

Traffic Safety concerns regarding the C49/C219 Bratton Road/Trowbridge Road crossroads (also known as 'Crossroads Farm Junction')

24th November 2025

To: Mr Gareth Rogers, Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineering Manager.

gareth.rogers@wiltshire.gov.uk

Cc: Mr Mike Phillips, Wiltshire Councillor for Ethandune.

mike.phillips@wiltshire.gov.uk

Ms Kate Davey, Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineering Team, Principal Engineer.

kate.davey@wiltshire.gov.uk

From: Mr Stephen Forward, Vice-Chair, Edington Parish Council.



Issue

There have been concerns for many years about the frequency of accidents at the C49/C219 Bratton Road (Woodbridge Road)/Trowbridge Road (Court Lane) crossroads (also known as 'Crossroads Farm Junction'). The frequency of accidents appears to have increased over the last few of years, with most accidents apparently caused by drivers failing to give way at the crossroads when approaching from the Bratton or Steeple Ashton directions. The priority C49 road runs from Edington to West Ashton; those approaching the junction on the C219 Trowbridge Road from Bratton or Steeple Ashton are required to give way to traffic on the C49 Bratton Road.

Wiltshire Police say that, to date, they have attended 3 RTCs at the junction in 2025 alone; all of these have been 'failure to give way' incidents.

Recommendation

Wiltshire Council is asked to change the road priorities on the C219 Trowbridge Road (Court Lane) approaches to the C49/C219 crossroads to STOP as opposed to the current GIVE WAY. Although the junction may not meet all the specific criteria for STOP classification, there is a demonstrable and deteriorating traffic safety hazard at the junction due to poor or erroneous driver behaviour. Edington Parish Council are of the opinion that this junction should be considered for exceptional treatment; we consider that the minimal costs in changing the junction priorities on the C219 approaches to STOP will help prevent future accidents by positively requiring drivers to come to a halt rather than simply slowing down (or not) to give way (or not).

Background

Westbury Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG)

The Minutes of recent Westbury LHFIG meetings record concerns about traffic safety at this junction. The latest ones from 6th November 2025 include the following discussion content:

LHFIG Item 18-24-30 - Edington, Crossroads Farm Junction

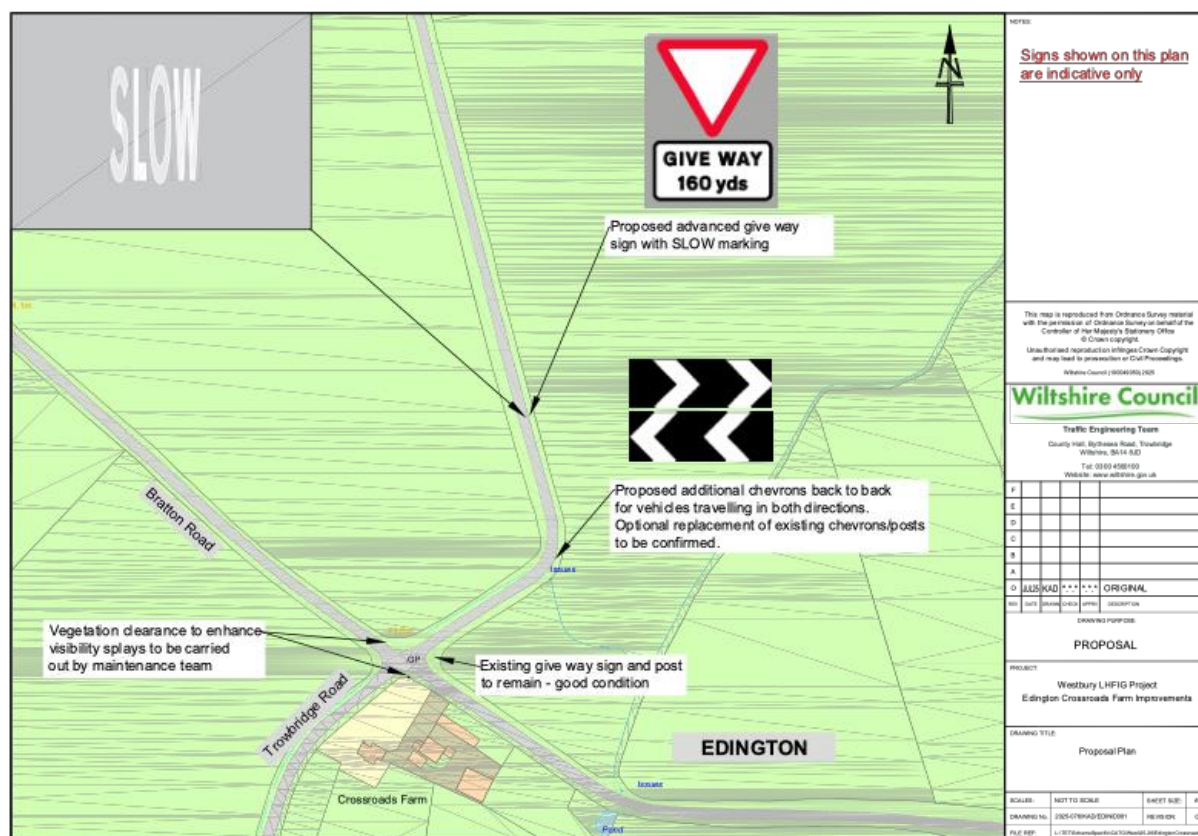
10/4/25 LHFIG Meeting. There have been 4 accidents at this junction in the last couple of years and so it is the view of the LHFIG that the priorities of the junction need to be reviewed. Currently the roads from Bratton to Steeple Ashton are GIVE WAY only and the LHFIG feels they should be at least a STOP. Edington Parish Council submitted a Highways Improvement Request Form on 28/2/2025 asking that the junction priorities be changed to STOP as opposed to GIVE WAY. The Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineering Team Principal Engineer (Kate Davey) agreed to assess the site against criteria for stop signs and investigate collision history.

