

Categories of offences for load restraint breaches

As with Busbridge's case, the NHVR and other public authorities, will prosecute even the most minor breaches of the HVNL. With on-road incidents, the stakes are too high to let safety slide.

Under the HVNL, there are three categories of offences. The NHVR has provided advice as to what type of offences will fall in each of these categories.

For laden vehicles and combinations, breaches of dimension limits that are caused by the load, like in Busbridge's case, are categorised in the table below. ■

TABLE: CATEGORIES OF OFFENCES FOR LOAD RESTRAINT BREACHES

	Categories	Dimensions
Overall width <i>Applies to overall width offences where the breach is caused by the load</i>	Minor	Up to 39mm over the maximum permissible width limit
	Substantial	40mm up to 79mm over the maximum permissible width limit
	Severe	80mm or more over the maximum permissible width limit
Projecting loads <i>Applies to loads that project from one or both sides of a vehicle where the breach is caused by loads the load</i>	Minor	Up to 39mm over the maximum permissible width/projection limit
	Substantial	40mm up to 79mm over the maximum permissible width/projection limit
	Severe	80mm or more over the maximum permissible width/projection limit
Overall height <i>Applies to the overall height breaches where the breach a caused by the load</i>	Minor	Up to 149mm over the maximum permissible height limit
	Substantial	150mm up to 299mm over the maximum permissible height limit
	Severe	300mm or more over the maximum permissible height limit
Overall length <i>Applies to overall length breaches where the breach is caused by the load length</i>	Minor	Up to 349mm over the maximum permissible length limit
	Substantial	350mm up to 599mm over the maximum permissible length limit
	Severe	600mm or more over the maximum permissible length limit
Rear overhang <i>Applies to rear overhang breaches where the breach is caused by the load</i>	Minor	Up to 349mm over the maximum permissible rear overhang limit
	Substantial	350mm up to 599mm over the maximum permissible rear overhang limit
	Severe	600mm or more over the maximum permissible rear overhang limit