

Kirklees Council Exemption Permit Code of Conduct

For use of routes affected by:

KIRKLEES COUNCIL (TRAFFIC REGULATION) (NO. 02) ORDER 2024 enforced on CHEESE GATE NAB, BROWNHILL LANE, HOLME WOODS LANE, KILN BENT ROAD, OLD GATE, RAKE HEAD ROAD, RAMSDEN LANE, RAMSDEN ROAD, SCALY GATE, SCAR END LANE, HOLMFIRTH

Introduction & Scope

The Council will grant permits to use the routes restricted by the above Order to any person wishing to use a motorcycle on any part of these routes. The permit may be limited to certain parts of the routes only. Whilst being issued to individuals, each permit is specific to a vehicle, it cannot be used to exempt all and any motorcycle owned or ridden by a permit holder.

Grant of a permit is conditional on the permit holder complying with the following provisions. See below under Enforcement and Penalties.

This document outlines the expected and required behaviour and responsibilities of permit holders to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all users of these routes. It is imperative that all permit holders adhere to this code of conduct to maintain the privilege of riding on these regulated routes.

General Principles

The below points highlight the general principles permit holders sign up to follow:

- **Legal Compliance:** Adhere strictly to all traffic laws and regulations. Ensure your motorcycle is roadworthy and complies with legal requirements.
- **Respect for Other Users:** Share the routes considerately with walkers, cyclists, horse riders, and other motorists. Always yield to non-motorised users.
- **Respect for the Environment:** All riders must respect the natural environment and minimise their impact. Stay on designated paths and avoid causing erosion or damage to flora and fauna.
- **Safety First:** Your safety and the safety of others is paramount. Follow all safety guidelines and wear appropriate protective gear at all times.

Specific Guidelines

Route Usage

- Only use routes for which you have a valid permit. Ensure your permit is accessible at all times while riding.
- Follow any designated route markers and signage. Pay attention to all signs and signals, and do not deviate from the marked paths under any circumstances.
- Do not create new paths or shortcuts. Stay on the established routes to prevent environmental damage and maintain the integrity of the routes.
- Keep to the defined area of the route and travel with least impact.
- Report any route damage or obstructions to Kirklees Council using the Council's "Contact the Council – Roads and Transport" website form or by calling [01484 414700](tel:01484414700) (Monday to Wednesday 9am-5pm,

Thursday 10.30am-5pm, Friday 9am-4.45pm). If you encounter fallen trees, blocked paths, or other hazards, notify the council as soon as possible.

- Adhere to seasonal and weather-related route closures. Respect any temporary restrictions put in place to protect the environment or ensure safety during adverse conditions.
- Respect historical and cultural landmarks. Do not disturb or damage any sites of historical or cultural significance along the routes.
- Use designated entry and exit points. Only enter and exit the routes at specified locations to avoid unnecessary disturbance to the environment and local residents.

Environmental Considerations

- Avoid riding in wet, poor weather conditions to prevent damage to the trails. Wet conditions can lead to increased erosion and degradation of the paths, making them unsafe for all users.
- Refrain from disturbing wildlife and livestock. Maintain a respectful distance from animals and avoid making sudden noises or movements that could startle them. Stop and switch off engines when sharing the road with ridden horses.
- Take all litter home with you and dispose of it responsibly. Leave no trace behind to ensure the natural beauty of the routes is preserved for everyone to enjoy.
- Respect private property and do not trespass. Ensure you stay within the boundaries of the designated routes and do not venture onto private land without explicit permission.
- Avoid damage to vegetation. Ride carefully to avoid running over plants or causing unnecessary damage to the surrounding greenery.
- Educate others. Share your knowledge and best practices in line with this code of conduct with fellow riders to promote a culture of environmental responsibility within the motorcycle community.

Behaviour and Conduct

- Ride in a controlled manner and at a speed that is safe for the conditions, no higher than the voluntary recommended maximum of 25mph. Always be prepared to stop or slow down when encountering other users or obstacles.
- Avoid excessive noise and use a noise-compliant exhaust system. Keep engine revs low when near residential areas or other sensitive locations.
- Do not engage in reckless or aggressive riding. This includes wheelies, racing, and any form of stunt riding that endangers yourself or others.
- Be courteous to all other route users and neighbours. Offer assistance to those in need and communicate clearly with hand signals or verbal warnings when passing.
- Adhere to all specified speed limits and adjust your speed according to the terrain and weather conditions.
- Avoid riding in large groups that can overwhelm the route and cause inconvenience to others. Small, manageable groups are expected. The maximum number of riders in a group should be no more than three.
- Ensure your motorcycle is adequately maintained to prevent mechanical failures that could cause accidents or environmental harm.
- Do not obstruct the route for other users.
- Report any incidents or accidents to Kirklees Council promptly, providing all necessary details for follow-up using the Council's "Contact the Council – Roads and Transport" website form or by calling [01484 414700](tel:01484414700) (Monday to Wednesday 9am-5pm, Thursday 10.30am-5pm, Friday 9am-4.45pm).
- Stay informed about any updates or changes to the routes and regulations by regularly checking communications from Kirklees Council.

Enforcement and Penalties

The permit only exempts motorcycle traffic that complies with the above. Use of the Order routes otherwise than in accordance with this Code is unauthorised and may lead to prosecution for breach of the Order. Failure to comply with this code of conduct may also result in conditions or limitations being applied, or the revocation of your permit. Regular monitoring and random checks will be conducted to ensure compliance.

Conclusion

By signing up for a permit, you agree to abide by the Kirklees Council Motorcycle Permit Code of Conduct. Your cooperation ensures that the listed routes can be enjoyed by all in a safe and responsible manner.

Thank you for your commitment to these principles.

Kirklees Council

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