

These weight limits prevent large vehicles from using inappropriate roads, routes and areas in order to:

- prevent damage to buildings, roads and bridges;
- preserve the character, amenity and environment of an area;
- reduce and manage congestion on the roads; and
- reduce danger to pedestrians and other road users.

Exemption

Lorries requiring access, and in some cases for local deliveries, are exempt from environmental weight restrictions.

Offence

It is an offence under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The driver of the vehicle and the owner/operator of the vehicle may be liable. The legislation is enforced by the Police and Trading Standards

Penalty

The maximum penalty fine is £1000

How to Comply

All Haulage companies should ensure that their drivers using their vehicles know the plated weight and individual axle weights of the vehicles. A Driver can find out the maximum permitted gross weight of his vehicle listed on 'plates', which must be fitted to all vehicles and certain trailers. These will either be a manufacturer's plate or a VOSA plating certificate and are usually located either in the cabin or under the bonnet of his vehicle or on the chassis of trailers. The weights are given in metric units of kilograms.

All Haulage companies should ensure that their drivers know what weight restriction signs look like and mean.



All Haulage companies should ensure that their drivers plan their routes in advance to avoid weight restrictions.

Please note:

This leaflet is not an authoritative interpretation of the law and is intended only for guidance. For further information, please contact your local trading standards service.