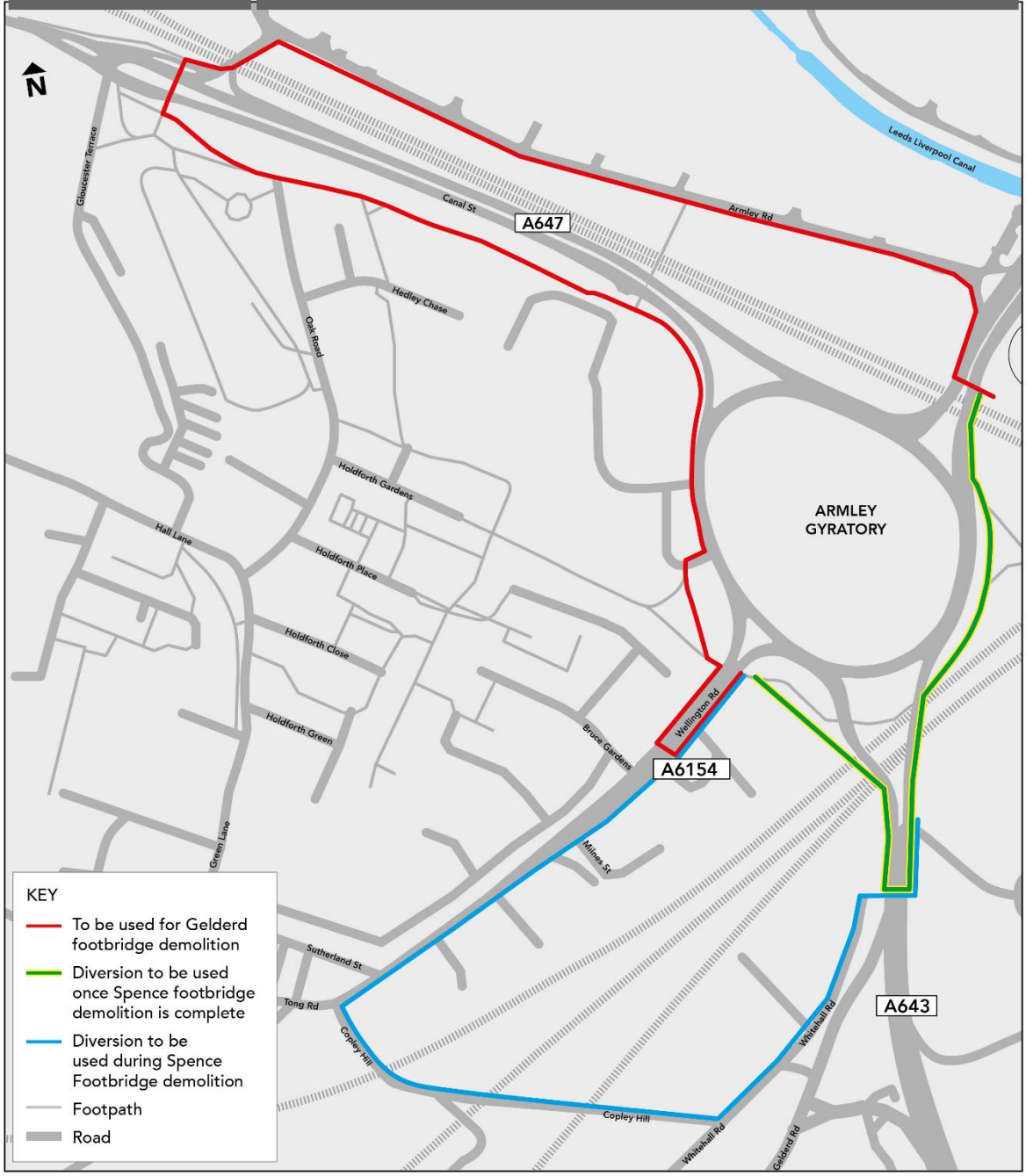
Geldard Bridge (2a) Spring 2024 – plans for removal and construction over single-weekend.

Wellington Road Bridge (2b) removal and construction anticipated summer 2024



Connecting Leeds
TRANSFORMING TRAVEL

Armley Gyratory Footpath Closures.



Recent progress images- Sept 2023



The completed west gyratory NEGAS bridge with completed final surfacing and wider non-motorised user (pedestrian/ cyclist) footpath



Completed final surfacing works with the modified splitter island



Aerial photo of Armley Gyratory looking east towards Leeds city centre



Completed final surfacing works with the modified splitter island

Social value updates

Armley Gyratory improvements are being delivered by Leeds City Council in partnership with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. The scheme is a key junction on the A58 (M) Inner Ring Road with approximately 100,000 cars using the roundabout everyday. The project aims to improve the efficiency of the roundabout, creating a safer environment for all road users including cyclists and pedestrians. New landscaping will also aim to improve biodiversity and air pollution in the area.
Balfour Beatty, Leeds City Council and the team of subcontractors are collaborating to maximise social value engagement with residents, businesses, community groups and education establishments.

Leeds City Council · West Yorkshire Combined Authority · SCAPE Civil Engineering · Balfour Beatty

Estimated Total Social Value Add: £4 million

Local Economy

16 SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises) engaged

£2.1 million spent with LOCAL small to medium enterprises (SME's)

£1.4 m spent with LOCAL large organisations

Approx. **2909** car miles saved on the project
Project target: 2000 miles

132 tonnes saved in emissions not from transport
Project target: 150 tonnes CO2e

32.77 tonnes of construction waste either reused or recycled - equating to 99% of all waste being diverted from landfill

2.6 weeks work experience provided for young people
Project target: 8 weeks

92 hours volunteered in the local community
Project target: 88 hours

Approximately **1530 students** directly engaged by the project

2 apprentices and **2 placement students** supported by the project
Project target: 2 apprentices supported by the project

£2,210 fundraised for charity

Attended **16** career events in local schools / colleges

Engaging the Next Generation

Since February 2022, the Armley Gyratory team has been visiting local schools, primary and secondary, to talk about careers in construction and to help pupils gain confidence and awareness on the number of opportunities available to them. So far on the project, we have directly engaged with approximately 1530 students in Leeds.



Throughout July, the project hosted work experience students who shadowed the work that Balfour Beatty and Leeds City Council do on site. The academic year was also completed with a visit to Roundhay Sixth Form as part of their career fair, where the Armley team talked directly to 30 students interested in routes into the construction industry. Now that the new academic year has begun, the Armley team will continue to engage with local schools and colleges. In particular, we are currently offering copies of our children's book 'Cones and Building Bridges' for free to students across Leeds. It is a book aimed for children aged 6-10 years old and walks students through the construction industry, job roles within it and the importance of safety and sustainability. We offer an age appropriate career talk assembly alongside copies of the book for any local schools. If you would be interested in Balfour Beatty visiting your local primary school, please email catherine.morgan@balfourbeatty.com

Getting in touch

Please sign up for the ‘latest news’ on the project by visiting the website and registering your email: www.leeds.gov.uk/armleygyratory

If you have questions about the scheme, you can email us at: connectingleeds@leeds.gov.uk

You can also join the conversation on social media by following @ConnectingLeeds on Twitter and Facebook.

We would like to take this opportunity to apologise for any inconvenience and assure you that every effort will be made to keep disruption to a minimum.

Kind regards

The Connecting Leeds Team

