

Traffic Sensitive Streets Review 2017

Report of the Acting Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

Please note that the following recommendation is subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Committee notes that Devon County Council propose to undertake a full review of the traffic sensitive streets network across the county. Proposed completion: 1 April 2018.

1. Background/Introduction

Devon County Council has a legal duty under the Traffic Management Act 2004/Section 59 New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 to Co-ordinate works activities on the road network.

As part of this duty, a power is afforded to Devon County Council to enable the designation of certain streets as 'Traffic Sensitive'.

When a street is designated 'Traffic Sensitive', timings of works can be better regulated to ensure free flow of traffic so far as reasonably practicable. i.e. no works on Topsham Road, Exeter during peak morning and afternoon traffic flows.

The project works in line with Devon County Council's strategic objective in the Better Together vision, getting from A to B.

The last recorded full review was undertaken in 1994. Designations in some cases are currently no longer fit for purpose and effectiveness is reduced.

Main aims/Objective of project:

- ✓ To ensure all possible effects of works are raised at an early stage in the planning process and considered, managed and communicated affectively.
- ✓ To co-ordinate works and reduce impact on road users.
- ✓ Ensure safe and easy passage for road users on Devon's network.
- ✓ To meet statutory duties imposed under the network management duty.
- ✓ To help manage the balance of works in line with other events on the public highway. i.e. local and special events.
- ✓ To ensure the effects of all works on the road network are minimised for the local economy.
- ✓ To improve open communication and better planning between works promoters and Devon County Council. N.B. This project is not aimed at prohibiting or limiting options for works to be undertaken.

2. Proposal

Proposed timescales for project:

Devon Highways											
Traffic Sensitive Streets review - 2017											
	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18
Aims and Objectives to be agreed											
Seek advise from Data Team											
early light touch comms											
Website Development											
Area focused workshops - Quantification of traffic data											
HATOC Meeting Attendance											
Confirmation of Designations											
Develop Consultation Mapping											
Develop Consultation Page											
Formal Consultation											
Close of Consultation											
NSG Updates required											
Project Debrief											

How will the review be undertaken?

Statutory Regulations outline when a street can be designated traffic sensitive. The following steps must be completed before a designation can be updated:

- Each street is cross referenced against the statutory triggers.
- Proposals for revised designations are outlined.
- Communications are undertaken with affected stakeholders.
- A 1 month statutory consultation is undertaken.
- Updating of Devon's mapping data is completed.

What are the Impacts?

It is envisaged that some designations will be increased due to traffic flow levels. Some may be removed. The proposal aims to consider strategic visions for network growth wherever possible.

Works promoters may find adjusted restrictions on working practices/timescales (N.B. this includes Devon County Council's contractors). However, the overall objective is to trigger early communication and better planning. It is not to prevent works taking place.

3. Options/Alternatives

The process is determined by statute, therefore there is no alternative.

4. Consultations/Representations/Technical Data

Statutory consultation proposed for March/April 2018.

5. Financial Considerations

The costs involved are resource costs for in-situ Highway Officers only as outlined by the project plan.

6. Environmental Impact Considerations

No areas have been identified.

7. Equality Considerations

No areas have been identified. Project is operating to standard designation tolerances and will be implemented consistently across the county.

8. Legal Considerations

The lawful implications/consequences of the proposals have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report.

9. Risk Management Considerations

No risks have been identified.

10. Public Health Impact

No areas have been identified.

11. Reasons for Recommendations

This report has been compiled at the initial stages of the project to enable a clear and open communication process between Devon County Council and its members.

This is a report for information only.

Meg Booth
Acting Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

Electoral Divisions: All

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper	Date	File Ref.
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