

Leicestershire County Council are aware of the issues being caused by the closure of Frolesworth Road and the impact that the diversion route is having on local residents in the area.

We recognise that the increased use of the roads by HGVs in relation to the development at Ullesthorpe Court is not ideal and we are proactively working with both the developer and Harborough District Council to identify a suitable solution.

On the closure of Frolesworth Road a diversion route was put in place as an acceptable temporary alternative, however we appreciate the nature and frequency of the construction traffic in this instance is having a considerable impact on the surrounding communities. As an alternative route cannot be identified, whilst construction on site continues, Leicestershire County Council cannot prevent the HGV's from using the existing diversion.

Works are due to commence on repairing Frolesworth Road on the 25th of January and every effort will be made to ensure that they are completed as quickly as possible, however it is anticipated that the closure will remain in place for a period of 10 – 12 weeks. All options were considered when planning this work, including undertaking the repairs whilst the road remained partially open, however this was considered unsafe and would not have allowed for the work to be carried out to a standard that would limit further deterioration and therefore increase the risk of subsequent closures for additional temporary repairs.

Leicestershire County Council (LCC) is only able respond to this current situation as the Local Highway Authority (LHA), it does not have the remit to serve any form of enforcement notice to the developer or stop construction works whilst the road is being repaired. Enforcement of this kind would need to be taken by Harborough District Council as the relevant planning authority.

The costs of the work in the first instance will be met by LCC, however under the Highways Act 1980 it is possible to recover the cost and this will be investigated in discussion with the developer. In order to support this action and to monitor the ongoing condition of the roads in the surrounding areas, we will be increasing our highway inspection regime during the period of development.