

Leeds Festival Traffic Debrief

Background

- Leeds Festival took place on August bank holiday weekend Friday 26th - Sunday 28th August 2022. Traffic for this event started arriving on Wednesday 24th August at 12:00am.
- The festival was held at Bramham park which has been the home for this event for several years.

Traffic Management Plan

- The traffic management plan for Leeds Festival went well with the newly opened ELOR available just in time for the event.
- This facilitated the closure of York Road at the Red bus layby for the whole festival period with ELOR providing the natural diversion route whilst York Road was closed.
- This enabled us to have a consistent traffic management plan in place for the duration of the event rather than in previous years we have changed the traffic management when York Road was not closed for the event duration.
- Congestion levels at peak pick up and drop off times were not more than expected for an event of this size and we did not receive any complaints from residents or Ward Members.
- National Highways reported that egress on Sunday had been slower than expected and caused some queues on the A1/M. We will look at potential solutions here and work them through via the Leeds Festival Sub-Group meetings.
- It is also noted that communications for some residents could be improved with some issues involving the No7 bus at Aberford. We will look to address this through the regular Sub-Group meetings which are attended by Aberford parish council representatives.

Conclusion

- The traffic management for future events will follow the plan we used in 2022 with a full closure of York Road for the event duration.
- ELOR will have been open for just over a year by the time Leeds Festival 2023 returns and will still be used as the diversion route around York Road.
- Subtle changes to the overall traffic management plan for 2023 can be made and agreed through the Sub-Group Meetings.

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