

STATEMENT OF REASONS

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL (TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) (VARIATION NO. __) TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 202__ - **TRO/26/15**

The City of Edinburgh Council are planning to introduce a 7.5-tonne weight limit on Harrison Road Canal Bridge. This decision is grounded in several key reasons related to the structural integrity, safety, and long-term preservation of the bridge.

Structural Assessment and Safety Concerns:

Recent structural assessments have highlighted that Harrison Road Canal Bridge, particularly due to its older construction non-compliant tie bar spacing, is not suited to carry vehicles safely beyond a certain load. The structural analysis indicated that the bridge is currently at risk of potential damage under heavier loads, which could compromise its safety and serviceability over time.

Preservation of the Bridge's Lifespan:

Imposing a 7.5-tonne weight limit will help to prolong the lifespan of the bridge by reducing the stress and strain on the main elements. This weight restriction is a preventative measure to avoid more extensive and costly repairs in the future and to maintain the bridge's structural integrity for use by lighter vehicles and non-motorised traffic.

Protection of Historic and Community Value:

Harrison Road Canal Bridge has historical significance, being a listed structure and is valued by the local community. Preserving it in good condition ensures that it can continue to serve residents and retain its historical character. By limiting heavier vehicles, we protect the structural heritage and avoid alterations that would be required if the bridge were to deteriorate under excessive loading.

Traffic and Safety Management

Implementing this weight limit also redirects heavy traffic to more suitable routes, allowing the Council to reduce deterioration of the bridge and enhance safety for all local residents. It also helps in managing traffic flow more effectively through the surrounding areas.

A TRO is required to introduce a weight restriction over Harrison Road Canal Bridge.