Freedom of Information request ref 01/FOI/26/4405
We received your request on the 14/08/2026.

Request

You asked us:

This is a Freedom of information request relating to the recent Lewes Railcrash/ Derailment. Regarding actions taken by RAIB and BTP to preserve evidence. I understand Network Rail has closed a further length of track on the Keymer Junction to Eastbourne and Seaford branch in light of yesterdays crash.

A) What measures has the RAIB and BTP taken to secure and preserve physical evidence to enable it to properly inspect the track up to and including the accident site?
B) Given the route is known for its sections of 'rough riding' and s uneven track (which occur in sections throughout its whole length between Keymer Eastbourne and Seaford, and aren't just limited to hot weather) what plans/ action has BTP and RAIB taken to record and preserve evidence about the condition of the whole branch at the time of the accident?

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Our response:

This investigation is being led by the Rail Accident Investigation Board (RAIB). An update on the parameters of the investigation and the evidence obtained has been published by the RAIB on the gov.uk website at the following link:
https://www.gov.uk/government/news/derailment-of-a-passenger-train-at-lewes