

## River Thames – river restriction

### Between Reading Bridge and the downstream end of Fry's Island

November 2014 to July 2015

### Construction of the new Reading Cycle and Footbridge

A new cycle and footbridge is being constructed over the River Thames between Reading Bridge and the downstream end of Fry's Island from November 2014 to July 2015. The bridge will be a cable stayed bridge with a 39 metre mast on the Northern, Christchurch Meadow bank. The bridge will land on the Southern bank adjacent to the Southern and Scottish Energy premises.

Works are required to the Southern bank to widen the public footpath and construct the landings for the steps and ramp. The width of the river will be reduced whilst floating plant such as the piling platform and barges are used to carry out these works. The navigation will remain open and will either be redirected along the North side of Fry's Island or through a restricted channel on the South side past the work equipment. Access to Fry's Island and the services located there will be possible throughout the works.

The new bridge will have a headroom of 4.57 metres over the centre of both navigation channels. This is the same headroom as the next bridge upstream, Caversham Bridge. River users are reminded that **headways are measured above standard head water level of the lock below**. Allowance must therefore be made for the gradient of the river at any given time because this will reduce, to a varying extent, the figures above.

Short period closures will be required for the lifting in of the new bridge deck. These will take place in 2015 and we will issue a further Harbourmaster's notice to advise of these as soon as possible.

Please follow directional signage, follow any directions given by the safety boat and/or officers of the Environment Agency and navigate slowly and with caution in the area of these works.

**Andrew Graham**  
**Harbourmaster**  
**18 November 2014**