

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (TANDRIDGE)**

**DATE: 25 SEPTEMBER 2015**



**LEAD OFFICER: ZENA CURRY, AREA HIGHWAY MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: HOLLAND LANE WEST BRIDGE WEIGHT RESTRICTION**

**DIVISION: OXTED**

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

There are two Network Rail bridges on Holland Lane; Holland Lane East (D424/997) and Holland Lane West (D424/996). Currently, Holland Lane East has a 3 Tonne weight restriction with associated 6' 6" width restriction. Holland Lane West currently has no weight restriction.

Network Rail is proposing, under the National Rail Electrification Strategy (Network RUS: Electrification Refresh), to replace Holland Lane East and remove the associated weight and width restriction.

Network Rail has requested an 18 Tonne weight restriction for Holland Lane West Bridge to ensure safety at the bridge, once the weight restriction is removed from Holland Lane East Bridge.

There are homes between the two bridges, which require access for emergency vehicles, refuse trucks etc. This report seeks approval for the introduction of an 18 Tonne weight restriction at Holland Lane West, once the works to Holland Lane East are completed.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**The Local Committee (Tandridge) is asked to:**

- i. Agree that, following works carried out by Network Rail to replace Holland Lane East Bridge, the current 3 Tonne weight and 6' 6" width restriction on Holland Lane East Bridge be revoked, and the associated traffic management removed;
- ii. Authorise the advertisement of notice in accordance with the Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to revoke the 3 Tonne weight and 6' 6" width restriction Road Traffic Regulation Order that applies to Holland Lane East Bridge and, subject to no objections being upheld, that the order be revoked;
- iii. Authorise the advertisement of a notice in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to implement an 18 Tonne weight restriction on Holland Lane West Bridge and, subject to no objections being upheld, that the order be made;

- iv. Authorise delegation of authority to the Area Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee and the local divisional member to resolve any objections received in connection with the proposals; and
- v. Authorise liaison with Network Rail to determine if additional traffic management is required to support the 18 Tonne restriction on Holland Lane West Bridge.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To enable Network Rail to replace Holland Lane East Bridge for strengthening and overhead electrification of the railway line, and to protect Holland Lane West Bridge with an 18 Tonne weight restriction.

**1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1. There are two Network Rail bridges on Holland Lane; Holland Lane East (D424/997) and Holland Lane West (D424/996), which are on two different lines of the rail network. The rail line under Holland Lane East Bridge is part of the National Rail Electrification Strategy (Network RUS: Electrification Refresh), to be prioritised for overhead electrification. The line under Holland Lane West Bridge is not part of this programme.
- 1.2. Holland Lane East Bridge was structurally assessed at 3 Tonnes capacity, and a permanent Traffic Regulation Order for a 3 Tonne weight restriction and 6' 6" width restriction came into operation on 2 July 2004. This restriction is supported by a physical width restriction on the western approach to the bridge.
- 1.3. Holland Lane East Bridge is on the same rail line as Grants Lane Bridge. Network Rail has decided to strengthen both Holland Lane East Bridge and Grants Lane Bridge during the same series of weekend track possessions to minimise disruption.
- 1.4. Network Rail has structurally assessed Holland Lane West Bridge and has requested a weight restriction of 18 Tonnes to protect the bridge once the works are completed on Holland Lane East Bridge.

**2. ANALYSIS:**

- 2.1. Network Rail has carried out a structural assessment of Holland Lane West Bridge. It was assessed at 25 Tonnes, but is currently open to all traffic due to the restrictions on Holland Lane East Bridge. In accordance with the current standards and national agreements with Network Rail, a request has been made to Surrey County Council for an 18 Tonne weight restriction, the nearest weight restriction value permitted.
- 2.2. In November 2003 when the Tandridge Local Committee agreed the permanent weight and associated width restriction on the Holland Lane East Bridge, the report set out that a decision on whether these restrictions should be retained or removed would be made by the Committee on completion of any future bridge strengthening works. As it is now proposed to introduce a weight restriction on the Holland Lane West Bridge, it would

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not be appropriate to retain the restrictions on the East Bridge as it would result in emergency service vehicles, refuse trucks, etc being unable to get to homes located between the two bridges.

