

Contact Officer: Jenny Bryce-Chan

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET COMMITTEE - LOCAL ISSUES

Tuesday 9th April 2019

Present:

Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Graham Turner

In attendance:

Joe Walker, Principal Engineer, Streetscene
Phillip Waddington, Group Engineer
Cllr John Taylor
Jenny Bryce-Chan, Principal Governance Officer

1 Membership of the Committee

All members were present.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2019, be approved as a correct record.

3 Interests

No Interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

That all agenda items be considered in public session.

5 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

6 Member Question Time

No questions were asked.

7 Objection to (Traffic Regulation) (No 4) Order 2018, Proposed 7.5T Weight Restriction A637 Barnsley Road, Flockton and various streets in Kirklees & Wakefield

The Committee considered a report which provided a response to objections to Kirklees (Traffic Regulation) (No 4) Order 2018, introduction of 7.5T Weight Restriction A637 Barnsley Road, Flockton and various streets in Kirklees & Wakefield.

The Committee was informed that West Riding County Council introduced a 7.5 Ton (imperial) maximum gross weight limit for eastbound vehicles on various roads in the Flockton/Emley/Middlestown area in 1971.

Cabinet Committee - Local Issues - 9 April 2019

To bring it into line with legislation, the 1971 Order was later metricated by Kirklees Council (i.e. from 'Tons' to 'Tonnes'), however all other wording of the Order remained unchanged.

West Yorkshire Police stated that in their view, the Order was unenforceable, as the text regarding access exemption, and the permitted direction of HGVs was ambiguous and therefore on that basis, they were unable to enforce against the increasing numbers of HGV's travelling through Flockton Village, in direct contravention of the posted road signs.

Following consultation with West Yorkshire Police, wording for a new order has been drafted, which will ensure they are able to fully enforce the weight limit restriction east bound through the village.

The Committee was informed that when the original proposed Order was advertised between the 14 September to 12 October nine objections were received.

All objectors were contacted by email or letter to explain the principles behind the proposal, and to give them the option of withdrawing their objection.

A public meeting was held with the Police, ward councillors and concerned residents, to discuss the issue in detail, and the Police stated they would be happy to take enforcement action. However, it was agreed that it would first be re-advertised as there was no exemption, in the previously advertised order, for local service buses.

The Order was re-advertised between 18 January and 18 February 2019, and objectors were informed that their previous objections still stood unless they contacted the Council to confirm withdrawal. Only one chose to do so, however no new objections were received.

The Committee was advised that objections to be considered are from eight Flockton residents. Several objectors were concerned that adding 'except for access' to existing signs lessened the impact of the signs.

Cllr Taylor was in attendance at the meeting and was supportive of the scheme; and the Committee was informed that West Yorkshire Police are fully supportive of the proposals and are prepared to enforce the proposed Order.

RESOLVED - That the objections to the proposed weight limit be overruled and the scheme implemented as advertised