

### Proposed Change to Milltown Cycle Bridge

- Letter of explanation – what you're doing and why

Milltown Cycle Bridge has been designed as a two-span structure with a supporting reinforced concrete pier within the river channel close to the south abutment. A change to a single span bridge has been proposed which omits the requirement for a pier within the river and has the following advantages and benefits:

#### Avoiding River Obstruction

The pier currently proposed for the two span bridge is a substantial structure which will cause debris to collect on its upstream elevation at times of flood. When the river subsides to normal water levels the base of the pier will be above the water line and any accumulated debris will remain exposed. A single span bridge will remove the river obstruction entirely and enable clear flow of water.

#### Reduction in Future Maintenance

- No debris accumulations at the base of the pier and associated requirement for personnel to enter the river channel.
- Inspection & maintenance of the pier and bridge bearings which will require specialist access equipment will not be required.
- Reduce opportunity for graffiti and associated cost of removal.

#### Reduced Costs

The single span structure will have a net saving in construction costs for BMBC and whole life savings in maintenance costs.

#### Reduction in Flood Risk Delaying Construction

The river regularly rises to a level which will prevent essential construction access required to construct the piled foundations, RC base / core and brick cladding / feature stonework. Omission of the pier will therefore reduce the risk of project delays.

#### Improved Aesthetic

The original design consists of one long flat span and one short sloping span. The proposed single span solution is one larger arched span providing a more aesthetically pleasing and symmetrical elevation.

Dane House, Europa Park, Stoneclough Road,  
Kearsley, Greater Manchester, M26 1GE

Tel: 01204 439100 | WeCanHelp@bethell.co.uk | bethell.co.uk

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#### Registered Offices:

Bethell Construction Limited, Dane House, Europa Park, Stoneclough Road, Kearsley, Greater Manchester, M26 1GE Registered Number: 264322  
Bethell Utility Services Limited, Dane House, Europa Park, Stoneclough Road, Kearsley, Greater Manchester, M26 1GE Registered Number: 3594980