

Road Safety Inspection Policy

June 2018



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1 Introduction

1.1 The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984

The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, Section 1, states that "...a local roads authority shall manage and maintain all such roads in their area as are for the time being entered in a list (in this Act referred to as their "list of public roads") prepared and kept by them under this section."

1.2 Code of Practice

The 'Well-managed Highway Infrastructure' Code of Practice is designed to promote national adoption of an integrated asset management approach to highway infrastructure based on the establishment of local levels of service through risk-based assessment.

1.3 The Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS)

SCOTS developed their guidance document for Road Safety Inspections and Defect Categorisation in partnership with Scottish Roads Authorities to achieve a common standard for their network based on The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, Section 1, and the Well-managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice.

The SCOTS recognise that Councils are currently faced with delivering services within an environment of increasing fiscal austerity and are aware of the benefits that can be achieved by adopting a common approach and minimum standards.

This consistent approach will also assist Councils when defending any public liability claims that may be intimidated against them.

2 Policy Statement

Aberdeen City Council recognises the importance of a consistent approach to inspection standards of its public roads network. It furthermore seeks to achieve best value in the management and maintenance of its road network through the use of risk-based asset-management principles.

Aberdeen City Council will:

- Carry out road inspections and repairs which comply with the guidance contained within Aberdeen City Council's "Road Safety Inspection Manual"
- Inspect carriageways and footways in accordance with Aberdeen City Council's "Road Safety Inspection Manual" to facilitate prioritisation of carriageways and footways for inclusion in future Maintenance Programmes
- Maintain a current inventory of road carriageways, footways and significant associated assets to be maintained.

3 Scope

This policy shall apply to:

- All carriageways on Aberdeen City Council's existing road network and associated assets
- All footways on Aberdeen City Council's existing road network and associated assets
- Duty of Care to record and notify third party defects
- Duty of Care to notify statutory undertakers defect

4 Implementation and Compliance

Aberdeen City Council's "Road Safety Inspection Manual" contains detailed guidance on carrying out road safety inspections and for the records maintained in the inventory.

The Chief Operating Officer, or delegated officers, will be responsible for updating the Road Safety Inspection Manual to reflect changes in legislation, advances in material technology and any other improvements or amendments considered to be needed.

The Roads Operations Manager shall be responsible for Inspection compliance, ensuring that guidance in the procedure is complied with, inspections are undertaken, and the inventory is maintained.