

CARLISLE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP
Meeting date: 3 December 2019
From: Executive Director – Economy & Infrastructure

WALLHOLME BRIDGE – INTRODUCTION OF 7.5 TONNES MAXIMUM GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RESTRICTION

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 *This report advises members of the Highways and Transport Working Group (“the Working Group”) of the outcome of the statutory advertisement and consultation on the proposed reduction in weight limit on Wallholme Bridge, as referred to in paragraph 3.1 of this report. The proposed changes have been requested by Cumbria County Council Bridges Team following an assessment of the bridge.*
- 1.2 *This report seeks a recommendation from the Working Group that Local Committee agree to introduce the Order referred to at paragraph 3.1 of this report, as advertised.*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 *In considering any implications, members must consider if there are any adverse effects on the community and if the proposals impact on the Council’s commitments for -*
- *To protect and enhance Cumbria’s world class environment*
 - *To provide safe and well maintained roads and an effective transport network*
- 2.2 *The measures contained in the proposals contribute to these commitments by continuing to ensure the Council are able to provide an effective, efficient and safe Highway Network.*
- 2.3 *No significant equality implications have been identified at this stage, and the statutory processes provide the mechanisms for any Equality issues to be raised and aired.*

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 *It is recommended that Members of the Working Group recommend that Local Committee agree to bring into operation The County of Cumbria (U1051 Wallholme Bridge, near Low Row) (Prohibition of Heavy Commercial Vehicles over 7.5 Tonnes Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight) Order 2019 (“the Order”) as advertised.*

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The proposed implementation of 7.5 tonnes maximum gross vehicle weight limit, is as a result of a request received from Cumbria County Council Bridges Team.
- 4.2 A recent inspection has revealed that Wallholme Bridge located on the U1051 is too weak to cater for vehicles above 7.5 tonnes maximum gross vehicle weight. A plan showing the location of the bridge is attached as Appendix 1.
- 4.3 The Order was consulted and advertised upon, with the statutory objection period expiring on 15 November 2019.
- 4.4 No objections were received.

5.0 OPTIONS

- 5.1 Members can agree to the Recommendation at paragraphs 3.1
- 5.2 Members may choose not to agree to the recommendation at paragraph 3.1

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no costs to the Local Committee of implementing the proposal relating to recommendations 3.1, estimated at £2,500, which are to be funded from the central bridges capital maintenance budget. It is anticipated that majority of this estimate will come out of the 19/20 budget.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The County Council, as Traffic Authority, must take into consideration the matters contained in section 122(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (“the 1984 Act”) detailed below, in considering whether it is expedient to agree to the implementation of the Order detailed in this Report for the reasons specified at sections 1(1)(a), 1(1)(b) and 1(1)(d) of the 1984 Act, namely: -

- (a) for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or
- (b) for preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road, or

- (c) for preventing the use of the road by vehicular traffic of a kind which, or its use by vehicular traffic in a manner which, is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road or adjoining property.
- 7.2 Under Section 122(2), the matters which must be taken into account in exercising that duty are: -
- (a) The desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises;
 - (b) the effect on amenities of an area;
 - (c) the national air quality strategy prepared under section 80 of the Environment Act 1995;
 - (d) the importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of persons using or desiring to use such vehicles; and
 - (e) any other matters appearing to the authority to be relevant.
- 7.3 Local Committees may, pursuant to Part 2D, paragraph 5.1.2(g) of the Constitution, approve the making of traffic regulation orders in accordance with powers under Parts I, II and IV of the Road Traffic Regulation act 1984, **except** for the making of Traffic Regulation Orders which involve the introduction for on-street residents permits, which are delegated to the Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure subject to a decision of the appropriate member body to introduce such charges.

8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 The County Council, as traffic authority needs to constantly review and update traffic restrictions to suit changing circumstances and to aid traffic management. The proposed introduction of the 7.5 tonnes weight restriction is as a direct result of an assessment of the bridge by the County Council’s Bridges Team.

Angela Jones
Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure

November 2019

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Location Plan for Wallholme Bridge, U1052

Electoral Division: Brampton

Executive Decision

Yes

Key Decision

	No
--	----

If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	
If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny? If so, give details below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	
Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

No previous relevant decisions.

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

REPORT AUTHOR

Contact: Selena Nicholson, 01228 221870, Selena.nicholson@cumbria.gov.uk