

Dear All,

As you may already be aware, for a number of years the local communities that live along the B4069 between Draycot Cerne and Lyneham in Wiltshire have been requesting a weight restriction be introduced to reduce the number of HGVs using the route. The B4069 was identified as a priority route for further investigation in 2008 under Wiltshire Council's Freight Assessment and Priority Mechanism procedure. Over the past few years, a number of interventions have been carried out along the route, in line with Wiltshire's Council Freight Strategy, to help reduce the number of HGVs. These various measures have had limited degrees of success in reducing HGV movements along the route.

In 2014, a temporary 18 tonne weight limit was introduced on the B4069 to prevent HGVs diverting along the route whilst road works were undertaken on the A350 outside of Chippenham. Traffic counts undertaken on the B4069 at the time, showed that the temporary weight limit resulted in a 38% reduction in HGVs at the western end of the route at Sutton Benger and an 81% reduction in HGVs at the eastern end of the route, around Swalletts Gate. This successful reduction in HGV movements indicates that a weight limit would be effective in reducing HGV movements on the route. In addition, throughout the period that the temporary weight limit was in place, we received no complaints of HGVs diverting on to other, more unsuitable routes within the local area.

Wiltshire Council is considering the implementation of a permanent 18 tonne weight restriction (except for access) for the route. However, prior to any final decision being taken, it has been decided that an informal pre-consultation process should take place, to ensure that there are no issues with the proposal. Therefore, I am asking for your comments in response to the proposal. Attached is a plan illustrating the extent of the proposed weight restriction. Wiltshire Police, who are responsible for the enforcement of weight restrictions, have already provided in principle support for the proposal.

Please provide your comments in writing to me by 6th January 2016. If no comments are received I will assume that you do not object to the proposals at this stage.

If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Allison Bucknell

Wiltshire Councillor, Lyneham Division

Chair of Staffing Policy Committee

Vice-Chair, Wiltshire Council

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