

North Road, Saltash HGV Rat Run Notes

Current Situation:

- a) North Road Saltash is a residential classified B Road.
- b) It has been identified by Saltash Town Council as potentially having more traffic flow as a result of the planned Broadmoor development.
- c) Cornwall Council has very recently invested what must have been a considerable sum to improve the road for cyclists.
- d) It is an emergency road for tunnel closures.
- e) It is currently being used on an increasing scale as a “rat run” for H G V’ leaving the A38 at the Saltash off slip and seeking to avoid using the tunnel even when it is self-evident that the tunnel and bridge main carriage ways are running freely.
- f) The HGV’s are not doing anything illegal but what they are doing is grossly anti-social, causing noise and air pollution on a residential road, and are creating a dangerous environment in a built up area.

Any Plan to deal with the problem will require:

- a) A precursor to any plan the Town Council need to recognise and accept that there is a problem and then resolve to do something about the problem.
- b) A plan set up to engage local business’ and other hauliers would be a logical 1st step.
- c) Goodwill and common sense from all concerned.
- d) One or two willing collaborators that can be used as an example to others – only responsible haulage operators are welcome in Saltash, hauliers that commit to making North Road an HGV no go road.

Potential Solution:

- a) No solution can be contemplated unless and until as above Saltash Town Council recognises that there is a growing problem for the residents of North Road and then resolve to do something about it. Cllr Holley, our local Cornwall Councillor has recognised the problem and is doing his best to try to find solutions.
- b) Statutory changes such as average speed cameras, traffic calming pinch points or weight limits are, one would guess/assume, unlikely given the need to maintain the emergency status ref the tunnel.
- c) If statutory changes are not possible change initiated by Saltash Town Council supported by Cornwall Council Members, the Police and potentially the Environment Agency can be the only rational alternative – any action by residents alone would fail without the backing of the afore mentioned bodies/people.
- d) As a starting point Saltash Town Council could create a designated and recognised Carkeel/A38/Saltash Tunnel “Preferred Route”. Then the preferred/recommended route for all HGV traffic travelling toward the bridge from the West would always be to use Carkeel Roundabout/A38/Tunnel unless directed otherwise by the police.

- e) All HGV traffic coming from the West of town would be encouraged to use Burraton Road/Callington Road to Carkeel roundabout and onto the A38 and always avoid using Liskeard Road/New Road/North Road, then staying on the A38 through the tunnel.
- f) Traffic travelling from the East to West of the town HGV's would be requested/advised to NOT leave the bridge but carry on through the tunnel to the Carkeel Roundabout
- g) Having created the Preferred Route and publicised it to all Saltash Business' efforts should be made to engage with a few business leaders at the West of town to either persuade them to demand that their drivers use and stick to the Preferred Route or if they are using contract hauliers to ensure that any contract/business arrangement was conditional on the haulier directing it's drivers to use the Preferred Route.

End of Report.