

# North East Lincolnshire Council

## The Legislative Position In Respect To Road Closure

The Acts of Parliament that cover closure of the highway are:

<b>Legislation</b>	<b>Example of Use</b>
The Town Police Clauses Act 1847	Events involving processions, illuminations or thronging will generally use the Town Police Clauses Act 1847, for example carnivals or remembrance day events. Only the local authority can use this legislation.
The Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984	Sporting and leisure events on the highway will require the use of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, eg cycle races, triathlons, running races etc. Only the Traffic Authority can use this legislation

- The “Traffic Authority” is the local authority and it is only the traffic authority or the Police that have the power to close roads in any circumstances including during emergencies.
- The traffic authority and the police will close roads during emergencies, however on a more local level parish, town councils and / or residents are likely to close roads if there is a threat to property etc due to flooding, however in doing so they do not have delegated authority from either the police or the traffic authority and they have no powers to act under either of the Acts of Parliament detailed above. If parish, town councils or residents do close roads due to a threat to property then they will do so using their vehicles, wheelie bins etc and will not be provided with any resources from the traffic authority or the Police to achieve any road closure.
- Effective road closures on any part of the public highway other than cul-de-sacs include provision for diversions in addition to some level of publicity where possible. In an emergency this may be as simple as the local authority publishing a list on the council website or in the media, but this is always best done by the local authority.
- The same situation exists in respect of severe snow and ice, however the traffic authority will require access for the salting of the highway and ploughing activities. Any area that is susceptible to the effects of severe snow and ice would have drop down signage to warn drivers of road closures on the routes that are more vulnerable to winter weather