

A large, stylized green leaf graphic that curves from the top right towards the bottom left, framing the text on the left side of the page.

# Tractor Runs in Lincolnshire

Guidance for Organisers

June 2023

# Tractor Runs in Lincolnshire

There are an increasing number of tractor runs being organised on Lincolnshire roads. These are often charitable events, raising money for worthy causes.

Tractor runs do not usually require a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) however they can cause severe disruption on the highway network which may need to be discussed with Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) Highways.

This guidance document outlines the process organisers need to follow to register a tractor run on the highway and provides advice to organisers to ensure that these events can be carried out safely and legally.

Organisers should register their event with LCC Highways, via the following link; <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/traffic-management/events-affecting-the-highway/36947.article>

The completion of the 'Event affecting the Highway' form allows LCC, the Highways Authority, to check the proposed route for any planned road works and prevent conflicts with the event. It is also sent to all Blue Light Emergency Services, District Council Chairs of the Safety Advisory Groups (SAG) and other LCC highways teams for comments and feedback. This also gives them the opportunity to request further information / documents if required (for example where there are other activities planned for the event – e.g., food and live entertainment).

Organisers should also refer to the following information, guidance, and templates from the Lincolnshire Events Safety Partnership, via the below link; [Event Safety – Lincolnshire Resilience Forum](#)

As part of this registration, LCC requires a map from the organiser showing the proposed route in a clear and legible view, including any junctions that will be crossed and details on how these will be managed to ensure safety for other road users. The organiser of an event should be mindful of their legal responsibilities for the safety of all participants including any members of the public that are affected by an event.

## **Safety / Legal Guidance**

- LCC as Lincolnshire's Highway Authority has a duty under the Traffic Management Act 2004 to minimise disruption on the highway network and to minimise driver frustration. Therefore, it is recommended that there should be no more than 25 tractors using the highway at one time. If organisers wish to have a greater number, they should stagger the depart times.
- Organisers will be encouraged to hold their tractor run on a day when traffic flows are lower and avoiding peak hours.

- Organisers are encouraged to have a lead/pace and end vehicle to the tractor run. These vehicles should have 360° orange flashing beacons, this is to notify and warn other road users of the changes to traffic ahead.
- Organisers are encouraged to plan a route with no right turns, where practicably possible.
- LCC will discourage the use and crossing of the Priority Road Network including A class roads, busier B class roads and Red Routes for tractor runs. The organiser should try and use smaller, rural roads wherever possible.
  - If it is unavoidable that the route must cross a class A or B road, we strongly recommend reducing the speed limit to 30mph to suitably warn other road users and reduce risk to injury to the run participants and other road users. This will require a legal TTRO and traffic management company to assist with the implementation of the signs.
- Organisers may be asked for a copy of their event risk assessment which should outline how they intend to manage safety, minimise disruption and plot on a map the potential pull over areas for the drivers participating.
- All participants must comply with the Highways Code and the Road Traffic Act.
- All participants must be made aware of the 2022 changes to the HMRC guidance for the lawful use of rebated fuels for purposes other than in the course or connection of a vehicles primary purpose. Please speak to the NFU and follow the GOV.UK link below for the latest guidance; <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-rebated-fuels-in-vehicles-and-machines-excise-notice-75-from-1-april-2022>
- Vehicles must be road legal, and any drivers should have the appropriate driving licence and insurance. All existing highway speed limits, traffic signals and restrictions will apply to drivers during the event.
- Organisers of the event must have a minimum of £5 million Public Liability Insurance for an event on the highway; however, advice should be sought from individual's insurance companies as they may advise that this should be greater.
- Tractor runs are not 'essential work', but a recreational choice. It is therefore important that the participants adhere to legislation.
- The National Farmers Union recommends tractors should only pull over when it is safe and reasonable to do so. However, it does warn that the police may take enforcement action and the driver could be liable for prosecution if they see a tractor driving past a passing place or layby without stopping which could constitute an offence under the Road Traffic Act 1988, Section 3- Careless and Inconsiderate driving; **E+W+S**: *If a person drives a mechanically propelled vehicle on a road or other public place without due care and attention, or without reasonable consideration for other persons using the road or place, he is guilty of an offence'* [Road Traffic Act 1988 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1988/26/section-3).

The Highways Code states the following for tractors: -

- Section 168 - **Being overtaken.** If a driver is trying to overtake you, maintain a steady course and speed, slowing down if necessary to let the vehicle pass. Never obstruct drivers who wish to pass. Speeding up or down unpredictably whilst someone is overtaking you is dangerous. Drop back to maintain a two second gap if someone overtakes and pulls into the gap in front of you.

[The Highway Code - Using the road \(159 to 203\) - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

- Section 169 – Do not hold up a long queue of traffic, especially if you are driving a large or slow-moving vehicle. Check your mirrors frequently, and if necessary, pull in where it is safe and let traffic pass.

[The Highway Code - Using the road \(159 to 203\) - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)