



Balfour Beatty

Working in partnership

Lane Rental Scheme Proposal Consultation - Summer 2025

Southampton City Council is consulting on proposals to apply to the Department for Transport to run a potential Lane Rental scheme in the city.

We would like to hear your thoughts on the proposals and any impacts or alternative suggestions you would like us to consider. Now is your opportunity to have your say.

An online version of this questionnaire can be found on Southampton City Council's website at www.southampton.gov.uk/consultations

You can also email your consultation feedback or queries to lanerental@southampton.gov.uk

This consultation closes **10 September 2025**.

Proposal

What are we proposing?

Southampton City Council is proposing to introduce a Lane Rental Scheme on a proportion of its road network in accordance with the Street Works (Charges for Occupation of the Highway) (England) Regulations 2012 (the Lane Rental Regulations) made under Section 74A.

This is the second application the Council is seeking to make to the Department for Transport, following the rejection of the previous application in April 2025.

What is a lane rental scheme?

Lane Rental (LR) is a scheme introduced to help manage the impact of works on the highway network on some of the busiest roads at the busiest times, seeking to reduce delays for residents & businesses.

The implementation of a Lane Rental Scheme would allow the Council to charge any works promoter carrying out any registerable works in the street for the time those works occupy the highway, with the aim to reduce the amount of time traffic is disrupted whilst works are being carried out.

All utility, developer, private and Highway Authority works on an LR road would attract a daily charge, which would go into a fund pot. It can then be used to cover the cost of running the scheme in the first instance and remaining funds could also be used to help fund projects to help mitigate disruption caused by road works.

The scheme proposal aims to establish a scheme that encourages behavioural changes in the execution of work on the highway, either by limiting activity during peak times or adopting alternative methods to reduce disruption to residents and business reliant on the City's highway network to benefit residents, businesses and visitors to the city.

What is different to the last time we consulted with you?

Earlier this year, Southampton City Council conducted a consultation regarding the introduction of a lane rental scheme. Following this, an application was submitted to the Secretary of State for Transport via the Department for Transport (DfT). However, the application was rejected due to the traffic sensitivity notice not being completed.

According to government guidance, the DfT expects lane rental schemes implemented by individual authorities to cover between 5% and 10% of the local road network. The proposed scheme for Southampton exceeded this threshold, covering more than 10% of the total network length.

As a result, the Council has now completed the notice to make the traffic-sensitivity designation changes and reviewed the proposed lane rental network and reduced its overall length to comply with the guidance.

Further information on the proposals can be found at: www.southampton.gov.uk/consultations

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Lane Rental Scheme proposal?

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

What impact do you feel this may have on you, your business or the wider community?

- ☐ A very positive impact
- ☐ A fairly positive impact
- ☐ No impact at all
- ☐ A fairly negative impact
- ☐ A very negative impact
- ☐ Don't know

If you disagree, or have any comments, impacts, suggestions or alternatives you feel we should consider, please provide details:

About you

Which of the following describes your interest in this consultation?

Please tick all that apply.

- ☐ As a business or organisation that would need to use the scheme if implemented
- ☐ As a resident of Southampton
- ☐ As a resident elsewhere
- ☐ As someone who works, visits or studies in Southampton

- ☐ As a business or organisation that would not need to use the scheme if implemented
- ☐ As an employee of Southampton City Council
- ☐ As a political member
- ☐ Other

If other, please specify:

Only answer the following questions about your postcode, sex, gender, age, ethnicity and disability if you are responding as an individual, and not as a private business and public or third sector organisation.

What is your postcode?

This is used for geographical analysis only and will not be used to identify or contact you.

What is your sex?

- ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Prefer not to say

Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to say

If no, please write in your gender identity:

What is your age?

- ☐ Under 18 ☐ 35 - 44 ☐ 65 - 74
- ☐ 18 - 24 ☐ 45 - 54 ☐ 75+
- ☐ 25 - 34 ☐ 55 - 64 ☐ Prefer not to say

How would you describe your ethnic group?

- ☐ Asian or Asian British ☐ White other
- ☐ Black, Black British, Caribbean or African ☐ Other ethnic group
- ☐ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ White British

If other, please specify:

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to say

If yes, do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?

☐ Yes, a lot

☐ Not at all

☐ Yes, a little

☐ Prefer not to say

The following three questions are for those responding as a private business and public or third sector organisation.

Businesses and organisations

Can the name of your business or organisation be attributed to your response?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Can we contact you about your response to this consultation?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please provide us with the following details:

Business/organisation name:

Contact name:

Contact email:

What happens next?

The consultation closes on **10 September 2025**. After this date, all feedback will be analysed and considered before a final decision is made.

Please return completed surveys to:

*Consultations,
First Floor, West Wing,
Civic Centre,
Southampton,
SO14 7LY.*

Alternatively, please hand completed surveys back to any Southampton City Council-run library.

The information collected about you during this survey will only be used for the purposes of research. We may use it to contact you about this. We will only share your information with other organisations or council departments if we need to. The survey responses will be analysed by Southampton City Council and Open Road Associates only. We may also share it to prevent, investigate or prosecute criminal offences, or as the law otherwise allows. Please be aware that any comments given on this form may be published in the report. However, the council will endeavour to remove any references that could identify individuals or organisations. Our Privacy Policy (<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/privacy>) explains how we handle your personal data, and we can provide a copy if you are unable to access the Internet.