

EXTRACT FROM CHAPTER 8 TRAFFIC SIGN MANUAL

SPECIFICATIONS FOR VEHICLES

CONSPICUITY

Any vehicle stopping on the highway for works purposes or inspections should be of a conspicuous colour (e.g. yellow or white). A non-reflective yellow colour, No. 355 (lemon) to Table 1 of BS 381C: 1996

“Specification for colours for identification, coding and special purposes” is recommended.

Subject to the specific requirements of the following sections, any works vehicles that are used to protect the workforce or form part of the signing of the works should be of conspicuous colour and appropriate marking. This is particularly important for that part of the vehicle visible to drivers and prescribed as part of any sign mounted on the vehicle.

In addition, on high-speed roads, all vehicles stopping on the highway for works purposes or inspections shall be equipped with high visibility rear markings. High visibility rear markings should comprise either:

- a) signing to diagram 7403, or
- b) the alternative light arrow sign in accordance with Section O10.8, or
- c) chevron markings comprising alternate strips of fluorescent orange-red retroreflective material and fluorescent yellow non-retroreflective material, of not less than 150mm width each, inclined at 45-60° to the horizontal and pointing upwards, or
- d) a solid block of fluorescent orange-red retroreflective material.

The markings described in (c) and (d) above should cover as much of the rear-facing portion of the vehicle as possible without obscuring windows, vehicle lighting or registration plates.

Red retroreflective tape shall also be applied to all rear facing edges of open doors, guardrails and equipment lockers.

Where rear facing high visibility markings may be obscured by any device mounted on the vehicle (e.g. lorry-mounted crash cushion (LMCC) or cone laying adaptation), at any time that the vehicle is stopped on a high-speed road, additional markings complying with paragraph O5.2.3 (c) or (d) shall be applied to any face of the device which is displayed to the rear and other road users.

Works vehicles should be kept clean to maintain conspicuity.

Where vehicles are required to stop in a live carriageway to protect the scene whilst they make an initial assessment of an incident, the vehicle shall be fitted with appropriate high-conspicuity livery and enhanced warning lighting, complying with the Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations, appropriate to the type of vehicle dealing with the incident. Note that alternate flashing rear facing red lights are not currently authorized for use on vehicles other than emergency service and traffic officers' vehicles. Refer also to paragraph O7.2.74.

For all classes and speeds of road, any vehicle stopping on a highway for inspection or works purposes should be of a conspicuous colour and marking (refer to Section O5.2). It should be identifiable to traffic police (obviating the need for them to stop) by a sign “HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE” to diagram 7404 on or in the vehicle and facing the rear, and by any other vehicle identification scheme required by the overseeing organisation. The “HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE” sign should also be used on all-purpose roads.