



**Nottinghamshire  
County Council**

To users of BW No.3 Thoroton

**Proposed Experimental Traffic Regulation Order: Public Bridleway No.3 Thoroton**

**Job Number 8133**

An Experimental Traffic Regulation Order has been proposed at this location following discussion with the landowner and observations by members of the Rights of Way Team over several years. The existing bridleway extends for 250m across a low lying arable field consisting of heavy clay. The farmer cannot reasonably avoid cultivating the path as part of his normal agricultural observations. The path is well used and during wet conditions becomes waterlogged with horses' hooves sinking deep into the soft soil. As the path surface becomes more uneven users spread out to avoid the holes leading to progressively wider swath being used, in some instances upto 5 times the statutory maximum cross field width required.

It is proposed to make an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order for a period of 18 months to prohibit the public from using the cross field section of public bridleway No.3 Thoroton between the points as shown on the attached plan. During this time an alternative route will be provided by the landowner as part of a formal Permissive Path Agreement for the duration of the experiment. The alternative route shall be an uncultivated strip, 4 metres in width as currently exists around the edge of the field.

At the end of the experiment it is proposed, if the experiment has been successful, to legally divert the bridleway to the line of the alternative permissive route.

Before proceeding further with these proposals, I wish to consider the views of organisations likely to be interested in this matter. Due to the large number of organisations involved, I regret that it may not always be practical to respond individually to your reply. However, any suggestions will be incorporated in the proposals whenever appropriate and economically feasible. If your comments are in the form of an objection to the proposal, and they cannot be resolved, they will be reported to the Environment Portfolio meeting at an appropriate time.

Should you have any problems or queries, it may be of mutual assistance to telephone me on 0115 9772166 and I will be pleased to provide further assistance. Any observations on these proposals should be made in writing and should reach me by 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2008.

Yours faithfully

Rob Percy  
**Senior Rights of Way Officer**