



East of England Permit Scheme



Bedford Borough Council Permit Scheme Evaluation Report - Year 8

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From the NRSWA Manager;

Looking back over the last year, I feel that our Permit Scheme has now settled in and it seems difficult to believe that we ever had just a notice system running!

Response codes have been working well, and give a good indication of why permits are not being granted. Looking at the data, it is obvious that Utilities need to place in more accurate information, and appropriate conditions, as incorrect or missing NCT's is the largest response code used. The use of 'RC31, conflict of works' is the second most used response code, and this shows that conflicts on the network are being avoided on a daily basis, due to the Authority being able to co-ordinate works in a better, more planned manner.

It is with disappointment that I have yet again to report that there is very little collaboration taking place, even with this Authority actively encouraging collaboration whenever possible. Whilst we have managed to promote some works within existing road closures, there seems a real lack of will amongst works promoters to work together within the highway.

The use of advance warning signs is still seen as a bonus for residents and motorists alike, and we have received positive feedback for these, as a quick and easy way to communicate notice of works/disruption to members of the public. Whilst I realise that supplying these can be tiresome for the works promoter, I do really feel that the benefits of providing information to residents and the travelling public alike, easily outweigh the inconvenience of erecting these signs.

The permit volumes have not yet increased to the volumes that we had in year 1, but we have had a succession of major work projects this year, most of which have gone well. Co-ordinating a site in Clapham, where Cadent Gas, Anglian Water and then our own re-surfacing team all had major work, proved challenging, but worked well, with both Utility works finishing before the road was re-surfaced. A good result, but only after a considerable amount of co-ordination and planning was undertaken.

Challenges for the coming year(s) include numerous development works, which could prove challenging to co-ordinate, with pressure to allow works on the highway in order to get works started, have the Utilities in place, and to complete as soon as practicable so that houses can be occupied, or commercial buildings opened for use. Other non-work related issues may be the proposed Street Manager project, which could mean major changes in how permits are processed, but, as this is in its infancy at the time of writing, any impact is unknown.

I look forward to continued co-operation with all works promoters, to make the Borough of Bedford a place with as little disruption to traffic movement as possible, smooth and reliable public transport and, of course satisfied and informed residents.

R.Wills

NRSWA Manager

COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 was initially reflected in the volume of cancelled permits during March and April, however volumes of works recovered and the overall total of works for year 8 is not significantly different from previous years.

