

Bridgewater Place High Wind Procedure

Version 3

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Purpose

The purpose of the plan is to set out procedures which enable the Council to respond to a high wind incident affecting the road network around Bridgewater Place.

The Senior Duty Officers review the weather forecast information and identify when the trigger to activate this plan is met.

Related Plans and Procedures

- Site specific wind forecast
- Vaisala Navigator
- MET Office National Severe Weather Warning Service
- MET Office Hazard Manager website
- Severe Weather Plan

Background Information

When Leeds experiences high winds from a westerly direction, Bridgewater Place can amplify the effect of these winds on the roads and footways adjacent. This has caused serious incidents, including a fatality caused by an overturning high-sided vehicle.

An ultrasonic wind sensor has been installed close to Bridgewater Place, this is used to monitor local wind speeds in real time.

On a daily basis the Met Office provide Highways with a site specific wind forecast. This service is specifically procured by the council and is separate from the national public service type warnings described below.

The MET Office operates the National Severe Weather Warning Service (NSWWS). Warnings follow the associations below:

Green Warning	-	No Severe Weather
Yellow Warning	-	Be Aware
Amber Warning	-	Be Prepared
Red Warning	-	Take Action

The weather warnings (once they reach amber) are sent to responders using a variety of methods.

In past experiences, Bridgewater Place has been affected even when wind speeds have been below the national trigger for a MET Office Amber Warning.

The MET Office only send out NSW Warnings once they get to Amber. For this reason weather warning facilities must be utilised in order for a well informed decision to be made.

Triggers for Activation

All triggers are based on the **site specific daily weather forecast provided by the Met Office**, and action will only be taken when the wind is from a westerly direction, (225 to 315 degs).

Predicted Maximum Wind Gust Speed	Action
Less than 35mph (15.6 m/s)	No Action
Over 35mph (15.6 m/s)	Advise UTMC to put High Wind Warnings on electronic variable message signs
Over 45mph (20.1 m/s)	Implement closure of Neville Street/Water Lane Junction to all vehicular traffic. Implement diversion of pedestrians to eastern footway.

The plan showing the details of the road closure is shown in annex 2 (HM-10-BRIDGE-CLD1)

Activation Procedures

During Normal Working Hours

The Senior Duty Officer arranges for the Council's traffic Management contractor to implement the relevant road closures shown on drawing HM-10-BRIDGE-CLD1.

Arrangements will also be made to supplement the contractor's resources with LCC employees in order to effectively man the closure points.

Outside Normal Working Hours

The Senior Duty Officer arranges for the Council's traffic Management contractor to implement the relevant road closures shown on drawing HM-10-BRIDGE-CLD1.

The Senior Duty Officer will contact the nominated officer to arrange for standby operatives to assist with traffic management measures. The operatives will attend Pottery Fields initially to collect vehicles, and any necessary equipment then attend site to assist contractor at closure points.

The Senior Duty Officer will utilise the nominated officer as appropriate to assist with arrangements and ensure that the closure is implemented correctly.

De-activation procedure

SDO will monitor data from on-site wind sensor. When wind speeds have subsided sufficiently to allow for the safe removal of the closure, SDO will authorize removal.

Roles and Responsibilities

Highways

- Monitor daily MET Office forecast for expected weather conditions impacting the city.
- Take the decision to activate this plan
- Deploy signage to identified locations, using contractor and LCC resources.

- Monitor weather situation
- Liaise with PEPU and inform them that the plan is activated. Also liaise during activation to maintain effective communication
- Email all internal and external partners when the plan is activated
- Senior Duty Officer to monitor the Bridgewater Place Wind Sensor Site and the MET Office and Meteogroup websites
- Monitor incoming fax and email correspondence
- Liaise with internal agencies as appropriate to provide them with any further information gained through discussions with MET Office contacts
- Remove signage on completion and inform all internal and external partners that temporary diversion is no longer in place.

