ENSURING ‘CLEAR VISIBILITY’

Ensuring that road users have adequate clear visibility of road works and their associated warning signage is vitally important when planning and undertaking works that affect the highway. Where possible, signs at temporary road works should be set out at the ‘normal’ (maximum) siting distance (‘D’) from the first cone when approaching the works from either direction – this distance varies according to the speed limit on the affected road.

The first sign that road users see will be the ‘road works ahead’ sign which must be placed in a location such that it is clearly visible by road users for at least the minimum clear visibility distance in front of it - between 60 and 105 metres (see table).

When setting up temporary road works signage, place the ‘road works ahead’ sign in its intended location and then pace the required minimum clear visibility distance in front of it (see table) and check that the sign is clearly visible from your stopping point – if it isn’t, you need to place an ‘additional’ sign where it can clearly been seen for the required minimum clear visibility distance for the particular speed limit.

Road works for ‘temporary situations’ create obstructions in the carriageway and their signage needs to provide road users of adequate ‘warning’ of that obstruction so that they can take appropriate action;

Always observe the correct siting and visibility distances in accordance with the ‘Maroon Book’ Code of Practice when setting out your works and monitor sign positions regularly during your work in the road.

Review your arrangements on site to check that signs are ‘clearly visible’ from the required distance ahead;

Ensure you have ‘additional’ signs available for when you might need them;

Check that your signs, cones and barriers clean and undamaged so that they can be easily seen;

Check your signs are in the right place and properly secured before you leave site, and before you start work in the morning; if anything is missing or defective – replace it as soon as you can!