



PART A:	MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS
REPORT TO:	POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE
DATE:	7 FEBRUARY 2019
REPORT OF THE:	SPECIALIST SERVICES LEAD GARY HOUSDEN
TITLE OF REPORT:	NORTON LEVEL CROSSING–UPDATE ON THE EXPERIMENTAL 7.5T WEIGHT RESTRICTION
WARDS AFFECTED:	DIRECTLY – NORTON EAST, NORTON WEST & MALTON

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the experimental weight restriction at Norton Level Crossing and to advise members of the next steps in relation to the consideration of the experiment.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 It is recommended that the contents of this report are noted and that an officer report will be presented to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee in order to give a member–level response to the further consultation from North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC).

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 The matter of traffic movements including those of HGV’s in and between the towns of Norton and Malton has been a matter of concern to both Town Councils, businesses and local residents for a considerable period of time. When NYCC’s analysis of the impacts of the weight restriction are known it is considered to be appropriate that any formal response from Ryedale District Council should have the support of Members of Policy and Resources Committee

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

- 4.1 There are no significant risks associated with the recommendation of this report

REPORT

5.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 5.1 In February 2018 NYCC made an order for the prohibition of heavy commercial vehicles at Norton Level Crossing with an operating weight exceeding 7.5 tonnes for an experimental period of 18 months. The period expires on 25th August 2019.
- 5.2 Some permits have been issued to three existing businesses which operate in the vicinity of the crossing to enable continued use of the crossing. As of end November 2018 this covered a total of 18 vehicles.
- 5.3 NYCC Trading Standards Officers have been engaged in the enforcement of the HGV restriction. At the end of November 2018, 51 vehicles were being investigated and 7 of these had been summoned to appear in Court. Officers have requested an update on the outcome of these investigations and members will be apprised of any further information that is received from Trading Standards at the meeting.
- 5.4 NYCC have used a combination of existing and new traffic counters to monitor the impact of the order. Unfortunately some traffic counters were vandalised in Norton and this resulted in some disruption to that data collection exercise for a short period of time.
- 5.5 Monitoring to the end of November 2018 has indicated that there has been some redistribution of HGV traffic on the approaches and exits from Butcher Corner. Elsewhere there have been some increases on east-bound traffic on Church Street but a reduction on Welham Road towards the crossing.
- 5.6 An increase in HGV traffic has been noted in the Highfield Lane/ Pasture Lane area. Members will also be aware however that there are three large housing sites currently under construction in that part of Malton, at Rainbow Lane, Pasture Lane and Outgang Lane/Broughton Road which are likely to have had an effect on HGV movements locally.
- 5.7 In terms of air quality within the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) there have been no exceedances in 2016 and 2017. This follows on from a downward trend since 2012. Statistics are collated over a 12 month period (calendar year) with published results from the Council's consultants usually not available until the following June. With regard to the Castlegate area, the crude data for those three monitoring points (which are the ones most likely to be affected by the experimental weight limit) show significant reductions in NO² levels in 2018.
- 5.8 Members are advised that NYCC continue to monitor the crossing and the surrounding road network. It has been confirmed by senior officers at NYCC that a further local consultation process on the experimental weight limit together with their findings will be carried out by NYCC before the end of the experiment.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The following implications have been identified:
- a) Financial
None
 - b) Legal
None
 - c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental, Crime & Disorder)
None

7.0 NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 Members will be presented with an officer report following receipt of the further formal consultation from NYCC in relation to the experimental weight limit.

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