24/07/25 LHFIG Meeting. The site was assessed on 17/6/25 by the Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineering Team Principal Engineer and comments / improvement proposals (see below) were sent to Edington Parish Council and the associated Wiltshire Councillor (Mike Phillips) for review. There was a further LHFIG group discussion on concerns about this location. The Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineering Team Principal Engineer agreed to carry out further investigation on collision history at the junction, commission a traffic survey, and meet with their Wiltshire Police contacts to discuss options for improvements.

06/11/25 LHFIG Meeting. Further investigations and the traffic survey were completed and recommendations sent to Edington Parish Council. Based on 85th percentile approach speeds and visibility criteria set out in the Department for Transport 2019 Traffic Signs Manual (TSM) Chapter 3 (Regulatory Signs), the Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineering Team Principal Engineer stated that the site does not meet the criteria for STOP signs. The LHFIG were of the opinion that, although the junction may not meet all the specific criteria for STOP signs, there was a demonstrable hazard at the junction, and TSM Ch 3 Section 2, Para 2.2.2, also allowed that other factors such as the accident record at junctions should be taken into account when considering the siting of STOP signs. Edington Parish Council stated that, in their opinion, this junction should be considered for exceptional treatment and that they wished to escalate the issue.

Wiltshire Traffic Engineering Team Junction Improvement Proposals

Following the 10/4/2025 LHFIG meeting, Wiltshire Traffic Engineering Team prepared a proposal to conduct junction improvements that comprised vegetation clearance, an advanced GIVE WAY sign with SLOW marking on the C219 approach from Steeple Ashton, and additional chevrons at the corner before the junction on the approach from Steeple Ashton (see diagram). On reviewing these proposals at the 24/7/2025 LHFIG meeting, the LHFIG did not consider that they would be sufficient to adequately influence the behaviours of drivers approaching the junction, particularly for those approaching from Bratton.



Wiltshire Traffic Engineering Team proposed C49/C219 junction improvements

Traffic Survey Outcomes

A traffic survey was conducted at the junction in September 2025. The survey was only conducted on the priority route (C49 Bratton Road) approaches (Project Number: ID-0625-0141 sites 41 and 42) and not the C219 'give way' Trowbridge Road approaches. The C49 Bratton Road has a posted speed limit of 60mph, with junction warning markings advising drivers to SLOW as they approach the junction. The survey results showed that drivers are generally behaving sensibly when approaching the junction on the C49 Bratton Road by slowing to approximately 39mph average speed when approaching from West Ashton (the 85th percentile of 15,299 vehicles being

approximately 46mph), and approximately 33mph when approaching from Edington (the 85th percentile of 9,710 vehicles being approximately 38mph). Many local drivers using the C49 perceive that this junction is dangerous, and they report that they are slowing down significantly so that they can protect themselves for other drivers who may not give way as required on the C219 approaches.

Unfortunately, the traffic survey gave no indication of driver behaviours when approaching the junction from either direction on the C219 Trowbridge Road because it did not include these roads.

Junction Accident Data

Redacted accident data between 1/7/2015 and 30/6/2025 was provided to the LHFIG by Wiltshire County Council. This data shows that there were 5 accidents with personal injury recorded: 81183/15, 74872/23, 94983/23, 46656/25 and 80293/25. All these accidents cited failure to give way/junction overshoot as likely causes. Additional research using crashmap.co.uk¹, local news, Facebook entries and Wiltshire Police information indicate at least 8 documented incidents in the last 10 years, and at least 3 documented incidents in 2025. Anecdotal reports indicate that there have been many more near-miss incidents than this that were not officially reported. The following table shows the data obtained from research but is not considered exhaustive. Wiltshire Police say that, to date, they have attended 3 RTCs at the junction in 2025.

Date	Source	Comments
24/9/2000	Crashmap.co.uk	
21/12/2001	Crashmap.co.uk	
3/10/2005	Crashmap.co.uk	
6/7/2009	Crashmap.co.uk	
24/8/2012	Crashmap.co.uk	
30/8/2013	Crashmap.co.uk	
20/10/2013	Crashmap.co.uk	
21/11/2014	Crashmap.co.uk	
7/9/2015	Wiltshire Council/ Wiltshire Police	Vehicle approaching from side road from Steeple Ashton failed to give way. Wiltshire Police records show serious injury.
17/7/2023	Wiltshire Council/ Wiltshire Police	Vehicle approaching from side road failed to give way. Wiltshire Police records show minor injury
8/9/2023	Wiltshire Council/ Wiltshire Police	Vehicle approaching from side road failed to give way. Wiltshire Police records show minor injury
19/11/2023	Local newspaper/ facebook/ Wiltshire999S/ Wiltshire Police	Wiltshire Police records show vehicle approaching junction from Bratton failed to give way, non-injury
16/4/2024	Wiltshire Council	Vehicle approaching from side road failed to give way.
26/2/2025	Facebook/ Wiltshire Police	Vehicle approaching from side road from Steeple Ashton failed to give way to school minibus taxi. Wiltshire Police records show minor injury.
12/6/2025	Wiltshire Police	Vehicle approaching from side road failed to give way. Wiltshire Police records show non-injury.
30/6/2025	Wiltshire Council/ Wiltshire Police	Vehicle approaching from side road failed to give way to refrigerated box van (corroborated by van dashcam footage). Wiltshire Police records show minor injury.

C49/C219 junction known accident data

¹ crashmap.co.uk data is compiled from personal injuries reports to the police via the STATS19 system.