

Technical Note

Project:	Cotswold District Council Local Plan	To:	Cotswold District Council
Subject:	Highways Capacity Assessment - Comparison of Traffic Count Data	From:	Atkins
Date:	20 Jun 2017		

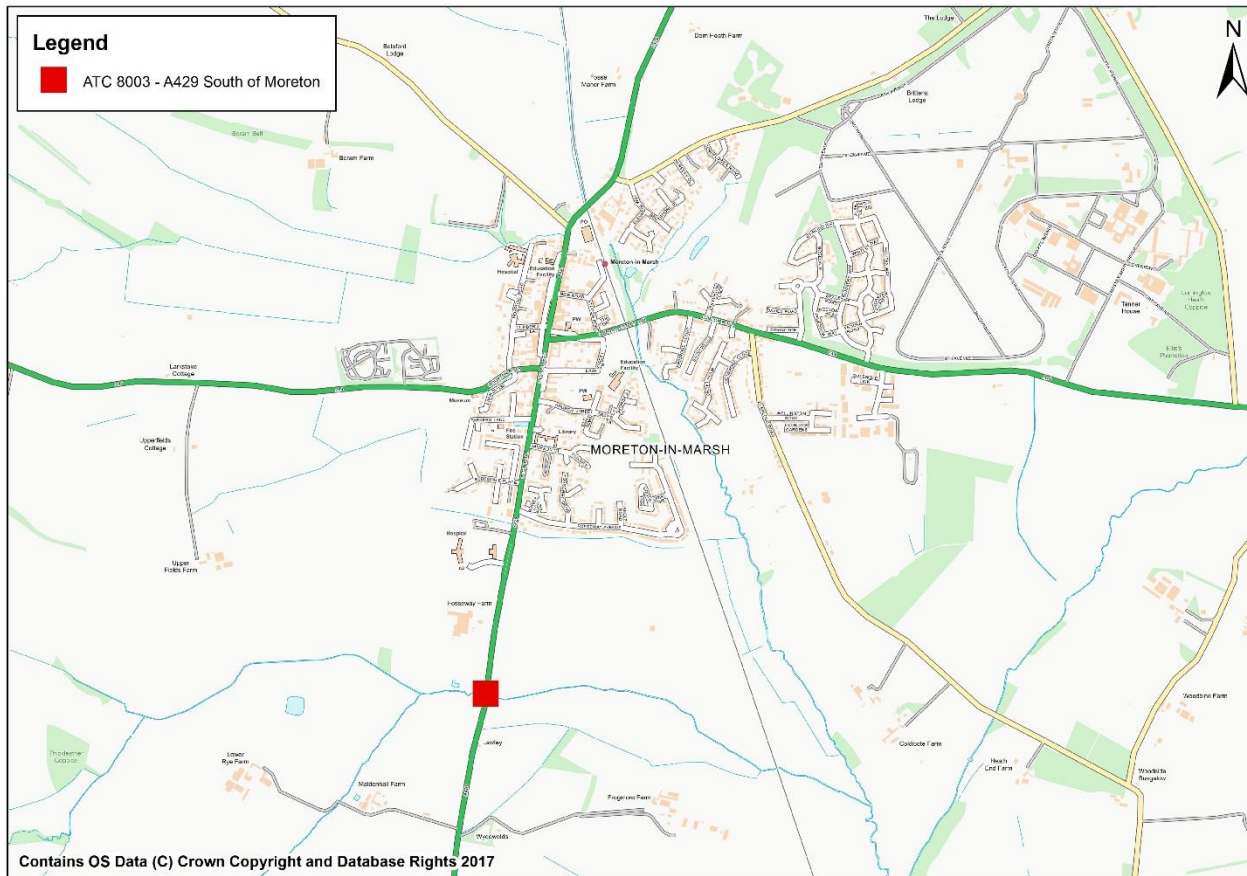
1.1. Introduction

Atkins were commissioned to prepare a Highway Capacity Assessment to inform Cotswold Local Plan. This study was informed, in part, by traffic counts conducted on Tuesday 25th November 2014. Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) has asked Atkins to check if these traffic flows are representative of traffic volumes across the year, including those in the summer months. The scope and methodology of this assessment was developed and agreed with GCC. This Technical Note provides a summary of this analysis, based on Automatic Traffic Count (ATC) data provided by GCC for 2016, January to December inclusive.

1.2. Comparison to 2016 ATC Data

ATC data from a site to the south of Moreton-in-Marsh, on the A428, was selected to conduct this analysis, as shown in **Figure 1**. It is considered that this site is representative of seasonal traffic trends across the Cotswold District and is central to the Cotswold Local Plan study area.

Figure 1 – ATC Site Location



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The ATC data for this site has been analysed to understand how traffic flows during the AM and PM peak hours on a Tuesday, vary throughout the year. A graph, shown overleaf in **Figure 2**, has been produced to show how the average peak hour two-way flow on a Tuesday varies throughout 2016. As shown in **Figure 2**, there were no traffic flows recorded in 2016 in weeks 15 to 17. These have been excluded from further analysis.

Table 1. Comparison of Traffic Flows

	Average Peak Hour Two Way Flow (Annual Tuesday)	Average Peak Hour Two Way Flow (Tuesday 22 Nov)	Percentage Difference
2016	909	899	-1.2%

Table 1 provides a comparison between traffic flows across 2016, with the average hourly peak flow for the Tuesday in the week including the 25th November. It shows that on average, during the week in which the counts were conducted, traffic flows were 1.2% below the annual average two-way peak hour traffic flows. It is considered that this variation is not significant and therefore that the use of traffic flows collected during this week in November and growthed to an appropriate future year are representative.

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Figure 2 – Average Peak Hour Two Way Flow (Tuesday) for 2016

