

Suffolk County Council Consultation on Lorry Routes

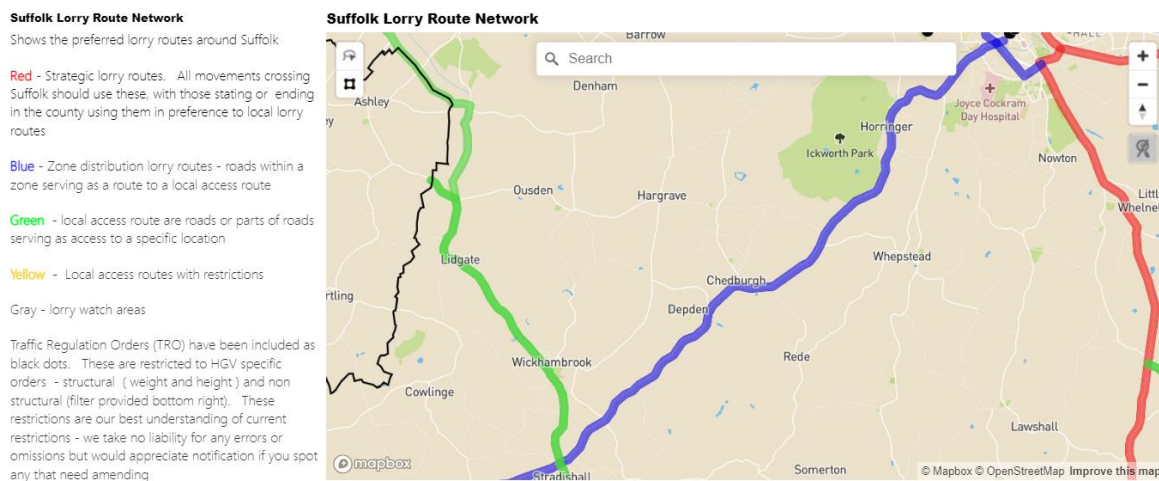
Suffolk County Council is undertaking a review of recommended lorry routes across the county. The review will consider changes to the highway network since the plan was updated in 2011. This includes:

- new strategic roads
- new Lorry Watch areas
- Air Quality Management Areas in Suffolk

The review is formed of two parts: a technical review of routes, which will look at a range of evidence, including:

- Collision records and traffic data
- Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) for weight, width and height restrictions
- The resilient road network and its strategic road network diversions as well as GPS data – showing the origin and destination of trips, routes taken and the locations of building strikes
- Public complaints
- Data from Lorry Watch schemes

An excerpt of the draft version of the [Lorry Route Network Map](#) is shown below:



The County Council has also commenced a community-led review by inviting parish and town councils to report the three most important issues associated with lorry movements in their community. Parish councils are asked to liaise with their local County Councillor to endorse the issues for inclusion as part of the review.

A briefing note from Suffolk County Council is attached as **Appendix A**, and a copy of the survey is attached as **Appendix B**.

Information relating to the review has been published to the website and facebook, although to date no submissions have been received.

Action:

Councillors are asked to identify the three most important issues associated with lorry movements in their community for the clerk to report to the County Councillor.

Hilary Workman
Clerk & RFO
November 2021

Briefing Note for Town and Parish Councils

Lorry Network Route Map – Community Review 2021

Background

The Suffolk Lorry Route plan was last reviewed in 2011 and since then there have been a number of changes across Suffolk including new strategic roads, new Lorry Watch areas and Air Quality Management Areas. Local Plans have been updated by the District & Borough Councils identifying planned areas for development across the County.

The map provides an overview of the highway network of routes most suitable for HGV traffic. This includes the Strategic Road Network (A11, A12 south of Ipswich, A14 and A47) operated by National Highways (formerly Highways England) which acts as a distributor to our local SCC network. It also links to planned and emergency diversionary routes and the resilient network to ensure traffic can use the network in times of greatest need.

Whilst providing a Lorry Network Route Map is not a statutory duty of SCC as the Highway Authority, it is good practice to provide this and working along with neighbouring authorities a positive tool to manage and inform professional drivers and communities alike of the recommended routes to be used.

