



Network Rail
Freedom of Information
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[REDACTED]

By email: [REDACTED]

3rd April 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Information request

Reference number: FOI2017/00328

Thank you for your request of March 13th 2017. You requested the following information:

Network Rail owns the Grade II listed Victoria Viaduct spanning the River Wear on the mothballed Leamside Line. (List entry number 1354978).*

Given this viaduct is nationally significant because of its heritage value, I would be grateful if you could you supply me with the following information:

The date the viaduct was last inspected by Network Rail visually and structurally and the outcome of this inspection.

Whether there is an action plan, repair schedule (or similar) to safeguard the listed structure from deteriorating given the railway line's current mothballed status, and the details of any such plan.

I have processed your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs) as the information requested is environmental according to the definition in regulation 2 of the EIRs (section 39 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) exempts environmental information from the FOIA, but requires us to consider it under the EIRs).

I can confirm that we hold the information you requested.

As per our standard NR/L3/CIV/006/1C *Handbook For The Examination Of Structures Part 1c: Risk Categories And Examination Intervals*, the Victoria Viaduct is being managed via its routine examination process: a visual examination takes place every year and a detailed examination (being a full tactile examination of the structure) takes place once every 12 years. The detailed examination frequency is reviewed at every examination to ensure it is still appropriate. Works are undertaken to maintain the structural integrity of the viaduct when required.

The last detailed examination of the viaduct was undertaken on 9th September 2014. The structure was reported to be in generally fair condition.

The viaduct was last visually examined on 15th November 2016. No significant change from the last detailed examination was reported.

If you have any enquiries about this response, please contact me in the first instance at FOI@networkrail.co.uk or on 01908 782405. Details of your appeal rights are below.

Please remember to quote the reference number at the top of this letter in all future communications.

Yours sincerely

Lindsay Ford
Information Officer

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Appeal Rights

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, please write to the FOI Compliance and Appeals Manager at Network Rail, Freedom of Information, The Quadrant, Elder Gate, Milton Keynes, MK9 1EN, or by email at foi@networkrail.co.uk. Your request must be submitted within 40 working days of receipt of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF