

Mr Euan Renton

Date 11 June 2019

the.rentons@outlook.com

Your ref

Our ref T/TN/CWN/SR1051900/SH

Dear Mr Renton

## ROADS MANAGEMENT, MAINTENANCE AND ACTIVE TRAVEL

Thank you for your e-mail regarding cycling provision in and around works being carried out on the roads in Edinburgh.

To fulfil the desire in Edinburgh to maximise and maintain cyclists using the road network during road works the council is developing a guidance document. This document will recommend and help enforce, where legislation allows, that contractors, utilities, developers and other organisations wishing to carry out works on a road, be made aware of the instructions given in the following documents:

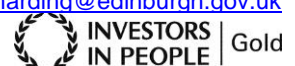
- Safety at Street Works and Road Works – A Code of Practice,
- Department of Transport Traffic Advisory Leaflet 15/99
- Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual - Traffic Safety Measures and Signs for Road Works and Temporary Situations Part 1: Design

In the operation and maintenance of road networks, it is necessary from time to time to put in place temporary traffic management measures to facilitate safe road works, temporary closures or incident management. This is further complicated by attempting to keep the traffic flowing as freely as possible. It is one of the statutory duties of a roads authority to minimise delay and disruption to all road users whilst co-ordinating works on the road.

With high traffic flows on many roads, it is particularly important to plan all works activities and temporary closures to optimise safety, road space and work efficiency, whilst minimising road user congestion, delay and inconvenience.

**Stuart Harding, Citywide Networks Manager**

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Road works on or near a carriageway, cycleway or footway might impair the safety and free movement of vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians (particularly those with mobility and visual impairments). The council takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the effects of the works are reduced to a minimum. This guidance document sets out the requirements of undertaking road works or temporary closures on all kinds of road user and recommends steps that should be taken to minimise these effects. It also emphasises the importance of following the recommended measures.

To ensure the safety of all road users and works operatives, it is not recommended to develop and erect signs that do not comply with legislative documents, namely the Traffic Signs and General Directions manual. This could result in confusion for road users and an inability to enforce any non-compliance should non statutory signs be used.

It is believed that the current guidance and specific legislation relating to the movement of cyclists, is sufficient to allow priority to be given to them at and through road works. The council will highlight the need for risk assessments when planning road works and will remind all who undertake road works of the specific requirements relating to cyclists.

There are however going to be instances when the use of 'Cyclists Dismount' signs will be necessary for the safety of cyclists, pedestrians and road work operatives. It will not always be possible to facilitate cyclists through road works where a road has been closed and there is insufficient remaining width to allow them to pass. Similarly there will be occasions when a road will be closed to vehicular traffic, but leaving sufficient width for cyclists to pass.

I hope you have found this response useful, however if you have any queries or require any further information please contact me at ([stuart.harding@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.harding@edinburgh.gov.uk)).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart Harding". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**Stuart Harding**  
**Citywide Networks Manager**