



**Procedures Manual – Forth Estuary Transport Authority**

**Reference: PO 001 Title: Strong Wind Procedure**

Issued by: Operations Manager

Approved by: Bridge Master / Chief Engineer

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Winds with gusts exceeding 80 mph with a rising wind pattern.	Close bridge to all traffic. Select plan control for Bridge closed to divert via Kincardine on MS301/302/316 Inform Bridge Master / Chief Engineer or On-call Manager. Inform both Fife and Lothian Police forces. Request appropriate signage from Traffic Scotland control, request an RRN number and record in Daily Log Book. Change message on Information line answer machine. Update FRB Website Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception. Issue Group Email. QD 006-4 Phone Media when time permits.
Wind gusts remain below 80 mph for a continuous period of 30 minutes and wind pattern is falling.	Seek Met. Office advise. Check bridge structure and carriageway for debris/damage before opening the bridge to cars only. Change bridge MS/ L signs to plan control Strong winds “30mph” Accept new alarm level of 65mph on Findlay Irvine PC Inform Bridge Master / Chief Engineer or On-call Manager. Inform both Fife and Lothian Police forces. Request appropriate signage from Traffic Scotland control, request an RRN number and record in Daily Log Book. Change message on Information line answer machine. Update FRB Website. Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception. Issue Group Email. QD 006-5 Phone Media when time permits.
Wind gusts remain below 65 mph for a continuous period of 30 minutes.	Open bridge to all vehicles except high-sided vehicles; caravans; trailers; motorcycles. Change bridge MS/ L signs to plan control Strong winds “40mph” Accept new alarm level of 50mph on Findlay Irvine PC Request appropriate signage from Traffic Scotland control, request an RRN number and record in Daily Log Book. Change message on Information line answer machine. Update FRB Website Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception. Issue Group Email. QD 006-6 Inform FRB Maintenance Department. Phone Media when time permits.

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Wind gusts remain below 50 mph for a continuous period of 20 minutes.	Open bridge to all vehicles except Double-decked buses. Open bridge foot/cyclepaths to cyclists and pedestrians. Switch off slip road traffic lights. Request appropriate signage from Traffic Scotland control, request an RRN number and record in Daily Log Book. Change message on Information line answer machine. Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception. Issue Group Email. <b>QD 006-7</b> Advise all FRB personnel and Contractors working on the bridge. Update FRB Website Accept new alarm level of 50mph on Findlay Irvine PC Phone Media when time permits.
Wind gusts remain below 45 mph for a continuous period of 20 minutes.	Contact bus companies and open the bridge to double-decked buses. (Email) <b>QD 006-8</b> Change message on Information line answer machine. Update FRB Website Accept new alarm level of 45mph on Findlay Irvine PC Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception.
Wind gusts remain below 35 mph for a continuous period of 10 minutes.	Cancel “Strong Wind” and “40mph” signs. Change message on Information line answer machine. Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception. Advise all FRB personnel and Contractors working on the bridge. Update FRB Website. Accept new alarm level of 35mph on Findlay Irvine PC

- 1.1 The above restrictions apply regardless of direction.
- 1.2 With regard to bridge closure, both Police Forces shall be advised of the likelihood of closure as early as practical based on weather forecasts.
- 1.3 At all stages record all timings of restrictions, Traffic Scotland signs, faxes and phone calls in the Daily Log Book.
- 1.4 Any amendments must be reflected on the website.
  
- 2.1 Where possible, details of vehicles which fail to conform to the restrictions should be noted, and their companies contacted by email. Whilst it will not be possible to record details of every vehicle, efforts should be made to contact as many as reasonably practical.
- 2.2 Company details can be sourced through internet searches.
- 2.3 A proforma email can be found in *Q:\O Operations\O4 – Traffic Management\O4.7 Weather\High Winds\Vehicles Ignoring Strong Wind Restrictions\EMAIL High Winds Vehicles Ignoring Restrictions.docx* Copy and paste the text into an email.
- 2.4 Any emails that are sent, should be filed in the following folder : *Q:\O Operations\O4 – Traffic Management\O4.7 Weather\High Winds\Vehicles Ignoring Strong Wind Restrictions\Email Out*
- 2.5 Any email responses from companies should be filed in the following folder : *Q:\O Operations\O4 – Traffic Management\O4.7 Weather\High Winds\Vehicles Ignoring Strong Wind Restrictions\Email In*

