



Cumbria County Council  
**Highways Permit  
Scheme**

Update March 2020

# Why move to a Permit scheme?

- To ensure that the authority complies with its “Network Management Duty”
- Part 3 of the Traffic Management Act (TMA) 2004 introduced permit schemes as a new way for activities on the public highway to be managed.
- To Improve the authorities’ ability to minimise disruption from road and street works activities.
- There is a Statutory duty under S.59 of the New Road and Street Works Act 1991, for street authorities to co-ordinate works.
- To maintain an accurate and up to date street works register.

# What are the objectives?

- ✓ Effective Coordination across all of Cumbria.
- ✓ To keep accurate & up to date street works register
- ✓ To keep free flowing traffic.
- ✓ To Improve safety for highway users
- ✓ To protect our highway network assets
- ✓ To Improve air quality/reduce noise
- ✓ To reduce customer complaints
- ✓ To improve the public perception of highways activities.

# What has been completed?

- A review of the Cumbria County National Street Gazetteer.
- The 'Cost Benefit Assessment' for the scheme.
- The 'Fees Matrix' report .
- Production of a full business case for the scheme. (for DFT)
- Modelling benefits of implementing a permit scheme.
- Production of Permit scheme documentation.
- Consultation with Utilities & Stakeholders.
- Determined the level of resources required to operate the scheme.
- Procurement of specialist permit software allowing online applications
- CCC website updated

# What is Happening Now

- Permit scheme introduced to Utility companies February 3<sup>rd</sup> – no charges made for permits for the first month
- Permit charges introduced to Utility companies March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Reshaping of the Streetworks team to provide County wide consistency and improved line management – Consultation Period February 25<sup>th</sup> – April 9<sup>th</sup>
- Consideration of timeline of internal permitting for works
- Procurement of additional software to display all works / road closures on the website – allows better co-ordination of works and enables public to plan journeys

# Next Steps

- Introduce internal permits
- Complete the reshaping of the team and recruit additional roles
- Continual liaison with Utility companies
- Review of Permit scheme and permit charges