

# Abergavenny Station

## Reference info

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**Last update:** Verbal update from Samuel Hadley in May 2018

**Next update:** Spring 2019

## Footbridge refurbishment

As part of our Railway Upgrade Plan, we are refurbishing Abergavenny station footbridge.

The work is being delivered in two phases. The first phase is underway and involved the temporary removal of the lattice section bridge span (in July 2017), in order to enable a thorough inspection to be undertaken and a programme of work developed.

This section of the bridge is currently at our contractor's workshop in Cardiff undergoing restoration work including strengthening, repainting and the renewal of the deck walkway with an anti-slip surface.

The second phase will begin in early December 2018 and will see the removal and refurbishment of the solid parapet span of the bridge – the section that connects platforms 1 and 2.

This will also be taken to our contractor's workshop in Cardiff where a programme of work will be developed following a thorough inspection.

Work to repair and refurbish the trestle support columns and staircases will be undertaken with these sections of the structure remaining at the station. We will also take the opportunity to reduce the visibility of cabling on the footbridge to improve its appearance.

Following the full refurbishment of both footbridge spans in our workshop, they will be reinstated and commissioned for use. This is expected in April 2019.

## Work is underway and will continue until spring 2019

A planned site inspection in 2016 confirmed that both bridge spans and staircases were due for repair and refurbishment.

The aim of the proposed works to the listed footbridge is to ensure that the appearance of the Grade II listed structure is improved and strengthened so it is fit for use many years to come. This essential work is part of our commitment to maintain a safe and reliable railway.

The remaining work at the station is scheduled between 3rd December 2018 and 16th April 2019 starting with the set-up of a small site compound in the car park and the installation of a temporary footbridge, followed by the removal of the solid parapet span.

A large amount of the work will take place at our workshop in Cardiff, however work to refurbish the trestle support columns and staircases will be ongoing at the station itself until April.

### The station will remain open at all times

A temporary footbridge will be installed in advance of us taking away the solid parapet span in order to ensure there is continued access between both platforms for passengers.

Safety is a key priority and for this reason a large amount of this work must be carried out while trains are not running. This means carrying out a lot of our improvements during the night and at weekends.

During the work Network Rail staff and our partners are briefed to work responsibly in the local community. Please be aware that the equipment we use means some disturbance is unavoidable, however we will make every effort to minimise any unnecessary noise.

### Future plans

We would like to see all stations across Wales and Borders made fully accessible to all passengers, and we know this is a top priority for passengers and our stakeholders.

In June, the Department for Transport (DfT) announced a new round of Access for All funding for England and Wales, as part of their £300m Inclusive Transport Strategy. Following this, the Local Delivery Group (LDG) - which includes Network Rail Wales & Borders, Transport for Wales and the Welsh Government - was asked to consider potential schemes that could be delivered with Access for All funding in the next industry funding period (2019 - 2024).

With input from a wide group of industry stakeholders (including Monmouthshire County Council) the LDG worked collaboratively to prepare a robust nomination of 15 potential station schemes across Wales and Borders, with Abergavenny included as a priority. This nomination was submitted to the DfT on 16th November 2018.

The DfT will make the final decision on which stations will receive the Access for All funding, and the announcement is expected in Spring 2019.

The availability of third-party/match funding is included in the DfT's key criteria for potential future schemes. Transport for Wales - as a member of the LDG - has made the group fully aware of its exciting proposals to make Abergavenny station a key Disability Wales pilot station for accessibility and inclusive design. This has been included in the nominations form and highlighted in ongoing discussions with the DfT.

This completion of the nominations process represents an important step towards improving access at stations across Wales & Borders and we look forward to updating the Committee on the outcome in due course.



The lattice section of the footbridge has been removed and is now at our workshop in Cardiff