- 2.3. It is proposed to liaise with Network Rail, and to review the weight restriction on Holland Lane West Bridge, if approved, to see if separate traffic management is required to support the 18 Tonne restriction.

### **3. OPTIONS:**

- 3.1. **OPTION 1:** Retain the current weight restriction and traffic management arrangement on the Holland Lane East Bridge.
- 3.2. This option is not considered to be an appropriate arrangement, as it would leave the Holland Lane West Bridge unprotected, compromising safety at the bridge. Furthermore, this option does not support the national rail overhead electrification strategy, or Surrey's Rail Strategy.
- 3.3. **OPTION 2:** Authorise the 18 Tonne weight restriction on Holland Lane West Bridge, the revocation of the 3 Tonne weight and 6' 6" width restriction on Holland Lane East Bridge, and the removal of the associated traffic management once the strengthening works to the latter bridge are completed.
- 3.4. **OPTION 3:** As Option 2, with additional liaison with Network Rail regarding the implementation of additional traffic management measures if required to ensure that the 18 Tonne weight restriction on Holland Lane West Bridge is being complied with.

### **4. CONSULTATION:**

- 4.1 The Local Committee have previously been consulted on the Network Rail proposals for Holland Lane East and Grants Lane Bridges.

### **5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 5.1. The implementation of either option 2 or 3 will save on the ongoing costs of maintaining the current width restriction on Holland Lane East.
- 5.2. Option 2: The costs of the weight restriction order and the revocation of the existing weight and width restriction order together with the removal of associated traffic management, can be met from the Structures budget, and compensated by Network Rail in accordance with national agreements.
- 5.3. Option 3: There is an additional estimated cost for this option of approximately £20,000, depending whether additional traffic management measures are required. Any additional measures would be subject to future approval by Local Committee, and allocation of funding. Network Rail may agree to contribute towards these costs.

### **6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 6.1. The Highway and Transport Service is mindful of its needs within the area and attempts to treat all users of the public highway with equality and understanding.

**7. LOCALISM:**

7.1. The Highway and Transport Service is mindful of the localism agenda, and the wishes of the local community have been taken in to account when writing this report.

**8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

<i>Area assessed:</i>	<i>Direct Implications:</i>
Crime and Disorder	Set out below.
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications arising from this report/ Set out below.
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report/ Set out below.
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report/ Set out below.
Public Health	No significant implications arising from this report/ Set out below.

8.1 Crime and Disorder implications: A well managed highway network can reduce fear of crime and allow the Police greater opportunity for enforcement.

**9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

9.1. This report sets out the reasons behind Network Rail's request to impose an 18 Tonne weight restriction on Holland Lane West Bridge, and to revoke the weight and width restriction on Holland Lane East Bridge once the strengthening works to that bridge are completed.

9.2. It is recommended that Option 3 is implemented, as it supports both National and Surrey rail strategies. It should be noted that any further traffic management measures proposed to support the new restriction on Holland Road West Bridge will be subject to funding and Local Committee approval.

**10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

10.1. Subject to approval, the proposal to advertise and implement a traffic order to weight restrict Holland Lane West Bridge to 18 Tonnes will be undertaken. The existing traffic order restricting weight and width on Holland Lane East Bridge would be revoked, and the associated traffic management would be removed. Further liaison with Network Rail will be carried out to determine if additional traffic management measures should be provided at the Holland Road West Bridge to support the new weight restriction. This may be the subject of further public consultation and would require Local Committee approval, subject to the identification of funding.

**Contact Officer:** Zena Curry, Area Highways Manager 03456 009 009

**Consulted:** Network Rail