STREET MANAGER

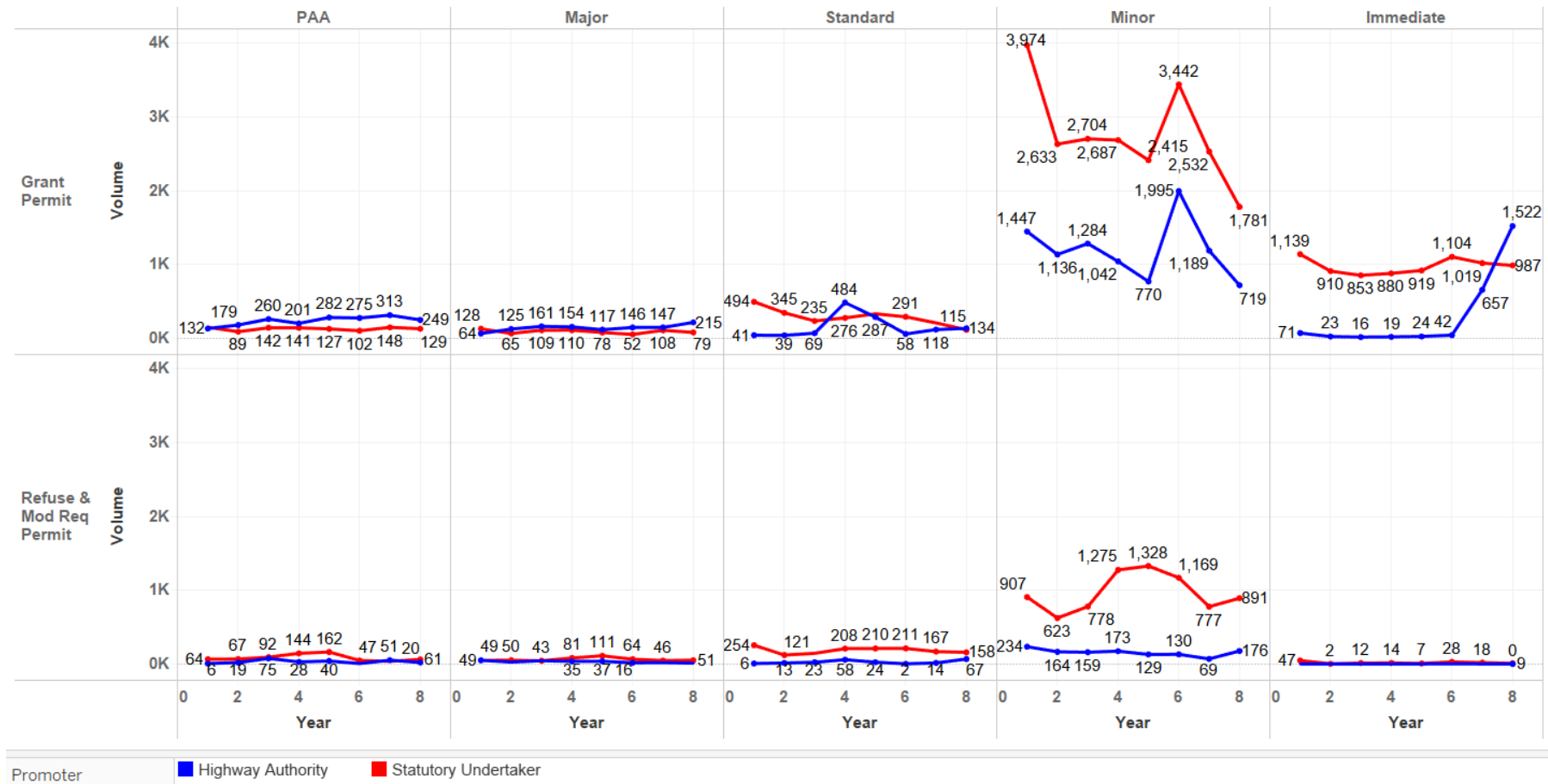
The introduction of the Street Manager service in August brought significant challenges to the operation of the Permit Scheme. This particularly affected:-

- Data transfer issues between Symology resulting in a significant increase in deemed applications;
- The change to inspection category types;
- The need to cancel permits previously submitted in EToN and re-submit via Street Manager, this resulted in increased cancellation volumes;
- Street Manager has no reporting capability and therefore data for this report has been drawn from Symology. This may result in small anomalies due to data transfer issues.

Permit & Variation Applications by Promoter & Works Type

			Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Total
Statutory Undertakers	Permit Application	PAA	278	192	262	327	313	181	227	239	2,019
		Major	208	98	185	200	245	136	176	154	1,402
		Standard	906	493	573	550	685	596	470	363	4,636
		Minor	5,576	3,586	4,878	4,349	4,348	5,221	3,828	3,110	34,896
		Immediate	1,244	971	922	960	985	1,166	1,075	1,050	8,373
	Variation Application	Major	30	18	35	22	24	17	44	50	240
		Standard	56	38	60	72	103	84	70	88	571
		Minor	73	74	93	143	218	300	385	412	1,698
		Immediate	74	63	88	148	146	153	101	175	948
	Highway Authority	Permit Application	PAA	187	227	364	234	370	304	440	310
Major			113	172	305	202	242	291	206	253	1,784
Standard			61	63	143	575	344	97	173	277	1,733
Minor			2,126	1,402	1,813	1,329	1,070	2,411	1,496	1,164	12,811
Immediate			75	23	18	21	25	47	665	1,588	2,462
Variation Application		Major	26	77	79	30	86	116	63	75	552
		Standard	14	11	25	55	63	47	66	66	347
		Minor	291	106	182	106	103	561	315	96	1,760
		Immediate	1	1	1	2	1	19	1	6	32
Grand Total			11,339	7,615	10,026	9,325	9,371	11,747	9,801	9,476	78,700

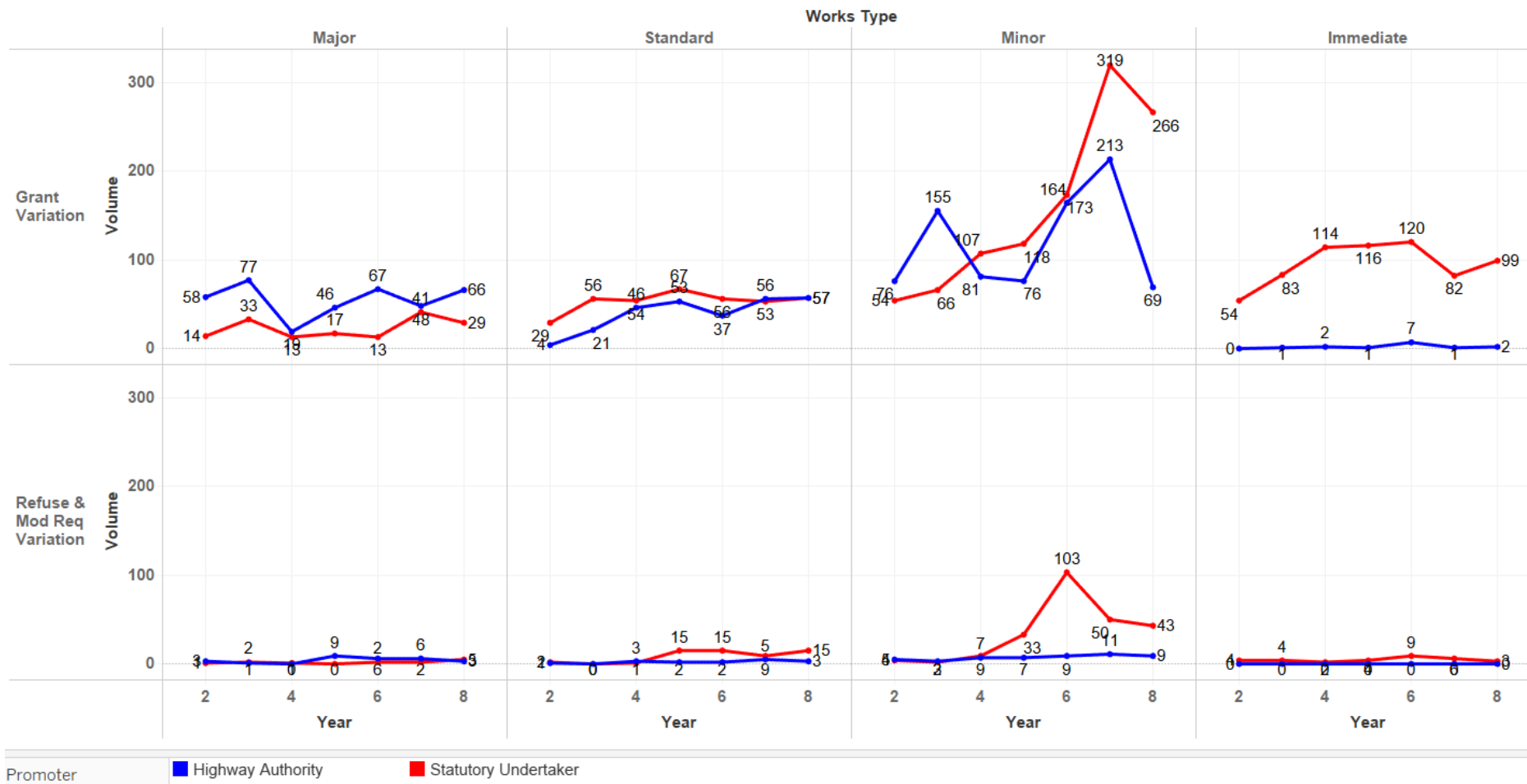
Permit Application Responses by Works Type & Promoter Group



Deemed Applications by Works Type & Promoter Group

		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	8	Total
Statutory Undertaker	PAA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8
	Major	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	9
	Standard	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	6	8
	Minor	11	0	0	0	0	3	2	30	46
	Immediate	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	15	22
Highway Authority	PAA	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
	Major	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	1	8
	Standard	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
	Minor	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9
	Immediate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	58
Total		25	0	0	1	1	10	4	132	173

