

## What Is Lorry Watch?

A scheme operated using local observers, to detect the misuse of weight restricted routes by heavy goods vehicles in local towns and parishes.

## Why?

Heavy goods vehicles have an adverse effect on road surfaces, structures and underground services. They can also cause unnecessary air and noise pollution in built up areas. Large vehicles can create serious safety hazards for other road users and pedestrians, in particular children.

## How Will It Work?

- Local observers note details of vehicles that may be misusing the route.
- Details are then handed to the parish or town co-ordinator for administration and checking.
- Co-ordinator sends details to Trading Standards.
- Trading Standards will then obtain details of the owners of the vehicles from the DVLA.
- Once the vehicle weight has been confirmed a letter will be sent to the owner to determine whether the driver was in contravention of the Order when observed.
- We will then make a decision as to what action is necessary.

## Exemptions

Some vehicles are permitted to use weight-restricted routes and these may include:

- Vehicles loading or unloading within the restricted area.
- Emergency vehicles.
- Agricultural, building or demolition in or adjacent to the length of road.

- Public utility services along the route.
- Road maintenance.
- Vehicles in the service of the local authority in pursuance of its statutory powers or duties.

## What Can You Expect From Us?

- We will provide initial help and information to set up the scheme.
- Provide all pro forma documents.
- Process all correctly completed observers' forms with the DVLA.
- Contact owners / drivers to request information where necessary.
- Deal with contraventions appropriately.
- Provide reports at agreed intervals.

## What Would We Expect From You

- To petition local residents in order to find people willing to act as observers. These observers must be able to record details accurately.
- To ensure that observers have had sufficient briefing before commencement of their duties.
- To elect an officer of the Parish or Town Council to act as co-ordinator.
- To filter all observers' forms to ensure that only those correctly completed are submitted for processing.
- Under no circumstances should observers approach drivers and any questions from drivers or companies should be referred back to Trading Standards.