

Summary of the changes to Traffic Regulation Order legislation as a result of the coronavirus pandemic

On 23 May 2020 the Government introduced emergency legislation relating to the procedure for implementing Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) during the Coronavirus pandemic.

This emergency legislation is titled *The Traffic Orders Procedure (Coronavirus) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2020* and introduces amendments to the principal legislation that governs the procedure for the implementation of TROs namely *The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996*.

The 2020 emergency legislation is currently valid until 30 April 2021 and is designed to address the difficulties faced by authorities in meeting obligations required by the 1996 legislation particularly in relation to the requirement to publish notices of proposed TROs in a newspaper and make relevant documents available for public inspection at council offices.

In summary the 2020 emergency legislation enables the following:

- (1) Where authorities are required to publish a notice of a proposed TRO in a newspaper and they consider it would not be reasonably practicable to do so for reasons associated with the effects of coronavirus then a notice must be published using alternative arrangements. Such alternative arrangements may include, websites, online newspapers, email communication, social media, leaflet distribution or letter delivery.

It is Herefordshire Council's intention to continue to publish notices in a newspaper, to continue to erect notices on street furniture in the vicinity of where the proposed TRO is to take effect and to continue to publish details on Herefordshire Council's website.

- (2) Where authorities are required to deposit documents relating to a proposed TRO at their principal office and make them available for public inspection and they consider it would not be reasonably practicable to do so for reasons associated with the effects of coronavirus then the authority must make alternative arrangements.

It is Herefordshire Council's intention to make alternative arrangements to avoid members of the public calling into council offices. These alternative arrangements will consist of providing a telephone number and email address via the methods of giving notice as outlined in (1) above, where members of the public may make contact to request copies, by post or email, of documents relating to the proposed TRO. These documents will provide the same information that would normally be available for public inspection at council offices.

- (3) The contact details are telephone 01454 332100, by email to will@adltraffic.co.uk or by post to Traffic Management Team, ADL Traffic and Highways Engineering

Ltd, ADL House, Oaklands Business Park, Armstrong Way, Yate, Bristol BS37
5NA.

These measures will take effect immediately and will be reviewed at appropriate intervals as dictated by legislation and local and national government guidelines applicable during the coronavirus pandemic.