

Lorry Watch FAQs

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO JOIN THE SCHEME?

Nothing, membership is free. We supply all necessary paperwork including prepaid envelopes.

ARE OBSERVERS PAID?

No. The scheme runs on a purely voluntary basis. Payment could be seen as improved quality of life due to the success of the scheme.

HOW MANY OBSERVERS DO WE NEED?

The minimum would be one but it must be stressed that the more observers there are, spread out over different times of the day, the more successful the scheme is likely to be.

WHO CAN BE AN OBSERVER?

Anyone over 18. The only requirement is that the person has good eyesight and can record details accurately.

HOW LONG DO OBSERVERS HAVE TO STAND AT THE ROADSIDE?

This is entirely up to the individual observer. The scheme can be run as formally or informally as you wish. Observers could for example spot a lorry whilst walking the dog or visiting the local shop.

DO I HAVE TO ATTEND COURT?

This may be a possibility but is very unlikely. We may require you to sign a statement to say that the record you made of the vehicle on the day is accurate. If you would NOT be prepared to attend court you can still be an observer, but please make us aware of this when you join so that we do not cause embarrassment by asking you should the need arise.

ARE MY DETAILS KEPT PRIVATE?

Absolutely. Your details are held by the Trading Standards Service for correspondence purposes only. They are not given to anyone else for any reason. Your name and address will be strictly confidential.

SHOULD I APPROACH LORRY DRIVERS?

No. Observers should under no circumstances approach lorry drivers or be drawn into arguments over weight restrictions. Any queries should be passed on to the Trading Standards Service to deal with. It is our job to sort out any problems or arguments. The safety of the observers is our paramount concern. Any abuse or threats should be reported to the police and Trading Standards.

HOW DO WE START THE SCHEME?

Once you have agreed to join the scheme you will be asked to nominate a local co-ordinator (usually the Town or Parish clerk) and to begin the enrolment of observers. You can utilise Council members, local businesses or members of the public, it is entirely up to you. Trading Standards will obtain a copy of the Weight Restriction Order, check that all of the statutory signage is in place and is clearly legible and furnish all of the observers with the necessary forms and envelopes.

HOW LONG DO WE STAY IN THE SCHEME?

As long as you want to. We will contact you on a regular basis to ensure that you are happy with the results of the scheme. We would ask that you give the scheme at least 6 months.