

Method Statement for cope replacement at Kytra.

The proposed works are located on the North side of the lock just East of the escape ladder as shown on the top view map. The cope stone is broken and delaminated and therefore become unstable. The area surrounding the stone has no mortar in the joints. This is causing a safety issue as there is a possibility that the loose masonry may fall into the lock chamber, and it is unsafe to walk on. Image 2652 shows the poor condition of the cope stone.



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The replacement stone will be cut to the same dimensions as the current one, 650x930x400, using the recommended colour match stone St Bees. This will be done offsite at Dochgarroch workshop using both hand tools and grinders. All stone dressing will be done outside or if necessary inside using the LEV to keep dust down to a minimum and any operatives using the appropriate PPE. The current cope stone will be cut out using hand tools and mechanical chisels, however if safe to do so it may be possible to remove the stone by lifting it out using the HIAB. Once this has been removed the area will be cleaned of any debris. The plate for the escape ladder on the adjoining stone will need to be removed in order to give a straight lift with the new stone. Using slings and HIAB the new stone will be placed in on a bed of lime mortar using an NHL 3.5 at a ratio of 1-2.5. When the joints have been filled the plate for the escape ladder can be secured back in place. The surrounding stone work will then be pointed up and stabilised using the same mortar mix.