

Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Further Deaths at North Bridge Halifax

This response is being sent to:

Mr M.D. Fleming Senior Coroner, West Yorkshire (Western District), City Courts, The Tyrls, Bradford, BD1 1LA.

In response to a Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Further Deaths following an inquest hearing into the death of Jordan Ryan Sheils at North Bridge Halifax that concluded on 15th October 2018.

1. Calderdale Council

I am Mr [REDACTED] Highway Asset Manager, Calderdale Council, Ainley's Depot, Huddersfield Road, Elland, HX5 9JR.

2. Coroners Matter of Concern

The Matters of Concern were identified as;

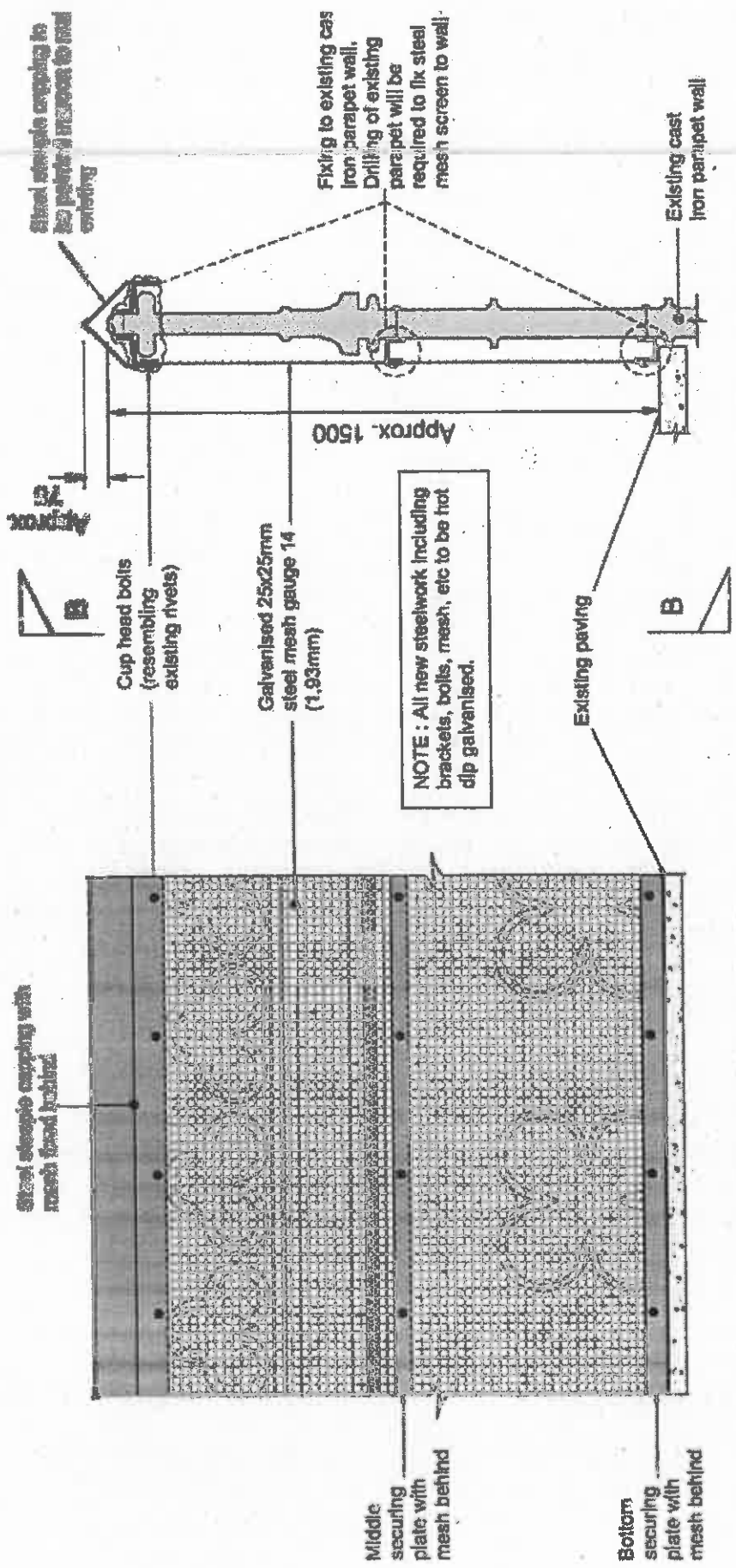
- 2.1 To review existing measures for deterring such tragedies with a view to expediting their introduction particularly with regard to prominently displayed **CCTV** cameras overlooking the bridge

