

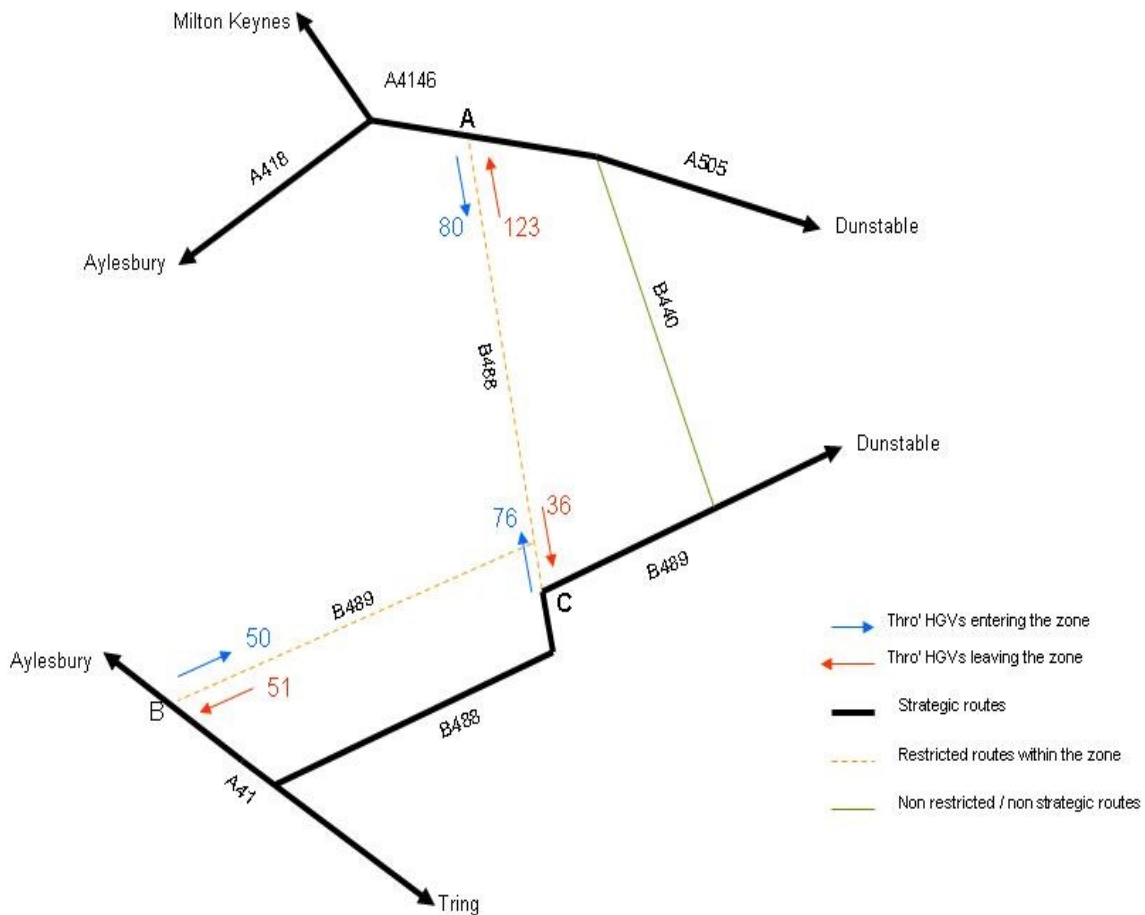


EDLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL The Case Against The Proposed Ivinghoe Area Freight Zone

Buckinghamshire Council are proposing to introduce a freight zone excluding HGVs from using the roads within an area bounded by the A418, A41, B488 and the B440, unless they are delivering or collecting within the zone. This is to reduce the number of lorries rat running through the villages of Ivinghoe, Cheddington and Mentmore. Unfortunately this would result in an increase in the number of HGVs using the B440 and the B489.

The justification for the proposed freight zone is a traffic survey carried out in November 2019 which established the number of HGV vehicles passing through the proposed zone in a week, that were not stopping to collect or deliver within the zone itself.

The study demonstrated that there are currently two main HGV routes through the proposed freight zone, and they are between points A & B and points A & C on the following sketch.



A total of 254 HGVs were recorded passing through the entire proposed freight zone of which 203 (80%) used the northern stretch of the B488 between Ivinghoe and Grove, entering or leaving at point A.

Of those 203 through vehicles, approximately half also used the western stretch of the B489 between Ivinghoe and Buckland, entering or leaving at point B and the remainder used the continuation of the B488 through Ivinghoe to enter or leave at point C.

It is very evident therefore that the principal beneficiary of the proposed freight zone would be the northern stretch of the B488 (a reduction just over 200 vehicles), and to a lesser extent the western stretch of the B489 (a reduction of approximately 100 vehicles).

The assumption being made by the proposers of the freight zone is that all the traffic between points A & C would use the A418 and A41 via Aylesbury, and all that between points A & B would use the A418, A41 and B488 again via Aylesbury. **THAT WILL JUST NOT HAPPEN.**

Traffic will always find the shortest route. The majority (if not all) of the traffic currently using the northern stretch of the B488 will simply divert to the A4146, B440 and the B489 to reach point C and to the A4146, B440, B489, B488 and A41 to reach point B. The distances between the points using the A418 route and the B440 route are shown in the following table:

	A418 Route	B440 Route
Between Points A & B	13.5 miles	12.8 miles
Between Points A & C	19.1 miles	8.4 miles

It is accepted that there is little difference between the two alternative routes between points A & B and that some vehicles may choose the slightly longer A418 route in preference to the B440 one, especially if they are travelling to or from the Milton Keynes direction. However, it is estimated that at least half would use the B440 route and probably more

It therefore follows that the introduction of the freight zone would simply transfer somewhere between 60% and 80% of the HGVs currently passing through the entire zone onto the B440. Whilst this would clearly benefit the B488 which is unsuitable as an HGV route, transferring that traffic onto the equally unsuitable B440 through the villages of Edlesborough, Northall and Billington is not an acceptable solution to the problem. Consideration needs to be given to including the B440 in the proposed freight zone.

Buckinghamshire Council have been notified of Edlesborough Parish Council's concerns regarding the impact of the proposed restriction zone on the B440, but have decided not to modify their original proposal. They will be running a public consultation commencing on 7th May and closing on 3rd June. Residents are therefore encouraged to write in supporting Edlesborough Parish Council's proposal to include the B440 in the proposed freight zone.

To take part in the consultation please visit

<https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/highway-projects/ivinghoe-freight-tro>

Alternatively you can email comments to: tfbschemesdelivery@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

Or you can write to: Ivinghoe Freight Zone Consultation, Design Services, Transport for Bucks, Aylesbury Vale Office, Corrib Industrial Park, Griffin Lane, Aylesbury, HP19 8BP.

Don't forget the closing date for comments is the 3rd June 2021