

Kilkenny Borough Council

Heavy Commercial Vehicles
Route Management
April 2014

Background :

- ▶ Proposal from Kilkenny Borough Council that a road improvement plan be prepared for the Kennyswell Rd.
- ▶ Plan advertised for Part 8 Public Consultation in 2012.
- ▶ Public meeting held with residents at which serious reservations were expressed particularly in respect of use of proposed road by HCV'S .
- ▶ Kilkenny County Council approved the preparation of a HCV Management Plan for the City at its meeting on 24/6/2013.

Background

- Inadequate roads infrastructure on the Western Side of the City
- Lack of an alternative River Crossing to the North
- Narrow carriageway widths in the City Centre
- The presence of major industrial , commercial and haulage operations on the Northern and Western periphery of the City .
- Perceived excessive use of the Circular Rd. , Kennyswell Rd and Granges Rd by Heavy Commercial vehicles .

Methodology

- ▶ Radar Detection in - house Traffic Counts in 2013 /14 which assessed total volumes
- ▶ Comparison with previopusly obtained results
- ▶ CCTV survey of a number of key junctions to assess articulated and public transport vehicles
- ▶ Verification of CCTV by further in-house surveys
- ▶ Further CCTV survey to coincide with a local haulage surge .

SurveyKilkenny's Busiest Streets

Kilkenny's Busiest Roads 2012/2013				
Rank	Street	Vehicles/Day	% Heavy Goods Vehicles	HGV per day
	<i>Ring Road at Ossory Bridge</i>	27,000	12	3240
1	Hebron Rd	13,500	10.6	1431
2	New Rd	13,000		
3	Freshford Road	13,000	5.3	689
4	Castlecomer Rd	10,500		
5	John St	10,500	10	1050
6	Bennetsbridge Rd	10,000	8.7	870
7	Dominic St	10,000	11.2	1120
8	Bohernatounish Road	9,700		
9	Dublin Rd	9,400		
10	Dean Street	9,100	16	1456
11	Newpark Drive	7,800	15	1170
12	Waterford Rd	7,250		
13	College Rd.	7,250		
14	Granges Rd	7,000	10	700
15	Pennyfeather Way	6,800		
16	Parliament Street	6,250	6	375
17	Johnswell Rd.	6,000	5.3	318
18	Circular Road	4,700	18	846
19	High St	4,000		
20	Kennyswell Rd	4,000	20.2	808

Survey Conclusions (ctd)

Excluding the Ring Rd . the busiest junctions for Heavy Commercial Vehicles are

- ▶ Freshford Rd / Granges Rd. junction
- ▶ Greens bridge /Troysgate
- ▶ Waterbarracks Roundabout
- ▶ Butts Roundabout
- ▶ Castlecomer Rd. Roundabout
- ▶ Sceilp Roundabout .

There can be a significant variation in counts on the Western corridor

e.g. The Waterbarracks roundabout can vary from 350 vehicles/day to in excess of 550 vehicles per day . Similar increases are evident at the Sceilp and Butts Green . This can be attributed mainly to increased activity at the Grassland Complex on the Tullaroan Rd.

Survey Conclusions (ctd)

- ▶ Due to the lack of adequate road infrastructure any measures to reduce HCV activity in one area will transfer the problem elsewhere . E.g. A restriction on the Waterbarracks Roundabout will transfer the traffic to Greensbridge and to a lesser extent Ardaloo Bridge
- ▶ Approximately 40% of the HCV traffic using the Freshford Rd / Granges Rd. junction begins or ends its journey at Talbot's Inch
- ▶ A significant percentage of HCV'S using the Western Corridor travel onwards onto North Kilkenny
- ▶ A smaller percentage travel via Ardaloo Bridge to join the N 77 (Kilkenny – Ballyragget)
- ▶ Approximately 75% of HCV'S which enter via the r 'bout at Hotel Kilkenny travel via the Circular Rd. / Kennyswell Rd.
- ▶ There is evidence of increasing HCV traffic on Dominic Street , Vicar St and Newpark Drive
- ▶ The results show an increase in HCV activity in Newpark Drive.

Key Recommendations

- ▶ Implement a one-way system for HCV'S on the Western Corridor e.g. Kennyswell Rd , Waterbarracks , Butts Green , the extent and effectiveness of which shall be reviewed on completion of the Central Access Scheme bridge with a view to removing HCV'S from the Kennyswell Rd .
- ▶ Restrict HCV use on Dominic St .
- ▶ Provide a dedicated HCV corridor on the Eastern Environs inwards from the Ring Rd with a view to removing HCV traffic from Newpark Drive and ensuring that vehicles do not transfer to areas like Newpark Drive.
- ▶ Introduce dedicated routes for Tourist Buses so that they park on Castle Rd in such a manner that passengers alight onto the footpath.
- ▶ Introduce time restrictions on HCV use in Vicar St , Dean St and the core central area

Next Phase

1. Refer to Municipal Policy Committee to commence consultation with the relevant stake holders. Residents, Haulage operators on Western and Northern Environs, Road Hauliers Association and the Gardai.
2. Communication and Signage Strategy to be budgeted for and implemented in 2015
3. Erection of barriers (height restriction)
4. Use of Technology e.g. Number plate recognition
5. Re-Deploy a member of staff as a monitor reporting offenders to the Gardai