

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 24 MAY 2016

WEIGHT LIMITS ON ROADS AND BRIDGES

REPORT BY THE HEAD OF TECHNICAL & PROPERTY SERVICES

ABSTRACT

This report recommends that a permanent Order be promoted to (i) limit the weight of vehicles using North Keithock Bridge and (ii) provide exemption to weight limit restrictions in Tannage Brae and Knowehead Kirriemuir for refuse collection vehicles.

1 RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to agree:

- i) to the promotion and, if no objections are received or any objections are withdrawn, the making of a Traffic Regulation Order restricting the weight of vehicles permitted to use North Keithock Bridge
- ii) to provide an exemption to current weight limit restrictions in Tannage Brae and Knowehead Kirriemuir for refuse collection vehicles.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/CORPORATE PLAN

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2011-2014:

- Our communities are safe, secure and vibrant

3 PROPOSALS

North Keithock Bridge Brechin

3.1 Following an assessment of North Keithock Bridge Brechin it is considered that it is unsuitable for use by large vehicles and requires the maximum weight of vehicles using it to be limited. This bridge is the responsibility of Network Rail and carries Keithock Road over a section of disused railway line. The most recent assessment of the bridge on behalf of Network Rail has indicated that the present structure requires a restricted weight limit.

3.2 Network Rail has indicated that within their programme of bridge improvements this bridge would not be a high priority particularly in view of the nature of the local road network. As such it is likely that it will be some time before any works are carried out to upgrade this bridge and it is considered therefore appropriate to implement a permanent weight restriction of 10 tonnes on this bridge in the meantime. A location plan of the affected bridge is shown in **Appendix 1**.

Tannage Brae and Knowehead Kirriemuir

3.3 At present over the entire lengths of Tannage Brae and Knowehead Kirriemuir there are weight and length of vehicle restrictions of 3 Tonnes and 5.2 metres (17 feet) respectively. The restrictions on these roads are for environmental purposes insofar as the nature of the roads makes them unsuitable for regular use by heavy and long vehicles rather than any

Structural defect affecting these roads. There are numerous residential and commercial properties located along the affected road and the current Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) relating to these restrictions does provide exemptions for vehicles being used for the conveyance of goods or merchandise to and from properties adjacent thereto and in connection with any building or maintenance works to these roads or services located therein or buildings adjacent thereto. However it has been noted that there is no formal exemption in the current TRO to permit vehicles being used for collection of refuse in the service of a Local Authority.

- 3.4 The Head of Regulatory & Protective Services has therefore requested that this omission be rectified to legally permit their vehicles to legally utilise these roads for the collection of refuse from premises served directly from these roads and to serve premises on other roads leading from Knowehead and Tannage Brae. A location plan of the affected roads is shown in **Appendix 2**.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The estimated cost of implementing the revised proposals is £2000 which will be met from the 2016/2017 Roads Revenue Budget. Additional maintenance costs will amount to £200 per annum and this will require to be provided for in future years Revenue Budgets.

5 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no human rights implications arising from the proposals in this report.

6 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective (as required by legislation). An equalities impact assessment is not required.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Strategic Director – Resources, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Head of Corporate Improvement and Finance and Local Police Commander for Tayside Division have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

8 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 Due to structural reasons the weight of vehicles which may safely be permitted to be carried by North Keithock Bridge requires to be restricted.
- 8.2 In order to allow access for refuse collection vehicles to Tannage Brae and Knowehead Kirriemuir an exemption to the current environmental weight restriction on those roads is necessary.
- 8.3 For the reasons stated the promotion and, if no objections are received or any objections are withdrawn, the making of a Traffic Regulation Order is required for enforcement purposes in each case.

