



**National  
Trust**

**Monument Drive  
Traffic Regulation Order Enforcement – Summer 2019  
Briefing paper**

**Background**

Monument Drive on the Ashridge Estate is owned by the National Trust. It is a byway open to all traffic (BOAT). It leads to the National Trust's visitor centre, the Brownlow Café and a handful of residential properties. There is a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) in place that allows the Drive to be closed to vehicular traffic from 10pm to 7am each night. Historically, the National Trust has not enforced the TRO except for occasional events, leaving the Drive accessible to motor vehicles most of the time.

**Why does the National Trust now want to close Monument Drive at night?**

The Drive, the verges either side of the Drive and the meadow at the end of the Drive are being used by people during the night to drive cars in an anti-social manner. This causes great damage to the estate, to the grassland and trees we are trying to care for and creates a lot of disturbance for those who live up the Drive.

**What time will Monument Drive be closed?**

The gates at the bottom of the Drive will be locked at 10pm. They will be re-opened at 6am the following morning. We are employing an external security company to do this on our behalf.

**When will this start?**

Monday 1 July 2019.

**How will people know that this is going to be happening?**

Those directly affected (i.e. residents, delivery drivers who supply the Brownlow Café, staff who start work early in the morning) will be individually advised of the new system.

There will be extensive signage on site from Saturday 29 June. Anyone arriving on the property will be aware that this is happening. There will be a full briefing on our website from the same date as well as posts on our social media channels.

The security company will arrive on site at 9.30pm and 'sweep down' the Drive to advise anyone with their vehicle that they need to vacate by 10pm. They will place a flyer under the windscreen of any vehicles without people in them that advises them to remove their car by 10pm or the vehicle will be locked in until 6am the next day.

**What will happen to people whose cars are parked behind the gates and can't get out?**

They will need to leave their cars on the Drive and arrange for friends or family to come and pick them up. Or they can call a taxi. There is no out-of-hours release service.

**How does this affect the right of way?**

The right of way for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders will remain open throughout the night. They will be able to access using the path to the left of the gates. The Traffic Regulation Order permits us to prevent vehicular access between 10pm and 7am.

**How will the Drive be locked?**

We will close the gates at the bottom of the Drive and secure them with a padlock.

**What about the emergency services and those that need access during the night?**

All of those people have been considered and there are arrangements in place to allow them access.

**What about delivery drivers, bin lorries and others who need to start work early?**

The gates will be open from 6am. There is no one who needs to enter the property earlier than this.

**Further information:**

If you have any questions, please contact:

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