

CH/DAM TO2.4

14 August 2018



[REDACTED]

PLACE
Strategic Director:
Alan McKeown

Dear [REDACTED]

The Angus Council (Weight Limits on Bridges) (Variation) Order 201x - Newton Farm Bridge, Brechin

I refer to your letter dated 21 June 2018 regarding the above and I note your objection on the grounds that it would result in additional costs to your business due to the lengthy detour for vehicles travelling between fields on either side of the affected bridge.

The structure of Newton Farm Bridge is owned and maintained by Highways Agency – Historical Railways Estate. A recent technical inspection of the bridge by the estate has indicated that the structure is in a distressed condition and has been assessed to have a 12.5 Tonne capacity only.

Highways Agency - Historical Railways Estate 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. At present they are anticipating that the works will be carried out in 2019.

Based on the bridge assessment, it is considered necessary to implement a permanent weight restriction of 12.5 tonnes on this bridge in the meantime, in the interest of traffic safety.

Whilst I understand your concerns regarding the proposed restriction in terms of its impact on your business I am sure you must appreciate that my first concern must be for traffic safety. The Council having been made aware of the condition of the bridge cannot ignore this situation and in the event of its failure may be criticised for not taking any action.

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that Highways Agency – Historical Railways Estate have applied for and obtained planning consent to infill the bridge arch and form embankments on each side, in order to provide long term support to

the structure. Once these works have been satisfactorily carried out then the weight restriction would be revoked. Nevertheless at this time there is no clear indication as to when these works will be carried out and in the meantime the weight restriction remains necessary.

In view of the above, I would be obliged if you would advise me if you are willing to withdraw your objection to the proposed weight limit.

Yours sincerely

Craig Hudson
Traffic & Transport Manager