

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [Alex Paterson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Radical Road - Holyrood Park  
**Date:** 18 April 2023 08:24:30  
**Attachments:** [PIC224-ESS-NOT-20210301-X-V01draftSCragRRMOA.docx](#)  
[image001.png](#)

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Hi [REDACTED] – input from my team below.

[REDACTED] – if Hugh feels that he needs to write rather than refer the matter to CE/ELT, my inclination would be a very short response, along the lines of: ‘ Thank you very much for your letter. Rather than go through the complexities of the current situation in writing, I would rather meet with you in person with HES subject matter experts to explain where we are and our objectives’.

Aye

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

**Sent:** 17 April 2023 15:53

**To:** [REDACTED]hes.scot>; [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

**Subject:** RE: Radical Road - Holyrood Park

Thanks [REDACTED]

In response to a significant rockfall (50+ tonnes) and near miss in 2018, the Radical Road (RR) footpath below Salisbury Crags was closed to the public and remains closed now. I submitted a draft Options Appraisal paper to CEO/SMT in 2021 (copy attached) to inform the future direction of travel. Since then we have installed more robust semi-permanent fencing to deter access to the RR.

We hoped that the more recent Holyrood Sustainable Action Plan and Strategy being developed for Holyrood Park would include and address rock risk and public access generally and the RR issues/options specifically, but it was very disappointing to hear recently that this is out of scope. Current mitigation measures are: continued closure of the Radical Road (which is one of the options) and annual inspections and interventions of all Park rock areas defined and actioned via Fairhurst our call off specialist geo-technical Engineers. We are also working with Fairhurst and HES heritage to provide some localised access to the Hutton’s Section area for students etc. Most of the other options come with sensitive impact/ consent aspects and very significant capital costs, which is another project that should perhaps be managed/funded centrally, not from our limited Ops allocation. There is precedence for this : the installation of the rock trap below the south side of Edinburgh Castle cost circa £800,000 and this attracted special funding from SG.

I understand that CA/Dm retains Director level responsibility for Rock Risk on the Estate pending formal transfer to Ops.

Any comms/correspondence needs to reflect the current position.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]hes.scot>

**Sent:** 17 April 2023 14:57

**To:** [REDACTED]hes.scot>; [REDACTED]@hes.scot>

**Subject:** FW: Radical Road - Holyrood Park

[REDACTED] – please digest the email trail below and the document at link. I’m not sure if I can add anything meaningful at this point. I do not believe that Ops owns the answer to this yet as it’s about rock risk management and policy/oversight/prioritisation of rock risk management still

sits with CA – am I right in this? Is there anything else we can provide in terms of the current mitigation measures in place and the investment that we are putting into that?  
A response asap (ideally by 1200 tomorrow) would be much appreciated.

Aye