3. Action Taken

- 3.1 To review existing measures for deterring such tragedies with a view to expediting their introduction particularly with regard to prominently displayed **CCTV** cameras overlooking the bridge
- 3.2 A report was submitted to Calderdale Council's Cabinet on 30th July 2018 outlining the installation of anti-climb mesh affixed to horizontal rails to cover the cut outs in the parapet and a steeple coping to cover the castellated top of the existing parapet providing a 1.45m unclimbable parapet (which would comply with current Design Manual for Roads and Bridges standards). A similar methodology was implemented on Hebble Viaduct which carries the A58 over North Bridge as a suicide prevention measure in 2010.

The following resolutions were passed:

- That an application for listed building consent and an application for planning permission for the preferred option described at paragraph 5.3 (anti climb mesh and steeple coping) is submitted to the Local Planning Authority;
 - That finance required, currently estimated at £200,000, be made available from budgets as appropriate.
- 3.3 A Planning and Listed Building Consent application was submitted on the 5th October 2018, upon approval the works will be tendered and is currently pending approval.
 - 3.3 Provision of CCTV camera
An additional CCTV camera was installed on the 23rd November 2018 to provide coverage of North Bridge.
 - 3.4 Provision of Temporary Heras Fencing
Any temporary fencing would be free standing and not prevent an individual from gaining access to the existing parapet, this option is therefore not considered suitable at this location.



Typical Elevation B-B

(Approved from ~~to-day~~)

Scale 1:20

Typical Section A-A

Scale 1:20

Anti-Climb Mesh and Steeple Coping

4. Timetable for Implementation

Action	Timescale	Comments
Feasibility Study	Feb 18 to July 18	Complete
Review of CCTV coverage	Feb 18 – July 18	Completed
Approval By Cabinet	30-7-18	Complete
Finalise Drawings	Aug 2018	Completed
Temporary Fencing Review	Sept 2018	Completed
Feasibility study for installation of additional CCTV.	Aug 2018 – Sept 2018	Ongoing
Listed Building Consent	Oct 18 – Dec 18	Submitted 5 th Oct 2018 Pending approval.
Installation of CCTV Camera	Nov 2018	Installed
Contract Preparation	Oct 18 – Nov 18	Ongoing
Tender Period	Jan 18 to Feb 18	
Site Works	Mar19 to May 19	
Works Complete	31-May-19	

5 Calderdale Suicide Prevention Group

- 5.1 A Calderdale wide multi-agency group was established in 2016 following the completion of a Calderdale suicide audit. A target of reducing suicides to zero in Calderdale has been set; more challenging than the national ambition to reduce suicides by 10% by 2020.
- 5.2 The Government's Strategy, Preventing Suicide in England 2012 - A cross-government outcomes strategy to save lives identifies 6 key areas of action which will reduce suicides. They are:
- reduce the risk of suicide in key high-risk groups
 - tailor approaches to improve mental health in specific groups
 - reduce access to the means of suicide
 - provide better information and support to those bereaved or affected by suicide
 - support the media in delivering sensitive approaches to suicide and suicidal behaviour
 - support research, data collection and monitoring
- 5.3 Calderdale's prevention strategy and action plan is based on these key areas of action. The plan is led by public health and partners regularly undertake reviews and provide updates to the plan. There is widespread agreement to implement our suicide prevention plan and deliver prevention initiatives both across the Council and with other partners, e.g. their plan to undertake a follow-up suicide audit in January 2019.
- 5.4 The proposed works at North Bridge have been discussed and agreed with our Public Health colleagues who lead the Suicide Prevention Group.

6 Copies

- 6.1 I respectfully ask that a copy of my response be forwarded to the Interested Persons to the inquest and your regulation 28 report dated 16th October 2018 and the Calderdale Suicide Prevention Group.

Dated: 11 December 2018

Signed: 

Richard Mills Highway Asset Manager,

Calderdale Council