

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL**

**HIGHWAYS AND LOCAL SERVICES**

**Montgomeryshire**

**9<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**REPORT BY: Road Safety and Traffic Systems Manager**

**SUBJECT: Permanent 18 tonne amenity weight limit Criggion Lane,  
Trewern – C2039 and C2040**

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**REPORT FOR: Decision**

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**1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To agree the advertising of a permanent 18 tonne amenity weight limit Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on the C2039 and the C2040, known as Criggion Lane, between Llandrinio and Trewern

**2.0 Background**

- 1.2 The repairs of Llandrinio Bridge have now been completed, and Shropshire Council have been asked to consider the removal of the temporary 7.5 tonne amenity weight limits which were put in place on local roads within Shropshire to prohibit the movement of large vehicles along unsuitable minor highways during the bridge repair works.
- 1.3 A temporary 7.5 tonne amenity weight limit was also introduced by Powys County Council on 23 December 2015 along Criggion Lane during the bridge repair works to prevent large vehicles using the lane as an unsuitable diversion route. This temporary traffic order expires on 22 December 2016.
- 1.4 Prior to the introduction of the temporary 7.5 tonne amenity weight limit, that part of Criggion Lane was signed as a road subject to a 17 tonne amenity weight limit.
- 1.5 The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations in 1998 increased the maximum permitted weight for rigid 2-axle and 3-axle HGVs from 17 tonnes to 18 tonnes. Highway Authorities were given until 31 December 2006 to amend their legal Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and install new Weight Limit Signs to affect this change. In this particular instance, the 17 tonne amenity weight limit along Criggion Lane was not amended, therefore the 17 tonne amenity weight limit was unenforceable by the Police after 31 December 2006.

- 1.6 Given that the 17 tonne regulatory signage was removed to permit the erection of the temporary 7.5 tonne signage, the highway authority cannot reinstate the 17 tonne signage as there is no valid traffic Order in place to permit such an action. It is also the case that the 7.5 tonne signage will no longer be enforceable as of 23 December 2016.
- 1.7 This issue was realised when the Llandrinio Bridge had to be closed for investigation and repair at the end of last year, and it was noted that the provision of a temporary and new permanent Traffic Regulation Order would have to be put in place along Criggion Lane and funded as part of the Llandrinio Bridge repair scheme.
- 1.8 Sufficient funding to advertise and implement the 18 tonne amenity weight limit along Criggion Lane remains within the existing budget allocated to the Llandrinio Bridge repair scheme.

### **3.0 Options Considered**

1.9 **Do Nothing.**

This is not an appropriate option as the 7.5 tonne signage will no longer be supported by a valid Traffic Regulation Order as 23 December 2016.

1.10 **Remove the 7.5 tonne weight signs and leave the road open to use by all traffic.**

This is likely to be unpopular with the residents who live along Criggion Lane.

1.11 **Advertise a permanent 7.5 tonne amenity weight limit.**

This is likely to be unpopular with the agricultural traffic that previously used Criggion Lane as a through route when the 17 tonne amenity weight limit was in place.

1.12 **Advertise a permanent 18 tonne amenity weight limit.**

This is the preferred option as it merely modifies the previous 17 tonne amenity weight limit to comply with The Road Vehicles (Authorised Weight) Regulations 1998 legislation.

### **4.0 Proposal**

1.13 That a permanent Traffic Regulation Order to make an 18 tonne amenity weight restriction on those sections of the C2039 and the C2040 known as Criggion Lane, as identified on the attached plan be advertised by the Council.

1.14 The amenity weight limit would include exemptions for use by emergency vehicles, and for the purposes of gaining access to any land, premises or properties on or adjacent to those roads which are the subject of the Order.

1.15 County councillors Dawn Bailey and Graham Brown have expressed support for the 18 tonne amenity weight restriction as the local members.

<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>
Committee is asked to resolve that the Traffic Regulation Order consultation procedure is initiated in accordance with The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996; and if no substantive objections are received the proposal be implemented.	To introduce an 18 tonne amenity weight limit except, to regularise the current situation, and prevent unsuitable traffic from utilising Criggion Lane to safeguard the integrity of that public highway, and to safeguard the interests and safety of those residents who have properties situated along Criggion Lane.

<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>	<b>Local Transport Plan</b>		
<b>Within Policy:</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Within Budget:</b>	<b>Y</b>

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