

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE SPELTHORNE

DATE: 30 SEPTEMBER 2013

LEAD OFFICER: NICK HEALEY, AREA TEAM MANAGER (NE)

SUBJECT: HALLIFORD VILLAGE WEIGHT RESTRICTION

DIVISION: LOWER SUNBURY AND HALLIFORD

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

As part of the Divisional Programme for Lower Sunbury and Halliford, the Divisional Member has asked officers to investigate a new 7.5t weight restriction in Halliford Village.

This report recommends the advertisement of the Traffic Regulation Order for the proposed new weight restriction, and to undertake public consultation at the same time.

RECOMMENDATIONS:**The Local Committee (Spelthorne) is asked to:**

- (i) Authorise the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Member(s), to advertise the Traffic Regulation Order for the proposed new 7.5t weight restriction in Upper Halliford Road, between Halliford Road towards the southern end of Halliford village, and Gaston Bridge Road towards the northern end of the village;
- (ii) Authorise the Area Team Manager to consider any representations to the said Traffic Regulation Order, and to decide whether or not to proceed with the proposed new weight restriction, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and relevant Divisional Member(s);
- (iii) If it is decided to proceed with the proposed new weight restriction to commission the detailed design and installation of the necessary signs relating to the proposed new weight restriction, and to make the Traffic Regulation Order;
- (iv) To receive a report at a future meeting of this Committee a report detailing the representations made to the Traffic Regulation Order, and how the representations affected the decision on whether or not to proceed with the proposed new weight restriction.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The recommendations are intended to facilitate the implementation of the proposed new weight restriction. If the Area Team Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and relevant Divisional Member(s) considers any objection(s) to be insurmountable, Committee would be informed at a future meeting.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 As part of the Divisional Programme for Lower Sunbury and Halliford, the Divisional Member has asked officers to investigate a new 7.5t weight restriction in Halliford Village. The new restriction would apply to Upper Halliford Road, between Halliford Road towards the southern end of the village, and Gaston Bridge Road towards the northern end of the village.
- 1.2 A new weight restriction would not remove all HGVs from Halliford Village – some would continue to have legitimate access for loading. If the new weight restriction were to be implemented, we would expect a reduction of HGV journeys through the village, and a corresponding increase in HGV journeys on Gaston Bridge Road, and on the bypass.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 It was intended to consult local residents in August and September 2013. Unfortunately an administrative error resulted in the consultation letters not being sent out as planned. By the time the error was noticed, it was too late to complete the consultation before this Committee.
- 2.2 It is therefore recommended to advertise the Traffic Regulation Order for the proposed new weight restriction, and at the same time to consult local residents. This would ensure that the local community has ample opportunity to have their say. By advertising the Traffic Regulation Order at the same time, there would be no overall delay to the project.
- 2.3 Officers have already received comments from Surrey Police:

Comments of Graham Cannon, Road Safety & Traffic Management Officer

I do not have any objection in principle to this proposal as I am aware that many in the village feel that it is adversely affected by the HGV's that travel through it. However as you will have gathered from the weight restriction in Clockhouse Lane, this type of restriction attracts a high demand of enforcement from local residents that just cannot be sustained. Our main thrust of enforcement is directed to offences that contribute to injury collisions. I have checked the last five years' worth of injury collision stats for this area and there has only been one injury collision and this did not involve a HGV.

Therefore given the above we would not routinely enforce the proposed restriction and this fact should be brought to the attention of your local committee.

- 2.4 The Freight Transport Association, and Road Hauliers Association have also been informed of the proposal, but at the time of writing no response had been received from either organisation.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 Two options are available to take the proposed new weight restriction forwards:
- Proceed to advertise the Traffic Regulation Order relating to the proposed new weight restriction, and at the same time consult local residents – this option would result in no overall delay to the project;

- Undertake the public consultation but without advertising the Traffic Regulation Order, and report the results of the public consultation to Committee at a future meeting – this option could be considered a more orderly approach.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 As detailed above.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 The cost of implementation of the proposed new restriction is estimated to be £10,000. It is anticipated that this will be funded from the Divisional Allocation for the Lower Sunbury and Halliford Division.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 It is an objective of Surrey Highways to treat all users of the public highway equally and with understanding.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The Local Committee has prioritised its expenditure according to local priorities.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 A well-managed highway network can contribute to reduction in crime and disorder as well as improve peoples' perception of crime.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 There is no strong technical justification for a new weight restriction. The number of HGV journeys in Halliford Village is not disproportionately high, when compared to similar locations in Spelthorne. Observations suggest that most HGVs entering Halliford Village are doing so to access the local businesses, either for deliveries, or for the drivers to purchase goods. There is no pattern of collisions in Halliford Village involving HGVs.

9.2 Therefore the views of the local community are key to the decision to implement the proposed new weight restriction. The decision on whether to proceed with the proposed new weight restriction is likely to reflect the consensus of the respondents to the public consultation, unless there are any insurmountable objections.

9.3 To implement the proposed new weight restriction a Traffic Regulation Order must be advertised. This provides an opportunity to make formal objections to the proposal.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 The Area Team Manager will advertise the Traffic Regulation Order for the proposed new weight restriction, and undertake public consultation.

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Contact Officer: Nick Healey, Area Team Manager (NE)

Consulted: Surrey Police, Road Hauliers Association, Freight Transport Association.

Annexes: None.

Sources/background papers: None.