The map also assists the work that Suffolk Trading Standards does in enforcing the weight restrictions in place and managing the Lorry Watch programme and Suffolk Constabulary's Commercial Vehicle Unit.

This review provides the opportunity to identify technical issues on lorry routes and to reach out to parishes to gather local information and to understand local views. The review will involve two parts and will update and validate the County Council's existing routes.

Technical review

The technical review has been a multi-disciplinary approach to collating and reviewing all of the available information across a number of teams that relate to HGV movements in the county.

This has included

- Land use allocation from Local Plans
- Collision records involving HGVs
- Traffic data (including the SCC transport model)
- Current weight, width and height restrictions
- SCC resilient road network
- Strategic road network diversions
- GPS data- origin, destination and route and quantify movements
- Data from Lorry Watch and customer records relating to HGVs
- Air Quality Management Areas
- New roads - for example Bury St Edmunds Eastern Relief Rd; Beccles Relief Rd; Lowestoft Spine Road and Tom Crisp Way

Community Review

We will be commencing the Community Review on the 22nd October with Parish and Town Councils. This will run for eight weeks to the 17th December.

The online survey will ask each Parish or Town Council to provide up to three routes or locations where they feel HGV traffic has the highest impact on their community. The information sought includes the location, type of issue, the type of vehicle including light goods vehicles and how often and when the issue occurs.

We will be emailing this to all clerks with supporting information on the 22nd October. We will not be promoting this as a full scale public consultation. Any members of the public that wish to participate should be directed to their local council if they wish for their concerns to be included.

Your Role as a Town or Parish Council

As Town and Parish Councils we would like to you have a clear role in supporting your communities. We are encouraging to engage with local stakeholders as appropriate to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to have their say and to put forward the top three issues within your community for inclusion in your survey response. The limit on three issues ensures that each parish or town council has an equal chance of responding and we are not just hearing from those who try to make the most representation. Each County Councillor will be required to endorse the issues raised within their division and this should be confirmed prior to submission of your survey response.

Collating the data through the survey will ensure that the process is fair and no important feedback is sent elsewhere (i.e. officer email accounts or to Suffolk Highways).

The main objective is to collect data to gain a wider understanding of how HGVs and the lorry routes affect parishes across Suffolk.

Whilst we are asking for this information to be sent to the Council, it is not possible to guarantee that any issues that have been raised through the surveys will be resolved by updating the network map. We would appreciate your understanding and support to manage expectations once this is underway.

If you have any existing information such as studies or surveys from your area (work in progress) you may send them to the project mailbox lorry.routes@suffolk.gov.uk

Frequently Asked Questions

There are a number of these available along with full details of the review on the Council [website](#).

The current lorry route network map can be found [here](#).

Ipswich Area County Councillors

Please use the survey link to submit concerns in your area <https://forms.office.com/r/EXa8fHbhAr>

Councillor Smart will be liaising with Borough Councillors to provide a unified response from IBC members as supplementary information.

Survey Questions – the survey should be completed online, the questions are listed here for your information only

Town/Parish Lorry Route Review

Please complete this survey on behalf of your parish/town, after reading the email explaining the scope of the survey.

1.Name of Suffolk County Councillor who has endorsed your parish/town's submission for review. (from a drop down list)

2.Which parish/town council are you responding on behalf of? (from a drop down list)

3.Please report the location of the first (or subsequent) lorry-related issue you wish to report. For example road number/ name, building or street address.

Enter your answer (free text box)

4.In order for us to map the issues identified in your response, please provide the latitude and longitude (geographic co-ordinates) of where they occur. These can be found by opening <https://gridreferencefinder.com/> and right click for Latitude and Longitude. A video showing you how to do this can be found here <https://youtu.be/58-qrn9kcwo>

(Example 52.429641 , 1.1333084)

Enter your answer

5.Please tell us what type of problem you are reporting at this location

- Air Quality
- Damage to property
- Overhanging buildings
- Road safety for pedestrians/other road users
- Road surface damage
- Speeding
- Damage to verge or road width inadequate
- Weight
- Other

6.Please describe the type of lorry that is involved in the issue you are describing. (https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/211948/simplified-guide-to-lorry-types-and-weights.pdf)

- LGV (Light Goods Vehicles up to 3.5 tonnes)
- HGV (Heavy Goods Vehicles 3.5 to 7.5 tonnes)
- Larger HGV (7.5 tonnes plus)

7.When did it first become a problem?

