



# ATG Access Ltd

## Case Study

### Automatic Rising Bollards

**Location:** Durham County Council

**Brief:** Prevent Traffic Congestion

**Solution:** ATG Access VP700 bollards

The first ever road user charging scheme (Congestion Charge) in the UK was in Durham with ATG Access playing a key role in supplying the solution to restrict vehicles.

Up to 3,000 vehicles per day were using the sole public access road onto the City Centre Peninsula, but following the introduction of the scheme road users have to pay £2 a time to exit the congestion area.

Durham County Council needed a system that would allow free access for residents whilst achieving their aim of reducing visitor car traffic to deal with congestion problems and provide cleaner air.

The Council commissioned a tolling system for vehicles using the Peninsula access road. Addressing the County Council's brief, ATG Access created an intelligent access system, which levies the £2 charge on visitors to the city but allows free access to residents and public transport via auto-tags and intelligent 'Smart Cards'.

A rising bollard linked to a payment / ticketing machine controls the procedure, the bollard retracts into the ground in 3 seconds once payment is made or a key-card swiped.

The County Council has issued 8,000 of the key-cards and the machine is in turn monitored by CCTV, an intercom system completes the state-of-the-art package.

ATG's VP700 bollards provide a solution that does not restrict pedestrian access in the way that barriers or gates would have. In addition, the stylish black bollards are in keeping with the environment of the World Heritage Site. The expertise and experience of ATG Access in providing solutions in city centre pedestrianisation and access schemes across the country has ensured a smooth introduction in Durham, and the County Council is delighted with the solution.

The target of the scheme was to reduce through traffic by 30%, latest studies have shown a remarkable decrease of 90%.

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