



## Highways Permit Scheme

Accountable officer: Ian Ackerman  
Email address: charlotte.parfitt@hants.gov.uk  
Department: Economy, Transport and Environment  
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### Description of current service/policy

The New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 provides utility companies with legal rights to place and maintain their apparatus in the public highway. The County Council, as the Highway Authority, has legal duties to coordinate works on the highway to minimise traffic congestion, protect the highway structure and protect the right for people to use the highway. It discharges this duty using a system of works notices whereby organisations provide advance information of their intention to work, providing an opportunity for the County Council to impose conditions (e.g. time constraints) and to coordinate works with other planned activity in order to minimise disruption for road users.

Geographical impact: All  
Hampshire

### Description of proposed change

The County Council proposes a Permit Scheme to replace the existing Noticing System. Under a Permit Scheme, utility companies and other works promoters must obtain permission (a permit) prior to undertaking planned works. The County Council can set conditions on granting permits. Such conditions relate to the timing of the works and other general requirements relating to site safety and minimising congestion. A charge is made for processing a permit application reflecting the additional time needed to consider an application. Minor and emergency work on minor roads will not be charged for. All the neighbouring Authorities are operating permit schemes except for Portsmouth City Council.

### Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

### Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? Planned

Local Authorities developing Permit Schemes are required to consult. The consultation requirements are set out in Regulation 3 of the Traffic Management Permit Scheme (England)

Regulations 2007. The consultation will be undertaken on a draft version of the scheme and will include reasoning and cost/benefits of the scheme. The permit charges will also form part of the consultation. It is proposed to consult key stakeholders as required under the Regulations, and to amend the proposed scheme as appropriate to reflect the views of consultees and to ensure that the scheme provides appropriate value to the County Council and to works promoters in general.

<b>Statutory considerations</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
<b>Age:</b> Neutral		
<b>Disability:</b> Neutral		
<b>Sexual orientation:</b> Neutral		
<b>Race:</b> Neutral		
<b>Religion and belief:</b> Neutral		
<b>Gender reassignment:</b> Neutral		
<b>Gender:</b> Neutral		
<b>Marriage and civil partnership:</b> Neutral		
<b>Pregnancy and maternity:</b> Neutral		
<b>Other policy considerations</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
<b>Poverty:</b> Neutral		

<b>Rurality:</b> Neutral		
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## **Any other information**