

There are a variety of reasons why a road may need to be closed. This may include safety measures during roadworks, building repairs to a property or holding a community event. Whatever the reason, the road closure requires a legal order or notice and the procedures and requirements for closing a road must be strictly adhered to.

Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO)

The processing period for any Temporary Traffic Regulation Order is 12 weeks which commences once a completed application and all other relevant documentation/information (traffic management plans etc) have been received. It may be possible to reduce this timeframe. However, this is at our discretion and subject to resource and attracts additional/higher fees.

As the Highway Authority, we can issue a TTRO using the following legislation:

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14

We can make an order to temporarily restrict (including temporary speed limits/waiting and loading restrictions) or prohibit traffic because:

- works are being carried out on or near a road
- there is a likelihood of danger to the public or damage to the road
- for litter clearing and cleaning purposes

A notice must be issued in the press, interested parties notified and temporary signage put in place. We expect all consultation with residents, businesses and community groups affected to be carried out by the person or organisation applying to close the road at the planning stage.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.16A (as amended)

We can temporarily restrict or prohibit use of a road to vehicles and/or pedestrians for an event if it is not practical to hold it elsewhere for the purposes of:

- a) facilitating the holding of a relevant event,
- b) enabling members of the public to watch a relevant event, or
- c) reducing the disruption to traffic likely to be caused by a relevant event,

We need to be satisfied that the event cannot reasonably be held elsewhere. It is advised that notice be published in the local press.

Examples of the type of events that could be covered by this Act are:

- sporting events
- social event or entertainment

Town Police Clauses Act 1847

Road closures for special events such as parades, street parties or carnivals are put in place using a piece of legislation called the Town Police Clauses Act 1847.

Examples of the type of events that could be covered by this are:

- parades, processions, carnivals
- Christmas light illuminations
- celebrations of marked events i.e. Bonfire Night, Royal Jubilee, Christmas etc.
- street parties ([Guidance](#))

If you are planning an event on or off a public road, you can find further information at:

- www.n-somerset.gov.uk/eventplanning for advice on planning an event
- www.n-somerset.gov.uk/tens for information about temporary event notices, required for events involving the sale of alcohol, regulated entertainment or providing late night refreshment.
- www.n-somerset.gov.uk/closingaroad to see our 'event organisers' guide to closing a road'

Temporary Traffic Regulation Notices (TTRN)

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 S.14

In addition to Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders, we may issue a Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice, imposing a short-term closure or restriction. In these cases it must be necessary or expedient for a notice to be issued.

There are two types:

21 day notice (required for public safety or risk serious damage to the highway)

The duration of the works can be no more than 21 days and they must be required due to public safety or risk of serious damage to the highway - for example a leaking gas main. If the duration of the works exceeds 21 days the notice can be extended by applying for a temporary order or if the risks to the public or the highway continue a further 21 day notice can be issued. If an order is required we recommend that the application is submitted within the first notice period.

Five day notice (necessary or expedient)

This notice is limited to five days in duration and we may issue it for road works or street cleaning if it necessary or expedient. This type of notice cannot be extended. If the five day duration is not sufficient, or we consider it necessary, a full traffic order should be applied for. Two weeks' notice is recommended for submission to streetworks@n-somerset.gov.uk with the diversion route, temporary signage requirements and advance warning to affected properties.

Charges for traffic regulation orders and temporary traffic regulation notices are subject to review and can be found at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/fees.