



**Open Report on behalf of Karen Cassar, Assistant Director Highways - Place**

Report to:	<b>Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>22 May 2023</b>
Subject:	<b>Street Works - Collaboration Charter</b>

**Summary:**

At the Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 a presentation was made by Anglian Water regarding performance and planning of works in the highway. It was resolved at that meeting that:

*“That an update on developments concerning the Street Works Charter be circulate at the next meeting.”*

This report contains background information relating to the proposed Street Works Collaboration Charter.

The charter is focused on improving the management and communication of road works within the public highway for the benefit of road users in Lincolnshire. The charter acts as commitment to drive positive change, ensuring work is completed safely whilst keeping disruption to a minimum.

The charter sets out aspirations and objectives which all signed parties will agree to collaborate with each other to achieve. This includes the County Council, as Highway Authority, and utility companies.

**Actions Required:**

The Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee is invited to:

- (1) Review the content of this report and the charter (Appendix A) and makes enquiries and recommendations as required.
- (2) Endorse the charter and propose that it be taken forward for discussion with utility companies and seek for commitment to sign up.

## 1. Background

The 2023 Street Works Collaboration Charter sets out aspirations and objectives which organisations working on the highway within Lincolnshire commit to working together to achieve.

Lincolnshire County Council received over 70,000 permit applications for works in the highway in the 2022/23 financial year. With an ever increasing and broad range in nature of works required, it is inevitable some disruption will be caused. The objectives of the charter look beyond the confines set in statutory legislation within the street works sector, aiming to keep residents and road users at the forefront of essential works which need to take place.

The industry is already heavily regulated, and the County Council can issue fines via Fixed Penalty Notices, Section 74 prolonged occupations and defects where the required timescales or standards are not met. The charter is not intended to replace statutory legislation, or make it more stringent, however, is a commitment from all parties to work together on ten key aspects which impact residents and road users.

## 2. Conclusion

Lincolnshire County Council aspires to work in collaboration with all stakeholders who require access to the highway to carry out essential works. The objectives within the Charter will encourage greater communication and an open, transparent, and flexible way of coordinating works. The Charter brings closer the aim to further reduce disruption on the highway for the benefit of all road users.

## 3. Consultation

N/A

### a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Failure to encourage a commitment to further collaboration and cooperation could cause a delay to improving traffic flows, as required by the Lincolnshire Permit Scheme for road and utility works.

## 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Street Works 2023 Collaboration Charter

## 5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Mick Phoenix, Traffic Manager – Place, who can be contacted on 077 872 84797 or at [mick.phoenix@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:mick.phoenix@lincolnshire.gov.uk).