

GENERAL INSPECTION REPORT. No257. ELEMENT. EXPANSION JOINT.

A visual inspection was carried out on the above date, of both the North & South main tower expansion joints. The general findings are as follows:

Structural steelwork: All steelwork remains in a generally satisfactory condition, with signs of corrosion throughout.

Fixings: All fixings found to be in place and secure, some areas of blooming on nuts.

Pins, Bushes & Springs: All pins found to be in place. As with previous inspections, excessive wear on the bushes. Springs have medium/heavy corrosion with blooming in some cases. 54% of North Tower tongue plate springs have been found to defective and 50% of South Tower tongue plate springs have also been found to be defective. (defective implying the spring is either broken or fractured).

For further information on the breakdown of defective springs refer to monthly Inspection dated 03.05.09 in BC06/internal. Rocker spring at S.W.M.S./MW6 has vertical travel by 3-5mm.

Paintwork: Paint breakdown throughout, although to a lesser extent on south tower.

Surface Plates: Anti-skid surfaces have signs of breakdown as with past inspections.

Access/Edge Protection: Consideration should be given to repositioning of the access ladders that lead to the underside of the demag trains, as these ladders are partially blocked by steelwork. Adjacent to these ladders there is no edge protection, this may not conform to current legislation and requires further investigation.

Bridge Inspector: