

**From:** [REDACTED] @highwaysengland.co.uk]

**Sent:** 26 July 2018 09:31

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Providing Access for All [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED],

We are predominantly an engineering team, when required we get ecological specialists involved and are funded by DfT so don't have a funding team. There are only 9 people in the team and we look after approx. 3200 structures across England, Scotland & Wales.

When the works to infill the bridge are undertaken we would not affect the existing embankments, but would fill in the area under the bridge and form new embankments. We usually just sow wild grass seed on the embankments, but could specify something more in keeping with area. Adding a tunnel would add approx. 50% to the cost of the work and would add an ongoing liability issue. If you could persuade Cumbria County Council to take ownership of the bridge they may take a different view.

The other railway bridge (our ref EDE/9) is programmed to be infilled in year 2.

Regards,

**Historical Railways Estate (on behalf of Department for Transport)**

Highways England | 37 Tanner Row | York | Y01 6WP

**General Office:** [REDACTED]

**Mobile:** [REDACTED]

Web: <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk>

If you would like to make a request under the Freedom of information Act, please contact [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Mondays – I am not in the office and do not have access to emails

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 23 July 2018 10:16

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Providing Access for All [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your email.

Do you have your own engineering ecology and funding teams? I would like to explore the options for the bridge and land into the future. The existing banks are very important species rich grassland supporting up to 100 fly orchids and many other rare species. It would be good to know to what extent infill would affect them. It would also be good to know if there are options to retain a tunnel for access if the bridge is infilled, or if it would actually be cost effective to maintain the bridge. Finally if major costly works were to be undertaken, and I assume infill will not be cheap, I would like to explore options for creating an exciting project that we could look into grant funding. This could be along the lines of infilling, but retaining access and mitigation for the banks by habitat creation in nearby fields perhaps. There is also a railway interest that we could explore.

One other thing; could you tell me your plans for the bridge next to 156 in the Kirkby Stephen direction please?

All the best

**From:** [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@highwaysengland.co.uk)  
**Sent:** 20 July 2018 14:04  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Providing Access for All [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED],

I would be happy to meet you, but please note this is not a Highways England bridge, it is a HRE bridge & we don't use Highways England's legal, ecology or engineering departments.

Regards,

**Historical Railways Estate (on behalf of Department for Transport)**

Highways England | 37 Tanner Row | York | Y01 6WP

**General Office:** [REDACTED]

**Mobile:** [REDACTED]

Web: <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk>

If you would like to make a request under the Freedom of information Act, please contact [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Mondays – I am not in the office and do not have access to emails

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 July 2018 17:31  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Providing Access for All [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

Would it be possible to arrange a visit on site at Bridge 156, to explore positive options into the future and understanding of the interests of all parties. It would be good to have representation from Highways England legal, ecology and engineering departments if possible. There is a great opportunity for a project to benefit us all. Highway maintenance, community access, and environmental benefit.

All the best

From: [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@highwaysengland.co.uk)  
Sent: 03 July 2018 12:57  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Providing Access for All [REDACTED]

Thank you [REDACTED],

It may be possible for a short term licence to be taken to use the bridge for access, but the long term aspirations are to infill the bridge. The infilling works are planned for year 7 in our 10 year strategic plan, where 2020 is year 1.

Regards,

**Historical Railways Estate (on behalf of Department for Transport)**

Highways England | 37 Tanner Row | York | Y01 6WP

**General Office:** [REDACTED]

**Mobile:** [REDACTED]

Web: <http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk>

If you would like to make a request under the Freedom of information Act, please contact [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Mondays – I am not in the office and do not have access to emails

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 03 July 2018 12:48  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Providing Access for All [REDACTED]

Hi all

I have been in touch with [REDACTED] in **Historical Railways Estate (on behalf of Department for Transport)** and have copied her in.

The bridge at Point 6 is managed by Highways England HRE Estates and they carry out inspections and maintenance to the structure.

I understand that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have been in contact in the past and the question of access under the bridge was discussed. The answer to this was that [REDACTED] don't have permission to access under the bridge. As to future access could be arranged then [REDACTED] is best placed to answer this.

[REDACTED] – with regards to helping with access through the reserve then this bridge is clearly an obstacle. Can you clarify by replying to all of us the position on this and if it could change in future?

Thanks

[REDACTED]  
Environmental Manager, Cumbria and North Lancashire

Highways England | Newlands | Unit A1 | 6 Brewery Lane | Penrith | Cumbria | CA11 7FN

**Tel:** +44 (0) 300 470 1546 | **Mobile:** [REDACTED]

**Web:** <http://www.highways.gov.uk>

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 June 2018 11:49

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Providing Access for All [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED],

I understand that the roads themselves are not a trunk road or part of the SRN but do HE not have responsibility for the existing bridge that we can't get access under at point 6?

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Tel: [REDACTED]

*My usual working hours are 9.30am – 5.30pm Monday – Friday.*

[REDACTED]