



Original "1 Bridge, Many People" proposal for the 2010 London Festival of Architecture, produced November 2009.

Pedestrian access between the upstream side of Tower Bridge and City Hall is a widely known problem. Not only is there no step-free access, but the steps are also narrow and a major bottleneck to the masses of able bodied people that negotiate them. "1 Bridge, Many People", will map the constraints impacting any solution and invite architects and engineers to present their "creative responses" to these.

The ensuing exhibition will comprise three sections. Section 1 will "drill into" the Tower Bridge to City Hall access problem. It will identify the numerous considerations that have to be resolved when looking at retrofitting an accessibility solution, in such a sensitive setting. This section will include printed material and, subject to support; a 3D model of Tower Bridge/Potters field, plus additional video.

Section 2 will be the "creative responses" that come in from the architects, engineers and students that choose to respond to the brief as detailed in Section 1. Responses could range from serious to fanciful and from basic sketches through to digital and physical models.

Section 3 will focus on case studies of how accessibility solutions have been retrofitted into architecturally sensitive environments elsewhere. This section could include print and video matter, plus a variety of accessibility artefacts. These case studies could potentially come from anywhere in the world.

This is a very early stage proposal. Several key stakeholders have been contacted and their responses have been extremely enthusiastic. Numerous additional steps will now be pursued to try and make this project happen; formalise the proposal by the March deadline and ensure that the ensuing exhibition is a great success for all concerned.