

**OFFICER DECISION REPORT
TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS (TRO)**

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ADDRESSED TO: Group Manager - Highways & Traffic

PREPARED BY: Traffic Management Team

TITLE OF REPORT: The Combe, Writhlington, Radstock
PROPOSAL: 3 Tonnes (Maximum Gross Weight) restriction
SCHEME REF No: 19-025/GW

1. DELEGATION

The delegation to be exercised in this report is contained within **Part 3, Section 4** of the Constitution under the **Delegation of Functions to Officers**, as follows:

Section A	The Chief Executive, Strategic Directors, Divisional Directors and Heads of Service have delegated power to take any decision falling within their area of responsibility...."
Section B	Without prejudice to the generality of this, Officers are authorised to: serve any notices and make, amend or revoke any orders falling within his/her area of responsibility.
Section D9	An Officer to whom a power, duty or function is delegated may nominate or authorise another Officer to exercise that power, duty or function, provided that Officer reports to or is responsible to the delegator.

For the purpose of this report, in January 2016, the Divisional Director Environmental Services delegated the power to make, amend or revoke any Orders to the Group Manager, Highways and Traffic.

2. LEGAL AUTHORITY

This proposal is made in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, which under Section 1 provides, generally, for Traffic Regulation Orders to be made for the following reasons, and in the case of this report specifically for the following reason(s):

(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	X
(c)	for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians), or	
(d)	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,	X
(e)	(without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (d) above) for preserving the character of the road in a case where it is specially suitable for use by persons on horseback or on foot, or	

(f)	for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs, or	
(g)	for any of the purposes specified in paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1) of section 87 of the Environment Act 1995 (air quality)	

3. BACKGROUND

Concerns have been raised regarding the use of The Combe, Writhlington, by large vehicles, and also the lack of advanced signing to advise motorists that there are physical restrictions further ahead.

Approximately half way along the route, there is a railway bridge with an existing 3.3m height restriction, and also a narrow bridge spanning Wellow Brook. This bridge has recently been assessed by our Structures Team, and it is only able to safely support vehicles less than 3 tonnes maximum gross weight.

4. PROPOSAL

It is proposed to implement a 3 tonne maximum gross weight limit on the narrow bridge spanning Wellow Brook, and to improve the advance warning signage.

Signs would be placed at Braysdown Lane (Peasedown St John), Manor Road (Writhlington) and at the junction of Green Parlour Road and Frome Road (Writhlington).

The proposals are shown on attached drawing number TM124/19-025/C01

5. SOURCE OF FINANCE

This proposal is being funded by a capital drawdown from reserves against project code HK1 LLA30 LH43 by the Structures Team at Bath & North East Somerset Council.

6. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT

The proposal requires informal consultation with the Police, Ward Members, Town / Parish Councils and the Cabinet Members for Transport.

7. INFORMAL CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

Police- As stated in previous correspondence with Bath and North East Somerset Council regarding the introduction/revision of weight restrictions, it is not possible to dedicate an enforcement presence to such a restriction. The signage and any other physical measures to be introduced to enforce / heighten motorist awareness of the proposed scheme is therefore of importance.

I note that two locations are shown where additional/enhanced signage is to be placed. Please can you advise where any further revised advance signage of the proposed restriction is to be placed to avoid motorists erroneously entering the restricted area, and if physical indications of the width restriction are to be installed?

Response

Thank you for your response in relation to Scheme 19-025/GW- There are in total 7 locations for signage improvement works for the proposed weight restriction and advising of the height restriction due to the bridge structure, the locations are shown on the plan attached to my previous email and are as follows - 2 new advanced and upgraded signs at the junction of the A367 and Braysdown Lane, 1 advanced sign on Braysdown Lane near Cleeve Cottages and a road narrow warning sign prior to the bridge structure, 2 advanced signs placed at the junction of Green Parlour Road junction with Frome Road and a further 2 advanced signs at Manor Road Junction with Old road/Frome Road along with new signs placed on the bridge structure to advise of the height restriction. No physical measures are proposed due to the width of the carriageway, other than the above mentioned signage improvement works and implementation of an enforceable traffic regulation order to deter motorists from proceeding on the said length of network.

Town Council- No Comment

WARD MEMBERS

Peasedown

Cllr Karen Walker- I am more than happy to support the proposed plan TRO 19-025/GW to be put in place, 3 Tonne maximum weight limit on at The Combe (locally known as Writhlington pit)

Cllr Sarah Bevan- Thank you very much for consulting with us on the propose weight limit for The Combe, Writhlington, which I am happy to support

Radstock

Cllr Chris Dando- No Comment

Cllr Bruce Shearn- No Comment

Cabinet Members

Cllr Joanna Wright- Thank you for the information on TRO 19-025/GW I am happy to support this weight restriction please proceed

Cllr Neil Butters- No Comment

REPORT APPROVED FOR CIRCULATION

Signature: 


Paul Garrod
Traffic Management and Network Manager

Date: 28/11/2019

Author's Names: Gina West

Contact No: 01225 477603

As the officer holding the above delegation, I approve the progression of this Order.

Signed:		Date:	21/11/2020
Group Manager, Highways and Traffic – Kelvin Packer			