

LOCATION

Paynes Crossing Bridge is part of a vital rural link between the Cessnock and Singleton local government areas. The bridge on Paynes Crossing Road crosses Wollombi Brook 11.6km north of the historic township of Wollombi and is the boundary between the two LGAs.

BACKGROUND

The original route from Newcastle to the Hawkesbury River was established in the 1820s. A number of bridges have existed at Paynes Crossing over the years with the existing bridge being built after a major flood in 1949. Various elements of the bridge have been replaced over the years but an independent structural assessment in 2016 recommended a 6t load limit on the existing bridge for the safety of the public and to reduce the rate of deterioration until the bridge can be replaced.

THE BRIDGE

The existing single lane timber bridge at Paynes Crossing has deteriorated due to time, additional heavy traffic and storm damage and will be replaced by a new bridge. The new bridge will be on a slightly different alignment and will be marginally higher.

FUNDING

Council has successfully secured funding from two sources to allow for the replacement of the bridge and the associated road approaches:

- Federal Government under the Bridges Renewal Program, and
- NSW Government under Restart NSW Fixing Country Roads Program.

The bridge belongs jointly to Cessnock and Singleton Council and the proportion of costs not covered by the government grants will be shared by the two Councils.

DESIGN

The bridge and roadwork will be designed to provide:

- Long life span & lower maintenance,
- Improved road safety.

Preliminary concept design work has identified the need for some relocation of public utilities and a small amount of rural land acquisition adjacent to the creek due to the change in alignment of the bridge.

CONSTRUCTION

Construction will involve:

- Building a new bridge on a more easterly alignment,
- Road widening at the abutments and approaches,
- Utility services relocation and
- Signage and line marking.

Construction works are planned to be staged to minimise disruption and reduce timeframes.

PROGRAM

Council has undertaken preliminary site investigation works to assist in the design process, including a detailed site survey, geotechnical investigation and a review of environmental factors.

Construction is scheduled to commence in January 2019 and continue, weather permitting until approximately May 2019.

Investigations:	October 2017 – June 2018
Design:	July 2018 – December 2018
Construction:	January 2019 – May 2019

Up to date project information will be available on council's webpage www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/works, and on roadside electronic signs during construction.

UPDATES

September 2018

- Design quotations obtained and evaluated – August 2018
- Design consultant appointed and design underway – September 2018

Refer to the Upcoming Works Section of the Councils website for more information - <http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/roads/plannedworks>

CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL - PAYNES CROSSING BRIDGE - CONCEPT
DESIGN DRAWING, BRIDGES RENEWAL PROGRAMME ROUND 3