NOTE:

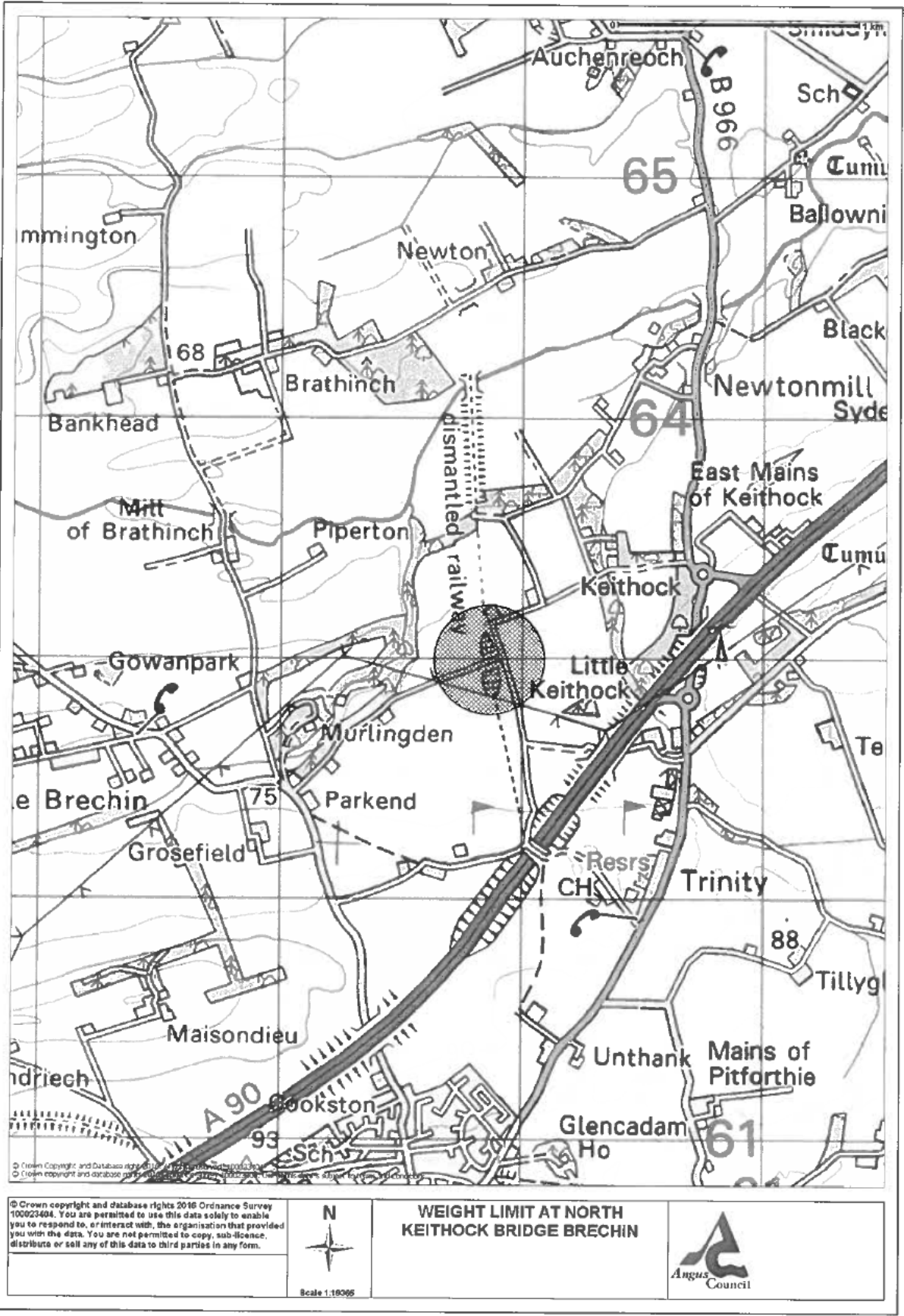
No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.



Ian Cochrane, Head of Technical and Property Services
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List of Appendices:-

Appendix 1 – Location plan of the affected bridge
Appendix 2 – Location plan of the affected roads

Report No 215/16 Appendix 1 - A location plan of the affected bridge



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Report No 215/16 Appendix 2 - A location plan of the affected roads

