

Our ref: FOI 100043

Miss K. Jackson  
Highways England  
Bridge House  
Walnut Tree Close  
Guildford  
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[www.highways.gov.uk](http://www.highways.gov.uk)

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Dear

Thank you for your request for information about a weak bridge on the A21 south west of Tonbridge, dated 25 June. I have dealt with your request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I will answer each of your requests for information:

- a. Since December 2016 what risk assessments have been undertaken with respect to the impact of the weak bridge on the safety of the travelling public?**

The bridge structure is managed in accordance with [BD79: Management of substandard structures](#). It was last assessed in May 2017 and is currently in the process of being reassessed.

- b. On what basis was it concluded that a weight restriction in lane 2 of 7.5 tons was necessary and sufficient?**

A weight restriction of 7.5 tons, in lane 2 of the bridge was considered a necessary mitigation measure in accordance with BD79. This was after it was assessed by a chartered engineer.

- c. What monitoring has been undertaken to assess whether the weight restriction is being complied with?**

We do not monitor whether road users are complying with the weight restriction. We expect all road users to follow the Highway Code. Enforcement of the weight restriction can only be implemented by the Police.

- d. Is it safe for me to continue to drive over the weak bridge?**

Yes.

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request you may ask for an internal review within 2 months of the date of this response for Freedom of Information requests and within 40 days for Environmental Information Regulations requests. Our internal review process is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/highways-england/about/complaints-procedure>

If you require a print copy, please phone the Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk). You should contact me if you wish to complain.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote reference number FOI 100043 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely