- 3.1 The processing of Temporary TROs and Notices has become an increasing resource pressure on Roads and Infrastructure Services. The current workload specifically in relation to <u>Temporary</u> Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) and <u>Notices</u> has increased from 33 in 2016/17 to 117 in 2019/20 [a 354% increase]. Notices and Temporary TROs are a statutory duty and are often time constrained, this significant increase in demand has made it extremely challenging to process TROs.
- 3.2 Figure 1 below shows the increase in demand by order type from 2016-17 to 2019-20. The demand for Temporary TROs increased suddenly between 2016/17 and 2017/18 but has held steady at that rate since. The demand for Notices, however, shows a steep trend line which suggests that demand may continue to increase year on year.



3.3 The rise in demand for Temporary TROs and Notices is driven by a number of traffic management of

events and an increase in the formalisation of road or lane closures by Public Utilities.

- 3.4 The volume of Temporary TROs / Notices now processed by the service leave very little time to allow the progression of permanent TROs. Appendix 1 contains th ; service has been unable to progress a disabled bay TRO within the last 2 years due to competing demands.
- 3.5 The current TRO programme list contains proposals ranging from control of offstreet car parks, introduction of speed limits, disabled bays and on street restrictions (including road safety issues arising from irresponsible parking). There are, at this time, 29 outstanding TROs listed in the programme.

- 3.6 The timescale to progress a single TRO varies depending on the complexity of the proposals and the number and type of objections submitted. As a minimum timescale, it is estimated that a TRO which receives either no objections or has easily resolved objections, this in the main will take at least 6 months to progress. Appendix 1 provides a high level view of the TRO process.
- 3.7 To provide additional capacity to enable the team to progress existing TROs across the council area and also to progress TTROs, a temporary resource has been brought in to assist with the backlog and good progress is now being made.
- 3.8 For Oban, Lorn and the Isles the following TROs are currently in progress:
  - i. On-street disabled bays various locations
    - a. Previously approved applications for disabled bays are marked on the ground with temporary markings pending process.
    - b. The TRO process will make these markings permanent and enforceable, subject to the normal process including potential objections, is plan

## Appendix 1 High Level TRO Process

Note:

- 1. This process doesn't consider Objections which are referable to a Reporter.
- 2. Currently we only have one qualified Service officer to carry the TRO process from step 3. If this officer is on leave, certain areas of the process cannot be progressed,
- i. Local Traffic & Development Officer (T.O. hereinafter) undertakes initial development work. Schedules/proposals drafted. This may require 2-5 days depending on complexity; for example, in some cases precise measurements will require a site visit.
- ii. T.O. undertakes Consultation 1 (statutory period of 14 days) and resolves any matters raised by consultees. This period may be extended dependent on the comments submitted by the consultees.
- iii. Service Officer will undertake Consultation 2 (statutory period of 21 days). This period may be extended dependent on the comments submitted by the consultees.
- Service Officer prepares draft Order, Statement of Reasons, CAD Plan and Public Notices. For existing TROs which are being amended (other than by Notice) then this may take up to 5 days. For new or complex TROs this may take 3 weeks.
- v. Service Officer undertakes Public Notification (statutory period of 21 days).
- vi. At this stage objections may be submitted.
- vii. If no objections are received, the Order can be signed and Sealed by Legal and Regulatory.
- viii. If submissions are made the T&D Manager will endeavour to resolve any objections raised during Public Notification. Where there are few objections this can usually be done in less than 5 days, however, where there are significant objections this can take up to 3 weeks plus time (normally 2 weeks) for the objector to respond (regards withdrawing objection or not).
- ix. Report to Area Committee. May take up to 1 week to draft dependent on the complexity of the TRO proposal and/or Objections. Area Committee meetings are scheduled at key dates during the year, the report would normally be taken to the next AC providing it is submitted on time.
- x. Members may determine that order should be made without a discretionary hearing. This would be based on advice to the Committee from the Head of Legal and Regulatory Support.

- xi. If the Committee agree that the Order should progress, Order Signed and Sealed by the Head of Service of Legal and Regulatory Support.
- xii. Pause to allow procedural objections (statutory period of 6 weeks). Challenges are submitted to the Court of Session.
- xiii. TRO is implemented