

Peak District Local Access Forum

Date: 15 June 2017

Item: 8

Title: TRO Consultation

Author: Sue Smith

Purpose of the Report

The Local Access Forum (LAF) has been consulted on the Authority making some form of traffic regulation order (TRO) to restrict the use of the route at Wetton by recreational mechanically propelled vehicles.

This report provides background to the process for traffic regulation orders (TROs) and asks the Local Access Forum to consider any response they may wish to make for the Wetton consultation.

Background

The Authority's Strategy for the Management of Recreational Motorised Vehicles on Unsealed Highways and Off-road and the revised Procedure for Making Traffic Regulation Orders were adopted in February 2012.

The Strategy emphasises the need to protect the special qualities of the National Park and identifies ways in which this may be achieved. Traffic regulation orders are one of the options available. The Procedure sets out the issues that will be taken into account when considering this course of action.

Plans identifying actions for 2017/18 covering the management of green lanes, controlling illegal use and communications were approved in May 2017. The actions identified included consultations on possible vehicle regulation at Wetton.

Process

A consultation for Wetton under Regulation 4 of the National Park Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure)(England) Regulations 2007 has been sent out to the persons identified in Schedule 1 of the Regulations and to other known interest groups identified by the Authority for these routes. A 28 day consultation period has been provided.

The consultation sets out the reasons for considering a TRO and the options available. It asks whether use should be or should not be restricted and either the nature, extent and duration of any restriction or any alternative means of management. The letter is provided in Appendix 1 and the plan of the route in Appendix 2.

The Audit Resources and Performance Committee (ARP) meeting at which the consultation responses are due to be reported is scheduled to take place on 15 September 2017. The report will consider evidence and grounds for making a TRO and alternative management options. Members will also consider the form that any such TRO could take.

If, following this meeting, there is a formal decision to pursue a TRO option, work will begin on preparing a statement and drafting the order in accord with that agreed. Notices are then published and served on consultees and landowners and a six week public consultation period is provided. The responses are reported to the ARP Committee

to consider whether to proceed to make a TRO on the basis proposed, to make amendments to the proposed order, to seek an alternative management option, to defer the decision or to hold a public inquiry. If there is a formal decision to proceed to make an order, the order will be prepared and published and notice will be formally served.

Information

A list of consultees is available on the website. This includes those organisations that are prescribed by regulations and those that are routinely consulted. There may be other organisations which will be consulted on specific routes because of their particular interest. Contact details have been provided where possible to allow for interested individuals to contact their representative organisations with any views they may have.

Route information can be found at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/priorityroutes. Details of the strategy, procedure, action plans, and consultations can be found at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/vehicles.

Recommendation

- 1. That the report is noted.**
- 2. That the LAF considers whether they wish to make a response to the Wetton consultation.**

Appendix 1

Peak District National Park Authority

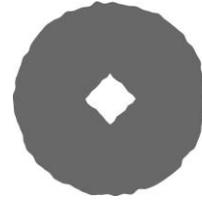
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**PEAK
DISTRICT
NATIONAL
PARK**

Your ref:

Our ref: **A76228/SAS**

Date: **12 June 2017**

Dear Sir/Madam

Wetton - Consultation under Regulation 4 of the National Park Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England) Regulations 2007

The National Park Authority is seeking views on the possibility of the Authority making some form of traffic regulation order to restrict use of the above route by recreational mechanically propelled vehicles. I enclose a plan of the route.

The Authority has concerns about the impacts that recreational motorised vehicles may have on the special qualities of the National Park designated because of its natural beauty and the opportunities afforded for open-air recreation by the public as a whole. In relation to this particular route, there are issues relating to the nature and condition of the route and its environmental sensitivity.

A traffic regulation order on this route which either restricts all mechanically propelled vehicles at all or specified times or which imposes limits on width could assist in addressing these issues. The options available to the Authority could include the making of a permanent or partial traffic regulation order, to adopt some other means of management, to hold in abeyance or to do nothing. The consultation responses received will help guide this decision.

Background information which includes the route issues and objectives for this route can be found at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/priorityroutes. Details of the Authority's role in relation to recreational motorised use in the National Park and its strategy and procedure for making traffic regulation orders can be found at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/vehicles.

Please send your organisation's views in writing or by email to wetton@peakdistrict.gov.uk or to Sue Smith at the above address by 10 July 2017 stating:

- 1) your name and organisation
- 2) whether you think use of this route by recreational motor vehicles should be, or should not be, restricted in any way
- 3) if you believe use should be restricted by a traffic regulation order:
 - the type of use
 - the extent in terms of length, width or direction
 - the duration or period of any restriction

4) if you believe use should not be restricted by a traffic regulation order , any alternative means of management

5) any evidence to support this view

Before any decision is taken whether to proceed with the making of a traffic regulation order or any alternative form of management, the consultation responses will be considered by the Authority's Audit Review and Performance Committee. In reaching a decision the Authority will also consider the duty imposed by s122 of Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The meeting of the Committee which will consider whether to proceed with a traffic regulation order is scheduled to take place on 15 September 2017. If the Authority does decide to proceed with the making of a traffic regulation order, you will receive formal notification of the proposed Order to be made, and will be given a further period of not less than 21 days to respond with your views, in relation to this specific proposal, before any final decision is taken.

Please also note that we have listed your organisation as a consultee on our vehicles webpage. This is so interested individuals can contact you with any views they may wish you to represent prior to any public consultation.

If you would like any further information or are unable to respond within the timescale specified and would like to agree an extension please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Sue Smith
Rights of Way Officer

