

11 April 2019

Dear Cllr Harcourt

Request for meeting over closure of Hammersmith Bridge

I am writing to you to express my concerns about the recent closure of Hammersmith Bridge and to request an urgent meeting with yourself around the long-term plans for the bridge.

Residents in Richmond upon Thames, particularly living in the Barnes area, rely heavily on the bridge to get to work, school, and access services to the rest of London. A long term, indefinite closure will cause huge disruption to their lives and it is immensely frustrating that Hammersmith and Fulham Council have not taken this into account when communicating the decision to indefinitely close the bridge to the public.

This, despite Richmond Council officers repeatedly engaging with their counterparts at Hammersmith and Fulham Council over a number of months, urging them to provide a long-term plan for the future of the Bridge.

The limited information that has been provided to myself and officers at Richmond Council from Hammersmith and Fulham has severely restricted our ability to plan for such a major disruption to traffic flow in our borough which will impact our residents for potentially years to come.

Going forward, I hope the needs of our residents in Richmond upon Thames will be considered when decisions on the future of the bridge are made, including maintaining access for pedestrians and cyclists wherever possible.

I urgently request the opportunity to meet with you and discuss what plans you have to mitigate this large-scale disruption to the lives of those in our borough who use the bridge on a daily basis to get to work and school.

Your Sincerely,



Cllr Alexander Ehmann

Richmond Council Cabinet Member for Transport, Streetscene and Air Quality