

The below feedback is submitted for the LCC Licensing Committee in relation to Leeds Festival 2023 on behalf of National Highways.

National Highways felt that overall, the off-site traffic management plan again worked well, very similar to 2022.

Our additional resources were in place on Wednesday & Thursday for arrivals and Sunday and Monday for egress.

On the Wednesday, the main issue encountered was the breakdown of a large goods vehicle on the A1M in Aberford Dip. This had a significant traffic impact due to its position and took longer to clear than was desirable, due to the standby recovery vehicles not being in location we had requested. This was an internal issue to National Highways and our supplier and will be addressed for next year.

Also on Wednesday we experienced issues with local residents moving the traffic management in Aberford Village, to drive through up to J44 roundabout, moving further cones to drive through. We understand that FR acted to address this. We suggest more substantial closure measures for 2024.

We didn't experience any significant disruption on Thursday, Friday or Saturday.

Similar to 2022, the Sunday night egress presented the biggest challenge. Whilst we had developed a plan and had significant resources in place, J44 roundabout quickly became overwhelmed and the plan was not fully implemented and tested.

It is important that the pick-up and drop-off area works optimally, to ensure a continual flow of traffic from J44, into site and back out.

We plan to make some changes to the egress plan for J44 next year, which will be overseen on the night by myself.

We have captured feedback from our officers who worked during the festival period and already met with FR to discuss and further enhance the traffic plan for 2024.

Dave Skupski

Operations Manager

National Highways