Reference:	PO 001	Title:	Strong Wind Procedure
Issued by:	Operations Manager		
Approved by:	Bridge Master / Chief Engineer		
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Introduction

This procedure details the method by which restrictions to Bridge Users are implemented when the Bridge is subjected to Strong Winds.

Procedure

WIND SPEED	ACTION	
Winds with gusts	Display "Strong Wind" and "40mph" on bridge NEI warning signs.	
exceeding 35 mph	Change message on Information line answer machine.	
with a rising wind	Request appropriate signage from Traffic Scotland control.	
pattern.	Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception.	
	Advise all FRB personnel and Contractors working on the bridge.	
	Accept new alarm level of 45mph on Findlay Irvine PC	
	If applicable reference Traffic management Procedure (PO037)	
Winds with gusts	Contact bus companies and close the bridge to Double-decked buses (Email).	
exceeding 45 mph	QD 006-1	
with a rising wind	Change message on Information line answer machine.	
pattern.	Update FRB Website.	
	Select plan control for Bridge closed to Double Deckers on MS301/302	
	Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception.	
	Accept new alarm level of 50mph on Findlay Irvine PC	
Winds with gusts	Close bridge to high-sided vehicles; caravans; trailers; motorcycles.	
exceeding 50 mph	Close bridge foot/cyclepaths to cyclists and pedestrians.	
with a rising wind	Inform all feta personnel and contractors of situation and that they still have	
pattern.	access to footpaths if required.	
	Switch on 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.	
	Update FRB Website.	
	Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception.	
	Issue Group Email QD 006-2	
	Advise all FRB personnel and Contractors working on the bridge.	
	Accept new alarm level of 65mph on Findlay Irvine PC	
W7	Phone Media when time permits.	
Winds with gusts	Advise all FRB personnel and Contractors working on the bridge to leave with	
exceeding 65 mph	immediate effect. Close bridge to all vehicles except cars.	
with a rising wind pattern.	Change bridge to an venicles except cars. Change bridge NEI signs to "30mph"	
pattern.	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 Emails. QD 006-3	
	Accept new alarm level of 80mph on Findlay Irvine PC	
	Phone Media when time permits.	
	- none meet alle permissi	

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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	Open bridge to all vehicles except Double-decked buses.	
below 50 mph for a	Open bridge foot/cyclepaths to cyclists and pedestrians.	
continuous period of	Switch off slip road traffic lights.	
20 minutes.	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. QD 006-7	
	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	Contact bus companies and open the bridge to double-decked buses. (Email)	
below 45 mph for a	QD 006-8	
continuous period of	Change message on Information line answer machine.	
20 minutes.	Update FRB Website	
	Accept new alarm level of 45mph on Findlay Irvine PC	
	Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception.	
Wind gusts remain	Cancel "Strong Wind" and "40mph" signs.	
below 35 mph for a	Change message on Information line answer machine.	
continuous period of	Advise Admin. Staff in Main Reception.	
10 minutes.	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 $Q:\langle O \ Operations \rangle O4 Traffic \ Management \rangle O4.7$ 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 : $Q:\langle O \ Operations | O4 Traffic \ Management | O4.7 \ Weather | High \ Winds | Vehicles \ Ignoring \ Strong \ Wind \ Restrictions | Email Out$
- 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

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Note for guidance:

With regard to **High-sided vehicles**, the following two lists (although not exhaustive) gives some guidance:

Permitted to cross –

- Cars without trailers
- Cars with roof racks not higher than 30cm and the load firmly secured (BUT NO bikes, canoes, etc.)
- Transit van style with no modifications
- Open or flat-bed HGV's with a low or heavy load
- Single Decker Buses
- Ambulances & Patient Transport vehicles Ambulance control will be consulted on the risks of crossing. However, the final decision dependant on the criticality of the patient will rest with ambulance control not FETA. (*At ALL wind speeds*)

Not permitted to cross –

- High-sided rigid or articulated HGV's regardless whether empty or full
- Articulated tippers regardless whether empty or full
- Tankers

- regardless whether empty or full
- Rigid Tippers regardless whether empty or full
- Car Transporters
- Furniture vans
- Luton vans
- Transit van style with modification
- Vehicles with trailers or caravans
- Motorcycles

Links:

- 3-wheeled cars
- Any other vehicle which appears, in the judgement of the Duty Inspector, to be clearly at risk.

PO 002 Diverting Procedure PO 037 Traffic Management Q:\O Operations\O4 - Traffic Management\O4.7 Weather\High Winds\Vehicles Ignoring Strong Wind Restrictions\EMAIL High Winds Vehicles Ignoring Restrictions.docx Q:\O Operations\O4 - Traffic Management\O4.7 Weather\High Winds\Vehicles Ignoring Strong Wind Restrictions\Email In Q:\O Operations\O4 - Traffic Management\O4.7 Weather\High Winds\Vehicles Ignoring Strong Wind Restrictions\Email In Q:\O Operations\O4 - Traffic Management\O4.7 Weather\High Winds\Vehicles Ignoring Strong Wind Restrictions\Email In Q:\O Operations\O4 - Traffic Management\O4.7 Weather\High Winds\Vehicles Ignoring Strong Wind Restrictions\Email Out

Risk Assessment: RA OPS 034