Variation Application Responses by Works Type Promoter Group



% of Granted Works with a Duration Request & % Approved

		Y4		Y5		Y6		Y7		Y8	
		Requests of Granted Works (%)	Extensions Approved (%)	Requests of Granted Works (%)	Extensions Approved (%)	Requests of Granted Works (%)	Extensions Approved (%)	Requests of Granted Works (%)	Extensions Approved (%)	Requests of Granted Works (%)	Extensions Approved (%)
Statutory Undertaker	Major	39.09%	16.28%	47.44%	70.27%	55.77%	75.86%	33.33%	91.67%	44.30%	88.57%
	Standard	26.81%	22.97%	19.34%	59.38%	18.56%	66.67%	20.67%	83.72%	32.17%	83.78%
	Minor	4.13%	25.23%	1.95%	72.34%	3.08%	88.68%	2.53%	84.38%	4.55%	80.25%
	Immediate	10.45%	70.65%	6.64%	81.97%	13.95%	84.42%	10.50%	91.59%	12.46%	89.43%
Highway Authority	Major	22.73%	80.00%	37.61%	50.00%	37.67%	67.27%	41.50%	83.61%	23.72%	96.08%
	Standard	10.95%	90.57%	4.88%	92.86%	31.03%	83.33%	5.93%	85.71%	37.31%	96.00%
	Minor	7.29%	96.05%	9.74%	98.67%	3.46%	89.86%	4.79%	94.74%	9.04%	93.85%
	Immediate	10.53%	100.00%	16.67%	75.00%	7.14%	100.00%	0.15%	100.00%	1.91%	65.52%

Promoter Type

■ Statutory Undertaker

■ Highway Authority

Cancelled Permits

Volume of Cancellations & % of Cancelled Works

		Y1		Y2		Y3		Y4		Y5		Y6		Y7		Y8	
		Volume	Cancelled %	Volume	Cancelled %	Volume	Cancelled %	Volume	Cancelled %	Volume	Cancelled %	Volume	Cancelled %	Volume	Cancelled %	Volume	Cancelled %
Statutory Undertaker	Major	81	16.67%	54	18.62%	192	42.95%	107	20.30%	120	21.51%	71	22.40%	97	24.07%	121	30.79%
	Standard	275	30.35%	110	22.31%	146	25.48%	120	21.82%	148	21.61%	156	26.17%	106	22.55%	85	23.42%
	Minor	1,533	27.49%	1,212	33.80%	1,474	30.22%	1,270	29.20%	1,285	29.55%	1,288	24.67%	1,067	27.87%	956	30.74%
	Immediate	0	0.00%	26	2.68%	22	2.39%	17	1.77%	10	1.02%	17	1.46%	9	0.84%	16	1.52%
Highway Authority	Major	11	3.67%	38	9.52%	44	6.58%	29	6.65%	54	8.82%	36	6.05%	72	11.15%	217	38.54%
	Standard	5	8.20%	19	30.16%	11	7.69%	35	6.09%	17	4.94%	8	8.25%	10	5.78%	93	33.57%
	Minor	128	6.02%	185	13.20%	110	6.07%	118	8.88%	125	11.68%	174	7.22%	115	7.69%	328	28.18%
	Immediate	0	0.00%	2	8.70%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	5	10.64%	3	0.45%	24	1.51%

Volume of Response Codes applied by Notification Type and Year

RC Code (group)	Y5		Y6		Y7		Y8	
	REFUSE APPLICATION	PERMIT MODIFICATION REQUEST	REFUSE APPLICATION	PERMIT MODIFICATION REQUEST	REFUSE APPLICATION	PERMIT MODIFICATION REQUEST	REFUSE APPLICATION	PERMIT MODIFICATION REQUEST
RC10	374	718	235	559	148	404	4	75
RC11	94	239	60	346	19	201	3	19
RC12	6	5	3	8	6	6		
RC13		1						
RC20	1	12	2	3	2	4		29
RC22	54	34	32	62	10	12	3	29
RC23	8	4	8	5			3	8
RC31	436	46	359	66	188	63	13	157
RC32							2	
RC33	8	17	8	9	7	13	3	22
RC40	84	10	24	34	35	23	26	10
RC41	10	1	4	3		8	9	88
RC42	1							1
RC43	44	30	51	49	19	38	3	11
RC44								1
RC50							8	
RC51	19	22	56	14				
Total	1,139	1,139	842	1,158	434	772	77	450

