

Alfreton Station Access for All scheme update – May 2022



What is Access for All?

- First launched in 2006.
- Government-funded scheme, specifically aimed at improving the accessibility at stations.
- The requirement of the scheme is to achieve an unobstructed and obstacle free “accessible route” within the Network Rail controlled infrastructure, from at least one station entrance (usually the main one) and all drop-off points associated with that entrance, to each platform and between platforms served by passenger trains.
- An accessible route means that:
 - There is a way to get from the station entrance (or the drop off point if, that’s closer) to the entry/exit point of trains at platforms, which ideally doesn’t exceed 400m;
 - This can be easily negotiated by a person using manually self-propelled wheelchair;
 - It meets the UK Government’s Train and Station Services for Disabled People Code of Practice technical standards (unless prior dispensations have been agreed)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/accessible-train-and-station-design-for-disabled-people>
- The current programme, which runs between 2019 and 2024 (Control Period 6), is worth £300 million. Nationally, 73 stations were given a share of the funding.
- Although these schemes have been selected, each scheme has to go through set delivery stages, each requiring approval.
- In Alfreton, the requirements of the scheme will be met by building an accessible footbridge and lifts to both platforms. The current footbridge will be demolished.

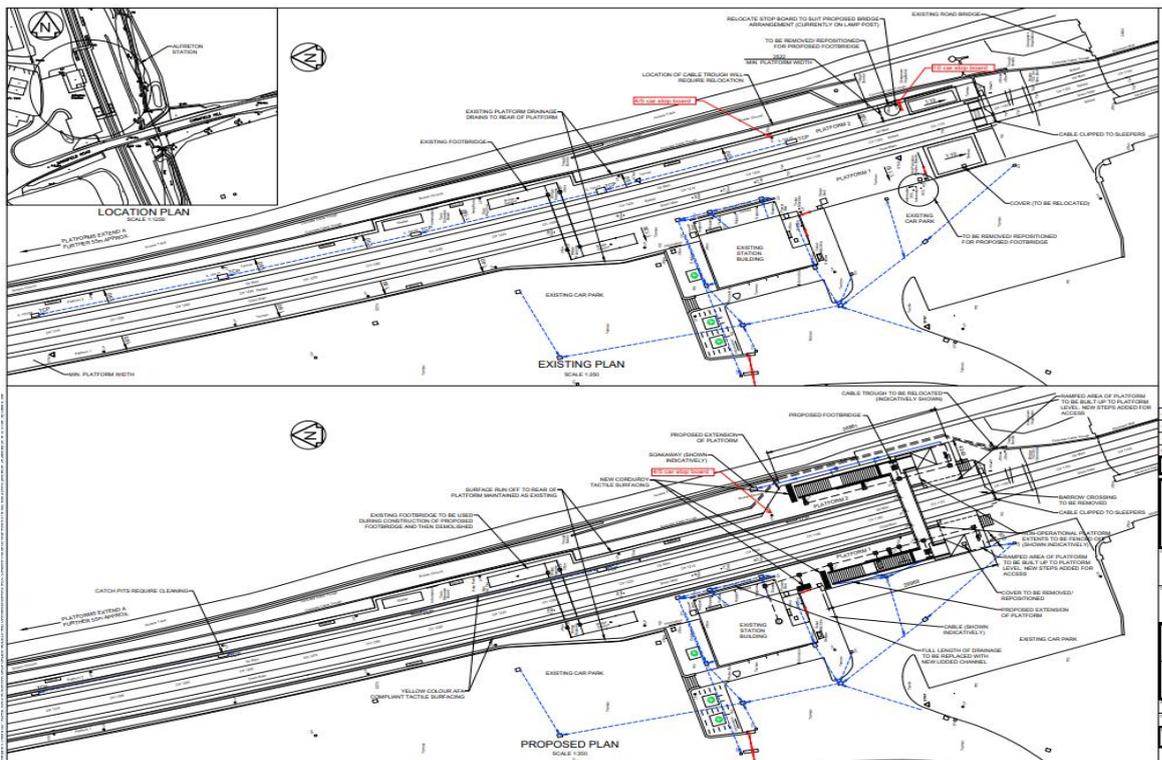
Where we are with the scheme

- Alfreton Access for All scheme was first approved as part of the funding for Control Period 5 (2014-2019), but it was deferred to the current control period due to funding challenges.
- We have already developed a preferred design option for how to achieve the aims of the scheme.
- We have not been able to progress the scheme as a result of the global financial pressures, including the increase in construction costs, in light of the Covid 19 pandemic.
- We are being challenged by the Government to review all of our projects, including all Access for All schemes, to ensure that we're managing public money effectively and responsibly.
- We're working on reviewing every aspect of the preferred design option, including how we can utilise more recent advancements.

Next steps

- Our reviewed design and the details of the proposed cost will need to go to an approval panel before it can proceed to the next stage of the process.
- We expect that the panel will take place in July 2022.
- After this, we'll need to work with the contractor appointed for this scheme to finalise the details of the design and the construction programme.
- We'll update you on our progress in September 2022, however we'll update you sooner if possible.

Proposed design*



*some details of this may change depending on how we deal with challenges on cost, as well as incorporating new technology and approaches that have become available in recent years.