

### **Temporary Closure of Public Rights of Way**

Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 allows for the temporary closure of a Public Right of Way to enable the applicant to carry out works. This initial temporary closure order can remain in force for a maximum period of six months, after which a further six months can be granted if necessary. If a further six month extension is required the council must apply to the Secretary of State.

A minimum of four weeks notice is required by the council to process a temporary closure order. Two notices must be published in the local press, seven days apart, before work commences. Copies of the notice must also be erected on site. A minimum period of two months notice is required if an extension is required.

On completion of the time period allowed for the temporary closure, the council will carry out an inspection to ensure the right of way is open and available for public use.

It should be noted that in emergency cases there are other powers which may be employed.

It is the applicant's responsibility to:

1. Identify the route/s affected on a map of the area.
2. Provide a description of the route/s affected.
3. Provide details of the work to be carried out.
4. Identify the likely time scale for the work to be carried out.
5. Identify and describe an alternative route that the public can use. (if available)
6. Ensure that access remains available for any private rights which may exist to properties.
7. Erect the required notices on site provided by the council.
8. Pay for the administration and advertising costs for the closure of the route/s. Shropshire Council charges **£1318.40** to cover the costs of temporary closures.
9. If an extension to the closure is required ensure this is applied for before the expiry of the current temporary closure. Shropshire Council charges **£661.21** to cover the costs of any extension.

**Please note that it is a criminal offence to obstruct or to damage the surface of a public right of way without lawful authority.**