

River Thames – emergency lock closure

Culham Lock

Friday 12 March 2021 – until further notice

Failure of hydraulic system

Directions for navigation and general information during these works:

- The hydraulic hoses on the head lock gates at Culham Lock have failed where they cross the riverbed upstream of the lock gates.
- We have investigated all available options to repair the hydraulics. Unfortunately, the only option is to completely remove the existing hydraulic hoses and their housing and replace them with new hoses and new housing.
- It is our priority to make this complex repair as soon as we possibly can, however we have to ensure that our work is carried out safely. We are working as hard as we can to try to re-open the lock ahead of the Easter weekend, but as that approaches, there is a strong possibility that we may not be able to carry out the works. In this case the lock will remain closed over the Easter weekend. We understand that this will cause great inconvenience to some of our customers and therefore we want to let you know now that there is a strong possibility that the lock will be closed, in order that you can plan accordingly.

We apologise for any inconvenience these emergency works cause and thank you for your patience during this time.



Mark Hill
Harbour Master
29 March 2021