

# Two Towns Area Update

Newsletter for Blackrod and Horwich

## Your Local Councillors

### Horwich and Blackrod

Cllr John Raymond Barrow	01942 831461
Cllr Ian Hamilton (Vice-chairman)	01204 699703
Cllr Michael Hollick	01204 697933

### Horwich North East

Cllr Stephen Rock (Chairman)	01204 437820
Cllr Barbara Ronson	01204 695742
Cllr Robert Ronson	01204 695742

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**Bolton**  
**Council**

## Highways Partnership Community Safety update...

**Reception class and Year 1 pupils across the whole of the forum area are to receive reflective armbands to help keep them safer in poorer visibility.**

The forum allocated its remaining balance of £1,150 to buy over 700 sets of armbands. These will be distributed during January 2008 at each school by the Forum Chair or Vice Chair, together with the Road Safety Officer who will also deliver a road safety message.

## Building Better Health for Bolton...

The Primary Care Trust would like to hear your views on plans to develop and invest in health service accommodation.

Representatives from the Trust will be available at the January 2008 Area Forum to let you know more about this important consultation exercise.

Proposals include a new treatment facility in Bolton town centre and ten newly-built health centres across Bolton.

## Driver Activated Signs to be installed soon...

During 2007 the forum approved expenditure for the purchase and installation of road signs which help to improve driving behaviour.

Two of these signs will soon be installed at locations where speeding has been identified as a problem.

The signs will appear at Chorley New Road near St Josephs School in Horwich, and on Manchester Road near the MOT garage in Blackrod, and will remain at these locations for around eight weeks. They will then move to other locations within the forum area.

## Your Questions Answered...

**Can something be done about the increase in 7½ tonne vehicles travelling along Crown Lane, Horwich, when they shouldn't be, because of the weight restriction that is imposed?**

Response received from Highways Management: The weight restriction is not a total prohibition on all goods vehicles.

The Order allows goods vehicles to use the road for access to premises on or adjacent to the road. It is likely that the vast majority of goods vehicle traffic on Crown Lane is legitimate access traffic rather than through traffic. It is very difficult for the police to enforce the restriction as it would be necessary for them to prove that:

1. a vehicle was over 7.5 tonnes
2. the driver did not seek access to premises.

Consequently it would be necessary for the police to observe a vehicle being driven along the full length of the route from the start of the restriction to the end of the restriction in order to prove an offence had been committed.

The police are only able to carry out ad hoc enforcement of weight restrictions and have indicated that no specific enforcement action can be directed towards such locations.

Bolton Council as the highway authority does not have any enforcement powers, and any offences can only be dealt with by the police.