

HARBOUR ROAD GARDENSTOWN – Update 17th April 2018

Slope Stabilisation Works:

Further analysis of the potential options to allow the road to open safely was recently carried out by the council's consultants, Atkins and their options report was reviewed last week by Aberdeenshire Council. On 11 April the council decided to progress with option C from the report, which involves soil nailing and the use of mesh.

The contract for the work has now been awarded to BAM Ritchies and they intend to start onsite next week (Monday, April 23) and it will take seven weeks to complete the works.

The current plan is that the road remains closed initially while a slope monitoring system and other safety measures are installed. It is planned to complete this initial works which will allow the road open fully (but under traffic light control) from Friday, April 27. The monitoring system will be linked to traffic lights which can stop access should any movement in the slope be detected.

With the safety measures in place it is hoped the road can remain open during the subsequent installation of the six metre long soil nails and steel meshing system, however this is dependent on the successful installation and testing of the monitoring system which will be in place for the entire duration of the works to install the soil nails and mesh.

Unfortunately, even with this system in place, road openings cannot be guaranteed as the slope will still be susceptible to periods of poor weather and this may result in further restrictions having to be put in place at short notice.

Clearly this continues to be a dynamic and complex situation and there may be factors outwith our control which determine whether the road is open or closed as work progresses, but we will continue to communicate closely with the community.

On completion of these initial works it should be possible for the road to safely return to being open for unrestricted access.

Drop-in Session:

Following the previous drop-in session held on 16 March it is now planned to hold a similar event in the Dreel Hall on **Wednesday 25 April from 9:00am – 8:00pm** to allow the community to be updated on progress with the works and ask any questions. Representatives from the Roads and Area Managers teams will be on hand along with our consultants (Atkins) and contractors (BAM Ritchies).

Further information can be found on our website at: <http://bit.ly/gardenstownslip>

Road Openings:

Ahead of our contractors works commencing on Monday 23 April the following opening times and dates have been scheduled (subject to site safety inspections):

Friday 20th April: 1300Hrs – 1800Hrs

Saturday 21st April: 0800Hrs – 1800Hrs

Sunday 22nd April: 0800Hrs – 1800Hrs

Monday 23rd April: 0800Hrs – 1300Hrs

As noted above, if it is safe to do so we currently plan to open the road fully (under traffic lights and slope monitoring system) from **Friday 27th April** onwards.

It should be noted that a formal traffic order extending the road closure has recently been published indicating that the road will be closed right through until 31 August 2018. This order has been processed to allow any further 'emergency' closures to meet legal requirements but the order would only be implemented in the event of further slippage or safety issues with the works. Implementation of the road closure will be clearly indicated by site signing and/or traffic lights.

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