

To Residents / Businesses

Highways & Environment
Hertfordshire County Council
Highway Improvements Group
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My ref: G-1180012-B A507 Weight Limit
PTRO

Your ref: A507 Weight Limit

Date: 08 February 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

A507 Weight Limit Permanent Traffic Regulation Order - Consultation

Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) has been exploring options to reduce the impact of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) through traffic using the A507 in Cottered Village following representations to the Highways Cabinet Panel by local communities. HCC is proposing to implement a permanent traffic regulation order (PTRO) by introducing a weight limit ban affecting the A507.

Following the Informal Consultation that happened in September 2022, HCC considered the feedback from local residents, businesses, and stakeholders. Based on the feedback received, we propose to extend the initially proposed weight limit ban area. The amended area will be from the A10 and Baldock Road roundabout at Buntingford, all across the A507, to the Clothall Road - South Road - Wallington Road roundabout at Baldock. Signage is proposed in advance of the ban to deter vehicles from approaching the restricted areas, in addition to signage at the ban start locations.

The proposal can be viewed on the consultation drawing enclosed with this letter.

The key expected benefits of this proposal are:

- HGV through traffic will be rerouted to more suitable routes, reducing overall HGV traffic in Cottered and along the A507.
- The HGV ban on the A507 is anticipated to reduce HGV through traffic in Baldock due to the weight limit restricting flows for vehicles over 7.5T between the A1 and A10 on this route.
- The A507 will be a safer route, reducing conflict between HGVs and risk of damage to the highway

The proposed alternative routes for HGVs to avoid the A507 for eastbound and westbound traffic is to utilise the A602 and A505. These routes are slightly longer than the A507 as an east-west/ west-east connection but are both more suitable routes for HGV traffic. To avoid HGVs rerouting to minor roads, HGV rerouting signage and weight limit ban warning signs will be implemented at key locations.

To accommodate for deliveries and the operational needs of businesses and farms in the proposed ban area, access by HGVs will be maintained with the use of an "Except for Access" clause in the weight limit ban. The terms of access will be set out in the PTRO and will allow for access to any property or land within the restricted ban area or which is only

accessible via the restricted ban area. "Except for Access" signs will be installed with the ban warning signs.

To determine the reduction in HGV numbers, traffic surveys will be undertaken before the scheme implementation and after its construction.

Next Steps

Following this period of consultation, a formal consultation will take place. The proposed Public Notice of Making will be published in The Comet and The Hertfordshire Mercury. It is anticipated that the scheme would likely commence in Summer 2023.

During the formal consultation period, there will be an opportunity to object to the Orders and details will be set out in the Public Notice of Making.

Have your say

During this consultation, we would like to invite you to provide feedback you may have specific to the outlined proposal. This can be done via an online survey tool using the following link: <http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/A507WeightLimitPTRO> . We ask that it is submitted by **Wednesday 08 March 2023**.

Alternatively, if you would like a paper copy of the online survey, please make a request using the details provided above.

All comments received in relation to this scheme only, will be considered as part of the decision-making process.

Your personal details will not be published. However, it is helpful for us to know where you live, in order to analyse your specific feedback in context with those made from the wider area. Details given will be stored securely for the duration of the works/scheme. This data is shared with our third-party consultants for the works/scheme who are acting under contract.

If you have any concerns regarding highway issues or wish to report a highway fault you can do so online via www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/faultreporting/ or telephone **0300 123 4047**.

Yours faithfully,



Miltiadis Nikolaidis
Project Engineer