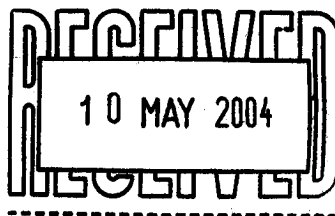


4th May 2004

Your Ref:

Our Ref: T157/GF

Depute Chief Executive and Executive Director of
Corporate Support; Fiona Lees,
Council Headquarters,
London Road,
Kilmarnock KA3 7BU




**STRATHCLYDE
POLICE**

CHIEF CONSTABLE
William Rae QPM

Road Policing Department
West Command
1 King Street
AYR
KA8 0BU

Tel No. 01292 664041

Fax No. 01292 664041

Dear Madam

**CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE
ROUTING OF VEHICLES WITH ABNORMAL/LARGE LOADS.**

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the above which has been passed to me for attention.

As you are aware the recent increase in the production of coal from the open-cast mines situated throughout the East Ayrshire region, has meant a significant increase in the number of Abnormal / Large load movements.

The routing of these loads is the responsibility of the individual contractors, who notify the Police and Local Authority of their intention to move these vehicles.
If the route is suitable then the vehicles can be moved usually under the escort and direction of the Police responsible for that area.

Due to the geographical position of many of the open-cast mines, the routing of these large loads invariably pass through some of the smaller communities.

Needless to say, that whenever possible, the Police endeavour to by-pass built-up-areas although in many cases this is not possible.

You can be assured however, that where a large load is routed through a town or built-up-area, it is only because there is no other suitable route for the movement of the abnormal load. Every care is taken to ensure the passage of the load through a town or village is done with the minimum of disruption and with the widest margins of safety to the local Community.

I trust the foregoing is of assistance, however should you require clarification please feel free to contact my Traffic Management officers at the above telephone number.

Yours faithfully

GORDON FULTON

Road Policing Inspector

Working Together - Building Safer Communities



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