PEPU

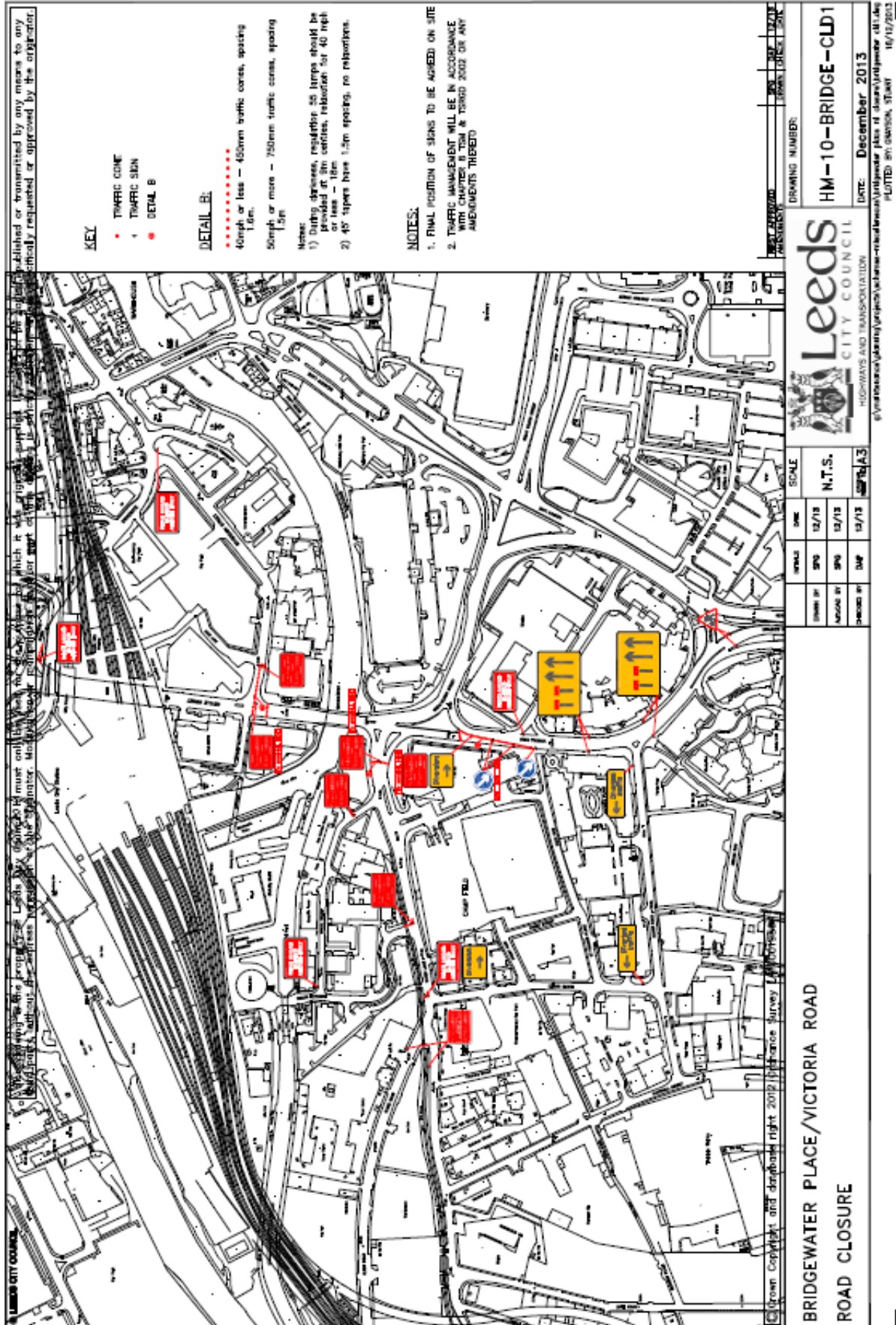
- Contact Highways when warnings are received to ensure they have relevant information
- Issue Leeds Alert if plan is activated
- Inform LCC Communications Team if the plan is activated

