

Railway Bridge over the River Dee Press Release

Originally the Council took the opportunity to replace the cantilevered footway and staircase because Network Rail was carrying out refurbishing works of the railway bridge. The new pedestrian route was due to open by the end of January however the embankment and ramped path on the Curzon Park side of the river suffered an embankment slip. The end of the ramp and foundation to the last footway section dropped by about 0.7m and the sloped path and a short section of the existing footbridge was damaged. This embankment slip also caused concern to Network Rail as the embankment supports a section of its railway.

Network Rail's geotechnical engineers inspected the landslide and embankment stabilisation is being undertaken involving piling, and due to difficult access the only way these works can be carried out is by working from the railway whilst it is closed at night. Once the piles are installed a new concrete foundation will be cast for the footbridge, repairs will be carried out, and drainage improved.

Councillor Lynn Riley, Executive Member for Community and Environment said: "Originally we were hopeful that the footbridge would reopen to pedestrians and cyclists by the end of February but the landslide set the work back some months. We would like to apologise for the delay but repairs of this type can take some time to complete. The Council will continue to work closely with Network Rail so that the necessary works can take place and we anticipate that the path will reopen by the end of the summer."