# Wall collapse linked to caravan move disrupts Carnoustie rail services amid safety concerns



British Transport Police have concluded their investigation into an incident that disrupted the east coast railway line at Carnoustie, which occurred when a wall collapsed, spurred by activities involving a static caravan. On Thursday, train services between Dundee and Aberdeen were halted for around two hours following what was described as a serious breach of planning regulations. A digger, employed to manoeuvre the caravan into the owner's garden, inadvertently caused the wall to collapse onto the tracks.

The caravan in question, previously utilised as an Airbnb by the owner Tony Lindsay, has become a focal point of a protracted planning dispute. After losing a significant battle to keep the caravan on site for family accommodation, Mr Lindsay attempted to relocate it back into his garden amid concerns expressed by council roads officials. He admitted to "jumping the gun" while awaiting the outcome of another planning application, intended to convert the caravan into a storage space and a family snug. For months, the caravan had been situated on the roadway, prompting fears of removal by the local authorities.

On confirming the return to normal operations, Network Rail stated that they performed emergency clearing of the debris and erected a temporary barrier to secure the railway from any future hazards. The agency further reassured that there was no ongoing risk posed to rail services and noted that permanent repairs were forthcoming. The British Transport Police indicated that their involvement was wrapping up, with no criminal inquiries proceeding from the incident. Meanwhile, Police Scotland has yet to provide an update regarding the closure of their inquiries.

This incident follows a series of railway disruptions in Carnoustie and surrounding areas, highlighting broader safety concerns. Just weeks earlier, a family in Carnoustie had a narrow escape when a heavy metal clip from the railway line smashed through the window of their children’s playroom. Louise Stewart, the homeowner involved, has raised alarms about the potential dangers posed by railway infrastructure, prompting Network Rail to commit to addressing these issues comprehensively.

In a separate incident, the region faced additional railway disruptions due to a gas leak near the Carnoustie station. Damage to a gas main necessitated the suspension of train services, leading to temporary evacuations as engineers worked to repair the network. The combination of these occurrences underscores the challenges facing local transport and the importance of maintaining safety protocols to mitigate risks to both infrastructure and public safety.

Local authorities remain focused on the removal of the caravan from public thoroughfares, striving for a swift resolution to the disruptive situation. Angus Council stated that their aim is to facilitate the quickest possible removal of the caravan in collaboration with its owner, reflecting ongoing efforts to ensure community safety and adherence to planning regulations.

As the issue at Carnoustie unfolds, it continues to highlight the intersections of infrastructure integrity with public safety and local governance, calling for careful scrutiny of future actions and regulations governing similar scenarios.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5255316/carnoustie-caravan-rail-line-incident-investigation/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5255316/carnoustie-caravan-rail-line-incident-investigation/), [[2]](https://www.inkl.com/news/family-in-miracle-escape-after-metal-clip-from-railway-smashes-through-window-into-kid-s-playroom)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/wales-breaking-news-plus-weather-29526244.amp), [[4]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1729630/network-rail-scot-rail-gas-leak-trains-cancelled-east-coast-line), [[5]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-55676270), [[6]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-64493012), [[7]](https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/23293086.carnoustie-road-rail-closures-due-gas-leak/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5255316/carnoustie-caravan-rail-line-incident-investigation/), [[6]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-64493012)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/5255316/carnoustie-caravan-rail-line-incident-investigation/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.inkl.com/news/family-in-miracle-escape-after-metal-clip-from-railway-smashes-through-window-into-kid-s-playroom> - A family in Carnoustie, Angus, narrowly escaped injury when a heavy metal clip from a railway line smashed through the window of their children's playroom. The clip, identified as a pandrol clip, left shattered glass and dented a door frame. Louise Stewart, the homeowner, expressed concern over the incident, highlighting the potential danger to children. Network Rail engineers inspected the site and confirmed that the clip had dislodged from the track, emphasising the need for a thorough investigation to prevent future occurrences.
3. <https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/wales-breaking-news-plus-weather-29526244.amp> - In Cardiff, a garden wall collapsed onto the railway line near Fairwater station, causing significant disruption. All trains were diverted, and the City Line between Radyr and Ninian Park was blocked until further notice. Images showed debris from the collapsed wall and garden equipment strewn across the track. The incident led to train cancellations and diversions, affecting commuters and travellers in the area.
4. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1729630/network-rail-scot-rail-gas-leak-trains-cancelled-east-coast-line> - A gas leak near Carnoustie station in Scotland led to the closure of the railway line between Dundee and Aberdeen. The leak, caused by damage to a gas main, prompted evacuations and the suspension of train services. Engineers worked to repair the gas network, and replacement bus services were provided for affected passengers. The disruption was expected to last until 2pm, with services gradually returning to normal thereafter.
5. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-55676270> - A 24-metre section of a bridge parapet collapsed near Stonehaven, Aberdeenshire, leading to the closure of the railway line between Stonehaven and Montrose. The collapse occurred about a mile north of the site of a previous fatal derailment. Network Rail Scotland stated that the height and rural location of the structure made repairs complex. Replacement bus services were implemented, and the line was expected to remain closed for a significant period while repairs were carried out.
6. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-64493012> - The railway line between Dundee and Aberdeen reopened after repairs to a damaged gas main near Carnoustie station. The damage, caused by an excavator working on the railway, led to evacuations and the suspension of train services. Engineers from Scottish Gas Network (SGN) worked to repair the gas network, and replacement bus services were provided for affected passengers. Train schedules were expected to return to normal on Friday morning, with Network Rail Scotland apologising for the disruption caused.
7. <https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/23293086.carnoustie-road-rail-closures-due-gas-leak/> - A gas leak in Carnoustie resulted in road and rail closures, including the evacuation of Carnoustie Leisure Centre. Links Parade was closed between Station Road and Ferrier Street, and Taymouth Street was closed in both directions. Tayside Police advised the public to avoid the area. Network Rail confirmed the closure of the nearby railway line, causing disruption to trains running between Aberdeen and Dundee. Scottish Gas Network (SGN) engineers were on-site to resolve the issue, with a 50-metre exclusion zone in place.