

Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director – Place

Report to:	Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee
Date:	20 January 2020
Subject:	Permit Scheme Annual Report 2018/19

Summary:

The report is a statutory requirement as stipulated by the Department for Transport for each of the first three years of a permit scheme.

This report sets out an overview of Lincolnshire County Council's operational performance in its third year and provides detailed scrutiny of the available data in relation to street works, road works and activities in Lincolnshire.

Following the third year anniversary of the scheme, the permit scheme annual year will be moved to mirror the financial year. The next statutory report is due April 2023.

Actions Required:

Members of the Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee are invited to:

- 1) consider and comment on the performance on the third year of operation of the Permit Scheme;
- 2) support that the report is published via the Lincolnshire County Council website;
- 3) Highlight any future recommendations or actions for consideration by the Executive Member for Highways, Transport and IT.

1. Background

Lincolnshire County Council adopted a Permit Scheme in October 2016. For the first three years of operation a report must be produced in accordance with legislative requirements.

Over the last three years, the permit scheme has seen the following;

- An increase of nearly 11,000 permit scheme applications since the start of the scheme – Table 1 (PI1) (LiPS report page 6)
- The average duration of works decreasing by 34% (2 days) since the permit scheme began – Table TPI4 (LiPS report page 15)

- Continual reduction in the number of overrunning works, equalling 2151 days of unauthorised works since permitting was introduced – TPI5 (LiPS report page 16)
- The average permit issue to remedial works comparison shows an annual decrease and a reduction of over a third overall – Table 13 LPI3 (LiPS report page 22)
- A decline in the number of Fixed Penalty Notices of 40% during the first three years of permitting – Table 15 LPI4 (LiPS report page 23)

2. Conclusion

In Year 1, the introduction of a permit scheme enabled powers not previously available under legislation, to be used to improve the management of all activities on the road network through increased co-ordination and timing of works with all works promoters, including works for road purposes.

Year 2 built upon this by coordinating nearly 6,000 additional works to help maintain a robust network and by being proactive in its measures to correct non-compliance.

Year 3 has continued to develop the permitting scheme further by managing an additional 5,000 applications whilst continuing to reduce the total average duration of works.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out??

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

The Lincolnshire County Council Permit Scheme had a risk and impact analysis prior to its introduction in 2016.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Lincolnshire County Council Permit Scheme - Scheme Evaluation Report Third Year October 2018 - September 2019

5. Background Papers

This report was written by Mandi Robinson, who can be contacted on 01522 553053 or mandi.robinson@lincolnshire.gov.uk.