



**SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN  
SPELTHORNE**

**CLOCKHOUSE LANE, ASHFORD**

**PROPOSED 7.5 TONNES WEIGHT  
RESTRICTION, SOUTHBOUND**

**12 MARCH 2007**

**KEY ISSUE & SUMMARY:**

To consider the introduction of a southbound 7.5 tonnes weight restriction on Clockhouse Lane, Ashford.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Committee is asked to agree that:

- (i) the proposed southbound 7.5 tonnes weight restriction on Clockhouse Lane, Ashford is advertised by public notice;
- (ii) subject to no objection being received this restriction is implemented;

- (iii) if an objection is received before the end of the objection period, it is determined by the Local Transportation Manager in consultation with the Chairman, the Local Electoral Division Member and the Leader of the Borough Council; and
- (iv) the implementation of the proposal is funded from the Local Allocation 2007 / 2008 at an estimated cost of £12,000.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The B3003 Clockhouse Lane runs south/north between Ashford in Spelthorne and West Bedfont in London Borough of Hounslow. The boundary between the two Authorities runs along the southern fenceline of the railway track that the road crosses by way of a bridge.
- 1.2 Within Spelthorne the road is primarily residential. There is pedestrian access to a recreation ground and an adjacent safety camera for southbound traffic. Within Hounslow there is no residential property but some industrial units together with Princes' Ski Club and Bedfont Lakes Country Park are accessed from Clockhouse Lane.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 For many years residents have complained about the noise and vibration caused by heavy goods vehicles driving along Clockhouse Lane. An environmental 7.5 tonnes weight restriction (except for access) was imposed on the northbound length of Clockhouse Lane, Ashford within Spelthorne during 1986. At the time the restriction was introduced the London Borough of Hounslow would not agree to a southbound weight restriction on the grounds that so many heavy goods vehicles required access along their length of Clockhouse Lane it would be difficult to enforce.

### **3 ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY**

- 3.1 The redevelopment of Bedfont Lakes has resulted in LB Hounslow now raising no objection to the proposal.
- 3.2 It has been a long term aspiration within Surrey to provide the southbound restriction as it would reduce the volume of heavy goods vehicles passing along Clockhouse Lane and through Ashford. Surrey Police believe the weight restriction would improve drivers' observation of the northbound restriction and so aid enforcement.

### **4 CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Discussions have taken place with Surrey Police and the London Borough of Hounslow. The Police support the proposal and LB Hounslow has stated it would not object to the proposal within Spelthorne. However, L B Hounslow believe there is no need to apply the restriction to the length of Clockhouse Lane within their Borough as heavy goods vehicles still require access to Ascot Road.
- 4.2 LB Hounslow have also stated that they would not object to the introduction of advance warning signs of the restriction within Hounslow, provided there was no cost to the London Borough.

### **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The estimated cost to introduce the southbound 7.5 tonnes weight restriction is £12,000. This would cover the advertising / making of the Traffic Regulation Order together with the local and advance signing of the restriction.

### **6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The proposal would reduce the number of heavy goods vehicle movements along Clockhouse Lane and within Ashford and so improve the environment and the quality of life for residents who reside there.

## **7 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The proposal would enable Surrey Police to carry out enforcement of the weight restriction in both directions which they believe would be substantially more effective than the northbound restriction only.

## **8 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 There are no implications.

## **9 CONCLUSION AND REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 9.1 The provision of a southbound 7.5 tonnes weight restriction on Clockhouse Lane would enable Surrey Police to carry out effective enforcement of the restriction in both directions. This would reduce the noise and pollution levels along this length of road and within Ashford and so improve the environment and the quality of life for residents who reside there.

**Reported by: Annette Williamson, Local Transportation Manager**

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS: Memo from Surrey Police dated January 2007.**