

Dear Parish Council Clerks,

As we move towards a much deserved break over the Christmas period I wanted to give an update on the Ivinghoe Freight Strategy.

In order to get the proposed zone restricting HGV movements to those which have a business reason to be there, encouraging through traffic to use more appropriate routes around the area, the implementation has been divided into two phases.

Phase 1 covers the installation of signage around the zone making the 7.5 tonne environmental traffic regulation order restricting HGV traffic with exception for local access legal. The installation although extensive is relatively straight forward using standard compliant signs on existing or new poles as needed. The TfB construction team have completed the tender process for the works and a contractor has been appointed. We are waiting on the contractor providing a programme which will give us the planned start date and the completion timeline. In the meantime it is reasonable to suggest that phase 1 is expected to be completed by the end of February 2023.

Phase 2 will cover the advance notice signage on key routes around the zone to alert drivers and operators about the restriction enabling them to avoid breaching the order and following more suitable roads. The signage is more bespoke and includes the positioning in our neighbouring Central Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire authorities. The TfB design team are finalising the drawing and development work over the next few weeks. The plan is to give phase 1 time to operate in order to solicit feedback from the public to help identify the locations where the advance notice signs can be most effective to minimise avoidable breaches of the zone. The timeline for these works is more difficult to establish at this stage and we must consider the potential impact of the upcoming change of the highways contract. ([Buckinghamshire Council awards highways contract to Atkins | Buckinghamshire Council](#))

We are continuing to monitor progress through the implementation phase and will look at issuing a press release as the phase 1 installation gets underway. Details on the scheme can be found on the council website. ([Ivinghoe freight zone | Buckinghamshire Council](#)).

May I take this opportunity to pass on my seasonal best wishes and a prosperous 2023.

Kind regards
Graham

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