

Bradford-on-Avon Area Board – 23 November 2011

Report on Bradford-on-Avon Lorry Watch Scheme covering the period 17th October until midday of 10th November 2011.

Since the scheme commenced on Monday 17th October 2011 Trading Standards have received 184 unique reports from the 39 registered observers, these can be broken down as follows:

U.K. registered vehicles:	144 reports	approx 78%
Non - U.K. registered vehicles:	40 reports	approx 22%

Repeated registrations: 7 reported, 3 of which were on separate dates.

17 th October – 23 rd October:	64 reports
24 th October – 30 th October:	45 reports
31 st October – 6 th November:	55 reports
7 th November- 10 th November:	20 reports

To date Trading Standards have received a response from the DVLA relating to 33 reports (from sending the request it takes approximately 4 weeks until the vehicle keeper details are received). The DVLA had no record of 3 submitted registrations and 6 vehicles were reported as being underweight ('plated' less than 18 tonnes). The remaining 24 keepers have been sent a written interview.

Once the operators of the vehicle have been interviewed the driver will then be interviewed. A decision as to what further action to be taken against the operator and/or driver will be based on these interviews and any other investigation necessary. Each report will be judged on its own merits with repeated breaches, seven of which already appear to have been identified, likely to be considered for prosecution.

Trading Standards are still investigating the most appropriate way of dealing with the significant numbers of foreign registered vehicles reported. Observers are encouraged to include the letters indicating the vehicle's nation of registration (e.g. PL for Poland or F for France) with each such report wherever possible.

Trading Standards would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the observers and co-ordinators for their dedication to the scheme.

Thomas Hutchinson
Senior Trading Standards Officer
Public Protection Service
Wiltshire Council
The Chestnuts, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN
Tel: 01225 713534
thomas.hutchinson@wiltshire.gov.uk