

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DMMO Engagement Officer role update</b>
DATE	July 2020
AUTHOR	Karen Brookes Pearman, Highway Records, Network & Traffic Management.

The 2yr fixed term role of an 'Outreach Officer' (now formally known as DMMO Engagement Officer) was to engage with the community and rights of way user groups to advise them of the "2026 cut-off" relating to Modification Order claims based on documentary evidence for routes to be recorded on the Definitive Map, to help them coordinate/spread out any applications, and to analyse the knock-on impact of that expected increase in applications on the current resource allocation within the DMMO team, and so whether additional resource would consequently be required.

Andrew Houldey (existing DMMO Officer) was seconded into the role in December 2019 and has started engaging with the main national groups and a number of the locally-based groups. To date, whilst they are currently collating basic evidence on routes of potential interest, they are currently unable to advise on likely numbers which will result in submitted DMMO applications; however, they are being encouraged to submit applications as they become viable, rather than storing them up for bulk submission.

The Engagement Officer has also been engaging with Parish Councils, currently on an ad-hoc basis; a few meetings have been held, although the restrictions during the current Covid pandemic have obviously prevented face-to-face engagement. A wider strategy to engage all Parishes is currently being developed.

Officers can also report there has been an increase in general enquiries about how to protect routes, some of which have resulted in requests for DMMO Claim Packs.

End.