Contact Details for Key Personnel and Partner Agencies

Role	Location	Name
Nominated Officer	Pottery Fields	Pat Griffin
		Andrew Cable
		Steve Mitchell
Senior Duty Officers	Pottery Fields	Richard Holdstock
		Chris Clarke
		Nigel Cook
	Seacroft Depot	Nigel Eastwood
		Steven Parry
		Michael Teasdale
		Richard Holdsworth
	Middleton	Russell Martin

Internal Partners	Name	Email Address	
	Gary Bartlett	Gary.bartlett@leeds.gov.uk	
	Andrew Hall	Andrew.hall@leeds.gov.uk	
	Roy Coello	Roy.coello@leeds.gov.uk	
	Gillian Macleod	Gillian.macleod@leeds.gov.uk	
	Andrew Molyneux	Andrew.molyneux@leeds.gov.uk	
	Gordon Robertson	Gordon.robertson@leeds.gov.uk	
	James Buckley	James.buckley@leeds.gov.uk	
	David Cherry	David.cherry@leeds.gov.uk	
	PEPU	Emergency.planning@leeds.gov.uk	
	UTMC	Traffic.signals@leeds.gov.uk	

External Partners		Email Address	
	Arriva	Anquiges.yorkbus@arriva.co.uk	
		Salmonj.yorkbus@arriva.co.uk	
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Installation Method Statement

Every effort will be made to ensure that the instruction to put out the road closure signing will allow time for the work to take place before the wind speeds become excessive. Similarly, the instruction to remove signs will be made on the basis that the wind speeds have subsided sufficiently for the operation to be carried out safely.

The Nominated Officer will supervise the erection of the signs. The Traffic Management contractor will carry out a dynamic risk assessment with respect to the prevailing weather conditions and persons involved. The Nominated Officer will liaise with the TM contractor and may, for example, decide that additional persons are required to erect the signs/bollards and make the necessary arrangements.

Dynamic Risk Assessment

Annex 4

SERVICE: Highways Services				LOCATION: Pottery Fields					
ACTIVITY: Erection of temporary signs relating to Bridgewater Place									
Responsible Manager		Chris P Clarke		Signature			Date	15/06/11	
Assessment by	R J Holdstock		Signature			Date	15/06/11	Review Date	15/06/12
What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how	Evaluate the risks. What are you already doing?		What further action is necessary?		Action By Whom?	Action By When?	Complete Y/N (Date)	
Road Traffic	Impact injuries to persons involved with installation	Activity supervised by trained highway manager. All vehicles involved fitted with warning beacons. Vehicles positioned to provide protection to pedestrian activities		Pre-start briefing on method statement		Nominated Officer	Pre-start		
Manual handling	Musculoskeletal injuries to persons involved	All personnel trained in manual handling activities. Signs to be team lifted by four persons		Pre-start briefing on best practice with respect to sign handling		Nominated Officer	Pre-start		
Unstable signs due to high winds	Impact injuries to workers and passers by.	Signs weighted down with sandbags. Signs tied to fixed street furniture.		None					
Unstable signs due to high winds	Musculoskeletal injuries to persons involved with installation	Weather forecast monitored to ensure that signs are installed before winds become excessive.		Dynamic risk assessment at time of installation.		Nominated Officer	Pre-start		

Communication Procedures

Highways

Notify all Internal and external partners listed in Annex 1, when activation is to take place.

Leeds Alert

PEPU should organise for a Leeds Alert message to be issued as soon as possible from activation of the plan. Wording should be similar to:

Severe gales expected to develop across the area throughout Thursday, with gusts of xx-xx mph expected. Main wind strength during late afternoon and evening. Please take any necessary action.

Twitter

E-sendex internal groups

Leeds Travel Info

LCC Intranet (via comms team)

LCC Internet (via comms team)

Email BCP Network

LCC Communications Team

PEPU should contact the communications team and ensure that they are aware that the plan has been activated and will be issuing the relevant press statements.