- Over 5 years ago
- Between 2 and 5 years ago
- Between 1 and 2 years ago
- In the last 12 months

8.What time of the day does the problem occur (tick all that apply)?

- 24 hours a day
- During working hours (9am to 5pm)
- During the am or pm peak (8 to 9am and 5 to 6pm)
- Weekdays
- Weekends

9.How often does it occur?

- More than 10 times a day
- Between 2 and 9 times a day
- Around once a day
- Once or twice a week
- Once or twice a month

10.Has your parish/town council already proactively worked with your neighbouring parishes to resolve or identify potential solutions to problems you may encounter with HGV traffic in your local area? Please let us know how you have done this below.

Enter your answer (free text box)

11.Has the problem been reported to Suffolk County Council before?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Timeline

Following the end of the community review we will analyse the responses and produce a recommendation for updates to the Lorry Route Network by March 2022. Whilst there is no identified funding pot for HGV related improvements – the county wide data we have will be an excellent start to prioritise potential projects and to help inform other plans affecting the highway network.



Town/Parish Lorry Route Review

Please complete this survey on behalf of your parish/town, after reading the email explaining the scope of the survey.

...

* Required

1. Name of Suffolk County Councillor who has endorsed your parish/town's submission for review. *

2. Which parish/town council are you responding on behalf of? *

3. Please report the location of the first (or subsequent) lorry-related issue you wish to report. For example road number/ name, building or street address. *

4. In order for us to map the issues identified in your response, please provide the latitude and longitude (geographic co-ordinates) of where they occur. These can be found by opening <https://gridreferencefinder.com/> and right click for Latitude and Longitude. A video showing you how to do this can be found here <https://youtu.be/58-grn9kcwo> *

(Example 52.429641 , 1.1333084)

Enter your answer

5. Please tell us what type of problem you are reporting at this location *

- Air Quality
- Damage to property
- Overhanging buildings
- Road safety for pedestrians/other road users
- Road surface damage
- Speeding
- Damage to verge or road width inadequate
- Weight
- Other

6. Please describe the type of lorry that is involved in the issue you are describing. (https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/211948/simplified-guide-to-lorry-types-and-weights.pdf) *

- LGV (Light Goods Vehicles up to 3.5 tonnes)
- HGV (Heavy Goods Vehicles 3.5 to 7.5 tonnes)
- Larger HGV (7.5 tonnes plus)

7. When did it first become a problem? *

- Over 5 years ago
- Between 2 and 5 years ago
- Between 1 and 2 years ago

In the last 12 months

8. What time of the day does the problem occur (tick all that apply)? *

24 hours a day

During working hours (9am to 5pm)

During the am or pm peak (8 to 9am and 5 to 6pm)

Weekdays

Weekends

9. How often does it occur? *

More than 10 times a day

Between 2 and 9 times a day

Around once a day

Once or twice a week

Once or twice a month

10. Has your parish/town council already proactively worked with your neighbouring parishes to resolve or identify potential solutions to problems you may encounter with HGV traffic in your local area? Please let us know how you have done this below. *

Enter your answer

11. Has the problem been reported to Suffolk County Council before? *

Yes

No

Don't know

Submit

Never give out your password. [Report abuse](#)

This content is created by the owner of the form. The data you submit will be sent to the form owner. Microsoft is not responsible for the privacy or security practices of its customers, including those of this form owner. Never give out your password.

Powered by Microsoft Forms |

The owner of this form has not provided a privacy statement as to how they will use your response data. Do not provide personal or sensitive information.

| [Terms of use](#)