

Byway Open To All Traffic Operational Procedure

The procedure below will effectively implement existing byway [HCC Policy](#) and take account of Defra Guidance "[Making the best of byways](#)". This will move towards a more proactive management of these routes, that seeks to minimise damage from over use and ensure that they can sustain use into the future.

Process to Follow:

1. Issue raised with HCC officers
2. Log on [Spreadsheet](#) and in CAMS
3. Inspect Route using [Byway Assessment Form](#) and categorise
4. Add assessment form link to [Spreadsheet](#)

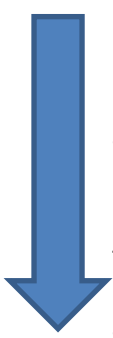
Route Category

Each route will be considered on its own merits and given a score following the inspection. It will then sit in one of 3 categories;

- **Green** (No action required)
- **Amber** (Moderate damage identified. Minor maintenance as required. Monitor for defined period)
- **Red** (Significant Damage. Major maintenance required. Voluntary Restraint or Temporary Closure needed. Monitor for defined period)

Management Options for Red routes:

Our purpose is to keep Byways open to all traffic, **open to all traffic**. Whilst preserving their nature and character and ensuring the safety of all users. Where the use of particular routes is resulting in damage that is preventing the safe use of the lane for all, and sits in the **RED** category it will fall into one of the following stages of traffic management. The STAGE that a Byway enters this management protocol will be assessed on an individual basis. If a route does not revert to a more accessible state, following this intervention, it will move up to the next STAGE.



STAGE 1 Voluntary Restraint —Byways that are open, but are at risk of continued deterioration, we will request voluntary restraint. This will be circulated to user groups and be available on the web.

STAGE 2 Winter Closures – Byways that are deteriorating despite voluntary restraint requests – to have a winter closure applied from 1st October to 1st May with an additional ability to close throughout the rest of the year, on the basis of met office weather warning. This will be circulated to user groups and be available on the web.

STAGE 3 TRO – Byways that continue to deteriorate despite Winter Closures, in line with existing policy.