Forwarded from Cllr Adrain Owens 16/11/25
Subject: Your feedback submission CF2382 - Simonswood Delay in promised speed control measures has received a response

Dear County Councillor Owens
CF2382 - Simonswood Delay in promised speed control measures
Thank you for your further enquiry dated 10 July 2025, on behalf of Mr Cropper, regarding his traffic concerns on Hall Lane.
I am sorry to hear that [redacted] was unhappy with our previous response. I will address his concerns in the order raised, and I hope it will clarify our position.
As the Highway Authority, we set and assess local traffic restrictions, but it is the police who are responsible for enforcing them. Only they have the powers to act against those drivers who contravene the weight restriction on Hall Lane. We note that [redacted] has contacted the police on several occasions without success. Regrettably, we are unable to offer any further assistance. This issue falls outside our remit.
We are aware that there is an environmental weight restriction for the southern section of Hall Lane. However, we have no record of a structural weight limit for the Simonswood Brook bridge. Although the bridge exists outside the county boundary, we would expect to have received a request from Knowsley Council for the installation of additional approach signage to indicate the nearest suitable route for non-compliant vehicles.
In this case, we have received no such request. Therefore, we have contacted Knowsley Council for further information on the referred to limit and its duration. We will then assess whether any additional signage is needed.
We can confirm that we did grant BT Openreach a permit to undertake necessary work on their underground assets beginning 3 June 2025. We will monitor their work and conduct site inspections to ensure that they meet the conditions of their permit. The appropriate traffic management will be in place to ensure site is safe for all highway users.
We deployed temporary signage between April 2025 and June 2025 to remind drivers to be mindful of their speed. We will re-erect this sign between October 2025 and December 2025 to maximise the effect of this message. The type of sign used does not require prior approval before deployment as it is lightweight. However the Speed Indicator Device (SpID) does require approval. As such, we will deploy the SpID in due course subject to an on site evaluation. I am sorry that our previous response was not clear and for any confusion this has caused.
These signs are designed to reduce the average speed that vehicles travel during their deployment period, and their effect can differ from area to area. We have no control over the small number of individuals who choose to ignore the message and continue to travel above the speed limit. It is incidents such as this where the police should be contacted, as the relevant enforcement authority. Highway users should continue to report their concerns by calling the non-emergency number: 101.
It is worth noting that our Road Safety team are currently conducting a study of effectiveness of all temporary road safety signs. We expect to complete this assessment by the end of the year.

We would only introduce permanent traffic calming measures if we identify a specific problem based on reported traffic incidents. We may also install one as part of a new development, but only if this would result in significant changes to pedestrian activity. Our current priority is to target those locations where we can have a demonstrable impact on reducing casualty figures, or to schemes which contribute towards improving the wider highway network.

After reviewing the casualty data for Hall Lane, we cannot support the introduction of speed bumps or chicanes. When considered along side this road's good road safety record in terms of reported injury collisions, we would be remiss to prioritise Hall Lane for new road safety measures ahead of those sites with an evidence road safety issue.

I hope this information is helpful.

Kind Regards

Highways Enquiries Team