



## Application P/23/0959/2 – Zouch Bridge

Whilst Hathern Parish Council has no objections to the permanent implementations of the 18 tonne limit over Zouch Bridge, the Council would like to place on record it's disappointment that it is even required in the first place.

The diversions are lengthy for HGV drivers, especially should they need to avoid the height restrictions on the A60 into Loughborough. They also cause more strain on the A6 through Hathern, a village that has no bypass system and now an even more severe restriction to the North.

On 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019, The Department for Transport gave notice to confirm both the Bridge Scheme order and the Compulsory Purchase of Land associated. It has long been known that the Bridge is unsuitable for modern day use and that a replacement to be built alongside it was deemed suitable.

Following this, in August 2022, Leicestershire County Council applied to the Governments Levelling Up fund for up to £20m to give the potential for full works starting in Summer 2023 – i.e. now. Since then, neither the Council directly, nor the County Council's webpages, have been given any kind of update.

The Council themselves state the following:

The much-needed improvement on the A6006 at Zouch is seen as a way of bolstering a key, strategic route to the UK's only inland Freeport around East Midlands Airport, the Ratcliffe-on-Soar power station redevelopment site and the East Midlands Intermodal Park near the Derbyshire Toyota plant.

The question that needs to be asked with immediacy, is how long do Leicestershire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council intend to place sticking plasters on a crumbling piece of infrastructure.

M.A. Spencer

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Clerk to H.C. Council

20-6-23

Customer Service Centre

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Post Room

