

PORTFOLIO HOLDER – SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES

DATE	17/09/2025
REPORT OF	Carolina Borgstrom – Director of Economy, Environment & Infrastructure
SUBJECT	Fuller Street Bridge Petition
STATUS	OPEN
CONTRIBUTION TO OUR AIM	

This report contributes to the Council's strategic aims, which benefit the people in North East Lincolnshire, namely to

- Stronger Economy
- Stronger Communities

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on local authorities, including councils, to consider the impact of their decisions and functions on crime and disorder in their area.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 23rd April 2025 a formal petition was received by NELC with regards to improving safety and lighting of Fuller Street Bridge and the North Wall in Cleethorpes, this petition which was signed by over 200 residents.

The formal petition was presented by Cllr. Farren, the elected member for Sidney Sussex Ward and heard by Cllr Ron Shepherd, Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities on the 18th of June 2025. Officers from Safer and Stronger Place were also in attendance. It was agreed that a report be presented back to the Portfolio Holder meeting in three months' time (September 2025) to enable officers to investigate and feedback around the concerns raised within the petition and meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder for Safer & Stronger Communities consider the findings of this report and determine any further action to be taken.

REASONS FOR DECISION

Undertaking mitigating action will ensure Fuller Street Bridge remains safe to those who use it and provides further re-assurance to the petitioners and residents of Sidney Sussex ward.

1. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

- 1.1. Fuller Street Bridge, Cleethorpes acts as a gateway between Fuller Street and The North Wall. The original date of construction is unknown, although archived data suggests the footbridge had been reconstructed in 1975 to its existing general arrangement. The structure carries a pedestrian footway

across the railway lines near Fuller Street. There is currently no lighting or CCTV on the bridge.

- 1.2. Following the meeting on 18th June 2025, an internal Officer Group was established to ascertain a range of information to answer the questions raised at the meeting. Below is a summary of the findings:-
- 1.3. **Review what can currently be seen by CCTV and assess what CCTV requirement would be required moving forward to enable line of sight of exit/egress including anticipated costs.**
- 1.4. Following engagement with the Councils CCTV provision, we can confirm that there is currently no CCTV which covers Fuller Street bridge. There are 3 public facing cameras located at Suggitt's Lane Bridge. Whilst the cameras can zoom across from Suggitt's Lane bridge to Fuller Street bridge the distance needed on the zoom distorts the view so much so that it would be of limited evidential value.
- 1.5. To provide an accurate cost and schedule of works, a full site visit would be required. The estimated cost would be in the region of £20,000 for 2 public facing CCTV cameras located either side of the bridge. These 2 cameras would also need annual maintenance, due to the location, which would be a further £1,500 per camera per annum. These cameras would be viewed live within the NELC CCTV security office.
- 1.6. **Review of Crime figures of Surrounding Area**
- 1.7. A review and analysis of the crime/ASB data has been completed by the Community Safety Analyst. This showing the period of 01-08-2023 to 31-08-2025 for Fuller Street as follows:-
 - Arson and Criminal Damage = 8
 - Burglary = 1
 - Drug Offences = 5
 - Miscellaneous crimes against society = 2
 - Public Order = 7
 - Sexual Offences = 5
 - Theft = 1
 - Vehicle Offences = 1
 - Violence Against the Person = 44
 - Total over 2 years being 74.
 - All Anti-Social Behaviour = 3 (multiple calls from 1 address)
- 1.8. A review was conducted of crimes on Fuller Street Bridge showing the period of 01-08-2023 to 31-08-2025 as follows:-
 - Sexual Offences = 2
 - Violence against the person = 1.
- 1.9. A review was also conducted including the surrounding streets which includes

Neville Street, Fuller Street, Manchester Street and Harrington Street (the whole length as this can't be separated). This period 01-08-2024 to 31-08-2025 as follows:-

- Arson and Criminal Damage = 28
- Burglary = 10
- Drug Offences = 17
- Miscellaneous crimes against society = 13
- Public Order = 23
- Robbery = 1
- Sexual Offences = 14
- Theft = 19
- Vehicle Offences = 5
- Violence Against the Person = 147
- Total over 2 years = 277
- All Anti-Social Behaviour = 9 (3 x Fuller Street, 1 x Harrington Street Manchester Street 2 & 3 x Neville Street)

- 1.10 These figures indicate that there has been 277 crimes over a 2-year period, which equates to 0.40 crimes per day for the extended geographical area. Fuller Street alone has 74 crimes in the same period at an average of 0.1 crimes per day.
- 1.11 The bridge itself has 3 crimes in the same period at an average of 0.004 crimes per day. As a comparison Fuller Street has less reported crime as an average than the rest of the geographical block.
- 1.12 As a comparison Sidney Sussex ward totalled 554 crimes in quarter 4 24-25 at an average of 6.15 crimes per day, the geographical block as detailed above had only 30 crimes in the same period at an average of 0.33 crimes per day.
- 1.13 The comparison above shows that Fuller Street has less crime than the immediate surrounding area and significantly less crime than as a ward.
- 1.14 Anti-Social Behaviour shows 9 calls for service for Fuller Street and the surrounding area in the same period (Q4 24-25). The numbers of ASB reports are extremely low showing an average of 0.012 per day. Quarter 4 24-25 data indicates 31 calls for service at ward level which is an average of 0.34 per day. The comparison again shows that the Fuller Street area has significantly less ASB than the average for the rest of the ward.
- 1.15 **What prevention measures are put in place on GTFC match days?**
- 1.16 Following discussion with Humberside Police, it has been confirmed that the bridge is used by Humberside Police on Grimsby Town Football Club home games for crowd control as a means to direct the attending fans to and from the train station. There is often a large Police presence, and the operation is overseen by a senior member of the Humberside Police Command Team at

Gold, Silver and Bronze levels; supported by various Police Support Units. Only High-risk category football matches are supported through this model and these games are few per season.

- 1.17 **Safety Survey/Structural integrity of bridge and assessment of costs to repair/make good**
- 1.18 Following consultation with Asset management it was found that a Principal Inspection (PI) report was produced by Equans dated April 2024 confirming that the Fuller Street footbridge structure is not showing signs of stress or fractures and is in fair condition (with surface rusting and moderate pitting) due to its location and age with localised delamination of the surfaces
- 1.19 Any remedial work would be centred around testing all the paintwork, removing the paintwork, blast cleaning of all rust and providing a suitable coating to all areas. In progressing this work, there may be additional remedial works required to elements that may fail in the paint removal and cleaning stage. This cost is estimated at £40k.
- 1.20 In addition to the cost estimate of £40k, the Structural Engineer advises that once rail possessions, scaffolding, encapsulation, structural calculations to check if steel repairs are required, and undertaking works at night (that Network Rail will almost certainly mandate) the total cost is likely more in the range of £250k.
- 1.21 **Lighting of Bridge including exit/ egress similar to Suggitt's Lane Bridge including costs**
- 1.22 Following consultation with NELC Senior Highway Electrical Engineer there are currently no intentions to add lighting to Fuller Street Bridge. However, if lighting was considered, 2 x10 metre columns would be required at either side of the bridge. However, permission would be needed from the land owner, in this case Network Rail. The estimated costs would be £10,000.
- 1.23 **Lighting of North Wall from Fuller Street Bridge to Wonderland and Lighting of North Wall from Park Street to Fuller Street Bridge.**
- 1.24 Following consultation with NELC Senior Highway Electrical Engineer, it has been confirmed that to install lighting to the North Wall from Wonderland to Fuller Street Bridge would require the installation of power for the length of the proposal, from the North Wall to Fuller Street bridge and then onto Park Street as there is currently no power on the sea wall side of the Bridge.
- 1.25 A initial high-level survey has been completed with respect to installing lighting onto the North Wall. This has been completed by the NELC senior Lighting engineer.
- 1.26 Option 1 - would be normal electrical column lighting. It has been confirmed that there is no more capacity on the cables feeding the North Promenade. Due to this there is a requirement to go back to Sea Lane substation for a new

supply which would require digging and trenching to a feeder pillar sited at Wonderland end of the North Promenade. The total approximate cost is anticipated to be around £950,000 to install the feeder Pillar, services and lighting columns.

- 1.27 Option 2 - would be a Solar function with lights and columns. This would include 38 columns for the front sea wall at an approximate cost of £200,000 to purchase the equipment and to fit the lights. The bridge itself would require 2 x 10m columns with light to illuminate the bridge at a cost of £15,000. Total approximate costs = £215,000. Solar lights will also require an ongoing maintenance budget as they are more expensive to maintain and prone to vandalism.
- 1.28 No costs have currently been estimated to light the North Wall from Park Street to the remaining end of Fuller Street due to street lighting being installed in Harrington Street which runs parallel to the North Wall.

2. RISKS, OPPORTUNITIES AND EQUALITY ISSUES

- 2.1 The risks to the Local Authority would fall around any capital investiture as described within the body of the report. The costs have the potential to be significant which are currently disproportionate when compared to the levels of reported crime.
- 2.2 The Council receive a large number of requests to increase CCTV coverage on streets, parks and open spaces. As the Council has limited capital to expand the existing system, each request is considered and weighted against crime data. There would be a reputational risk to the Council if this request was considered ahead of other CCTV requests where evidenced need is higher.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No other options have been considered. This report has focused specifically on the questions raised as part of the petition and questions raised at the Portfolio Holder Meeting on 18th June 2025. Other Options will be considered at a future point following any recommendations that arise from the follow up meeting scheduled on 17th September 2025 which this report will be presented at.

4. REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

It is evident that the safety of bridge users is paramount, and the Council has a duty to consider the impact of their decisions and functions on crime and disorder in their area. Perceived failure to act upon local concerns will impact on the fear of crime and has the potential to attract negative media attention in the event of an incident.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are significant potential cost implications to both improve the lighting and CCTV requirements of Fuller Street Bridge and install additional lighting

to the North Wall. There is currently no capital monies identified for improvements so any alterations would require capital investment from the Council and would need to go through due process to be approved.

6. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IMPLICATIONS

Families with Children and Young People do utilise Fuller Street Bridge and the North Wall footpath so any decisions made to make improvements will have potential positive impact for Children and Young People.

7. CLIMATE CHANGE, NATURE RECOVERY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The land in question covers the sea wall and as such is owned by Associated British Ports (ABP) and has oversight from the Environmental Agency. In principle the Environmental Agency agree that the renovations and lighting would add benefit to the structure and is feasible, however have also shown concern over the potential costs being significant, the legal management of the proposed developments and the time that this would take from design to development.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As outlined within the report, there are potentially both capital and revenue cost implications associated with investment into CCTV and lighting of the bridge. In the absence of any external funding sources, any capital investment would have to be funded from external borrowing. Furthermore, ongoing revenue costs would also need to be considered as part of any business case development.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The report outlines the officer findings and requests the Portfolio Holder (PfH) to recommend any further action. Constitutionally, it is within the PfH's remit to determine action in response to a qualifying petition under the Petition Scheme.

10. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct HR implications arising from the contents of this report.

11. WARD IMPLICATIONS

Fuller Street Bridge is located in Sidney Sussex Ward.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Portfolio Holder Meeting– Safer & Stronger Communities 18th June 2025 (no web link available)

13. CONTACT OFFICER(S)

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