

Bridge Restrictions Traffic Regulation Order

Consultation Summary

RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION, ADVERTISING OBJECTIONS DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Responses

Lake District National Park

Middle Fell Bridge – appreciate the consideration of the landscape and historic environment impacts of a weight restriction. It is required infrastructure at this site and support the proposed prohibition of vehicles. The bridge links to a public footpath and removal of traffic will improve the amenity of the bridge and reduce damage to the surface.

Fell Foot Bridge – support the proposed weight limit. This is a sensitive location in a iconic valley in the Lake District National Park and World Heritage Site please consider the signage carefully to be in keeping with its context and to minimise any negative impact.

Bridge End Bridge – support the proposed weight limit. Should be noted the bridge itself is listed and the attached Bridge End Cottage and attached barn are Grade II listed. Please consider that all signage is not on located on the boundaries of these buildings, is in keeping with the setting of this historic property.

Response

Thank the Lake District National Park for their comments and should the proposals be approved careful consideration will be given to the signage required to be installed with consideration of the surroundings and environment.

Waste and Environmental Services – Westmorland and Furness Council

U5614 Main Drain Bridge – request an exemption of 12 tonnes to facilitate the collection of waste and recycling. This is a single track road with limited turning for the council's collection vehicles, the nearest junction being 300 metres away.

U5082 Water Yeat (Old) Bridge – request an exemption of 12 tonnes to facilitate the collection of waste and recycling. Introduction of a 7.5 tonnes maximum gross weight limit will create a 45 metre reverse in order to service 4 properties closest to the bridge.

No objection to the proposals for Middle Fell, Bridge End Bridge, Fell Foot Bridge and Newland Mill Bridge.

Response

Thank the Waste and Environmental Services for their feedback. An inspection and structural assessment of Main Drain Bridge and Water Yeat (Old) Bridge has found that they are incapable of carrying any load exceeding 7.5 tonnes without unacceptable risk to members of the public and damage the road and structure. The assessment aims to avoid danger to persons or other traffic using the road which runs over the bridges, and to prevent the use of the road by vehicular traffic in a manner which is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road and bridge. Consideration is given to the needs for efficient distribution of goods and services along with the needs of the environment and communities. Nevertheless, since the risk is unacceptable is it not possible to exempt vehicles above the proposed weight limit to use the bridges.

Ref No.	Support/ Conditional / Object	Comment(s)	CCC Comments
1	Object	<p>Main Drain Bridge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bridge needs to be a greater maximum gross vehicle weight of 7.5 tonnes. Farm machinery and delivery vehicles need to use this road to access Levens village and the fields on Lords Plain. The only alternative is the A590, this is widely acknowledged as a dangerous section of road. A significant number of deaths have occurred on the junctions on this section of the A590. (This has been discussed at Transport Secretary level.) Additional farm vehicles, delivery vehicle turning onto the road as the Hare and Hounds pub to Gilpin Bridge crossing the carriageway will increase the hazards, increasing the likelihood of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objects to the proposed weight limit at Main Drain Bridge. An inspection and structural assessment of the bridge has found that it is incapable of carrying any load exceeding 7.5 tonnes without unacceptable risk to members of the public and or damage to the road and structure. The assessment aims to avoid danger to persons or other traffic using the road which runs over Main Drain Bridge, and to prevent the use of the road by vehicular traffic in a manner which is unsuitable having

		<p>accidents and potential temporary closure of the A590. Movement of excavators for drainage of the farmland on this area will be compromised. The road can serve as a strategic alternative route to the A590 in the event of a temporary closure of the A590. There is not alternative route.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of any move to a 7.5 tonnes wight limit on this bridge is the potential impact on the A590 either by increased accidents and there will be no alternative route e.g. for Fire Engines. • The issues is if the consultation is taking the safety of the current specific bridge in isolation from the overring requirement for a replacement at a greater capacity as was previously the case. 	<p>regard to the existing character of the road and bridge. Consideration is given to the needs for efficient distribution of goods and services along with the needs of the environment and communities. Nevertheless, since the risk is unacceptable is it not possible to exempt vehicles above the proposed weight limit to use the bridge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is not an agreed diversion route for the A590. Diversion routes for the A590 are only be approved on A, B, or C classification roads. • It is the responsibility of drivers of vehicles carrying a load exceeding 7.5 tonnes, to observe traffic restrictions that may impede their chosen routes and adhere to them. • Recommended the proposals are approved.
2	Support	<p>Main Drain Bridge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No objection to the proposed weight limit and believe it to be good for the maintenance of this lovely old bridge. • Only concern would be the enforcement of this restriction as since temporary signs have been in place on many occasions been witness to large LGV vehicles use the bridge that are over 7.5 tonnes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the proposals. • An inspection and structural assessment of the bridge has found that it is incapable of carrying any load exceeding 7.5 tonnes without unacceptable risk to members of the public and or damage to the road and structure. Enforcement of the proposed weight limit, should it be approved would be for Cumbria Constabulary who have the legal

			<p>powers to take enforcement action. Cumbria Constabulary have been consulted for consideration of the proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended the proposals are approved.
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Summary

- Responses received total 4.
 Middle Fell, Fell Foot and Bridge End Bridge – 1 response in support. Request for consideration of signage in keeping with the environment,
 Main Drain Bridge - 1 request for an exemption of 12 tonnes vehicles to facilitate collection of waste and recycling. 1 objection received as the feedback stated “Farm machinery and delivery vehicles need to use this road to access Levens village and the fields on Lords Plain. 1 in support.
- Having considered all the responses it is recommended that the proposals are approved and implemented as advertised.