



### Introduction

Lorry Watch is a joint project between Kent County Council, Kent Police and local communities. Local residents are empowered to record the details of large vehicles using unsuitable routes or routing through areas with a weight, height or width restriction.

Residents, provided with temporary signage (not to be placed on street lighting furniture) and high-visibility jackets, organise themselves to collect vehicle details which are then passed on to Kent Police. Kent Police use the registration details to obtain the contact details of British vehicles and where a single company or vehicle is observed more than once the company is contacted by the Police.

The company is subsequently asked about their business in the area. If they are breaching a restriction then they are warned against further use of this route. Where the company has legitimate business in the area this is fed back to the local community. In instances where there is no restriction in place but the roads are deemed unsuitable the company is contacted by KCC to ask that they avoid the area wherever possible and to make them aware of alternative routes.

A number of Lorry watch projects have been run across the county and discussions are currently taking place with the representatives of a number of other areas. Any Parish Councils or other community groups that would like to explore this idea further should contact Annette Fletcher at [freight@kent.gov.uk](mailto:freight@kent.gov.uk) or 03000 418181.

## Lorry Watch - Safety Awareness Guidance for Volunteers

It is extremely important that volunteers stay safe while participating in a Lorry Watch initiative. Volunteers must adhere to the following:

- Volunteers should visually inspect their road side location prior to undertaking any observations to ensure that it is a safe and considerate place to stand
- Volunteers must be aged 18+ and physically capable of road side participation
- Roadside activity should only be undertaken during daylight hours
- There must be a team of at least 2 volunteers present at all times
- Road side participants must wear high-visibility jackets/waistcoats (Kent County Council can supply these)
- One of the road side team must be the designated Team Leader for that session. The Team Leader will carry out a dynamic risk assessment before and during Lorry Watch activity. It is not permitted to start or continue if there is any clear or significant risk of harm to the Lorry Watch participants and/or any road users, including pedestrians.
- The roadside team must have at least one functioning mobile phone. This should contain the necessary emergency numbers as well as the mobile number for the KCC Freight Officer. However, there is no need to inform anybody that Lorry Watch is underway.
- The Lorry Watch signs provided may be used in the vicinity of the road side operation and elsewhere as long as placement locations are secure, are not located on private property without permission and do not block lines of site. If in doubt please agree locations with the KCC Freight Officer.
- Do not attempt to hide or disguise Lorry Watch road side activity from passing road users
- Do not cause an obstruction to any passing road user, including pedestrians
- Any approach by a member of the public must always be met with respect and courtesy. If after talking to the roadside team they require further information they may be directed to contact Kent County Council's Freight Officer on email: [freight@kent.gov.uk](mailto:freight@kent.gov.uk) or on: 03000 418181.
- Before commencing a Lorry Watch initiative, the Parish Council must provide written confirmation that Lorry Watch can operate under the Public Liability Insurance of the relevant Parish Council.

## A Simplified Guide to Lorry Types and Weights

Recommended Description		Identifier	UK Maximum Gross Weight (tonnes)	Shape
<b>LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES</b>		2 axles	3.5	no rear side windows 
<b>L O R R I E S</b>	<b>HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES</b>  (Vehicles over 7.5 tonnes gross require a Heavy Goods Vehicle Driver's Licence)	SMALLER 2-AXLE LORRIES	2 axles <b>Over 3.5 7.5</b>	
		BIGGER 2-AXLE LORRIES	2 axles <b>Over 7.5 18</b>	
	MULTI-	3 axles rigid	<b>25 26*</b>	
		3 axles artic.	<b>26</b>	
		4 axles rigid	<b>30 32*</b>	
		4 axles artic.	<b>36 38*</b>	
	AXLE	Vehicle and draw-bar trailer 4 axles	<b>30 36**</b>	
		5 axles or more artic. See note (a)	<b>40</b>	
	LORRIES	Vehicle and draw-bar trailer 5 axles See note (a)	<b>40**</b>	
		6 axles artic. See note (b)	<b>41*</b>	
		6 axles draw-bar See note (b)	<b>41* and **</b>	
		5 or 6 axles artic. See notes (b) and (c)	<b>44* and ***</b>	
		6 axles draw-bar	<b>44*,** and ***</b>	
		6 axles artic. See note (b) and (d)	<b>44*</b>	
	6 axles draw-bar See note (b) and (d)	<b>44* and **</b>		

