

19 May 2016**Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS****CONSULTATION – ROAD WORKS: REDUCING DISRUPTION ON LOCAL ‘A’
ROADS****Purpose of the Report**

To approve the response to the Department for Transport consultation; Road Works: Reducing disruption on local ‘A’ roads.

Information and Advice

1. The Department for Transport is undertaking an open consultation seeking views on proposals to improve journeys by reducing disruption with a focus on local ‘A’ roads.
2. Particular attention is given to;
 - seeking to ensure that works are not left unattended at weekends but that work sites should either be cleared to return the road to traffic use or the works should be actively continued through this period, and
 - ensuring the prompt removal of temporary traffic signals once work is complete.
3. A copy of the consultation is included at Annex 1.
4. The content of the consultation is not new; the issues are well known in the industry and it would be wrong to assume that all road works sites are managed in the manner described in the consultation. The circumstances described do on occasion occur and it is important to consider the reasons for this in order to minimise disruption in a proportionate manner. These issues have been considered at length by professional groups including ADEPT and the Highway Authorities and Utilities Committee (HAUC) working groups in their work to assist the Department for Transport (DfT) in the development of street works and road works legislation and codes of practice.

Response to Consultation

5. The response to the consultation is included at Annex 2 which comments on the content of the body of the consultation document and at Annex 3 which provides

responses to specific issues. Annex 3 also includes data requested in the consultation to assist in a quantitative appraisal.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. Information and views expressed will assist DfT and ensure that local experience is taken into account.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

The consultation seeks to reduce disruption experienced by road users.

Financial Implications

There is no direct financial implication arising from this report. The information provided will inform the development of legislation and working practice in relation to road works, from which there may be financial implications which have been highlighted in the response.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the response to the consultation as set out in Annex 2 and 3 to this report be approved.

Neil Hodgson
Service Director (Highways)

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
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Constitutional Comments (SLB 06/05/16)

8. The Transport and Highways Committee is the appropriate body to consider the contents of this report.

Financial Comments (SES 10/05/16)

9. There are no specific implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All