

Annex C – Additional Proposals

Additional proposed changes not currently contained in the draft Statutory Instrument

Direction 11

We are considering revising direction 11(2) because it has been suggested that the inclusion of the word 'regular' interval is overly prescriptive as this implies 'precisely equal'. This was not what the provision was intended to achieve, as the presence of junction and obstructions in the highway frequently prevent repeater signs being placed at exact intervals. We are also considering making slightly different amendments to direction 11 from those which are currently in the draft – this would be to make clear that additional signs may be placed not just where there is a junction, and also to provide for signs to be on alternate sides of the road.

Schedule 19

The intention is to expand the scope of bus services permitted to use bus stop clearways beyond the current exemption for local buses only. However, the changes are intended to stop short of permitting **any** bus from using these facilities. The intention is to allow those non-local bus services operating to a published timetable, while also preserving the option to exempt local buses only.

To achieve this, we propose to include a new definition of 'service buses' for such non-local bus services in regulation 4 as: "a bus being used in the provision of a service for which there is a published timetable".

The legend 'local buses' would be included in diagrams 974 and 975 as this is likely to be the most common use of these signs

For the purposes of Schedule 19, we propose to define "bus" in regulation 4 for clarity.

We would then amend the wording of paragraph 2 in Schedule 19 slightly to correspond with the above change.

Diagram 2716

It has been suggested that the permitted variants for this sign should allow all variations of diversion signing – including routes, place names, junction names and numbers and any other locations for both closure points and diversion way points.

Diagrams 7283 and 7284

It has been suggested that two diagram 7283 or 7284 roundels (750mm diameter) could be stacked one on top of each other: one imperial and one metric. This would save 150mm on sign width for all lanes with the restriction.

Red VMS Signs Displayed on Police Cars.

Regulation 58 only allows a legend on a variable message sign to be displayed in white, off white or yellow. At present, most police forces have variable message signs mounted in or on their vehicles which display, in red, messages to other road users, eg. 'DON'T PASS'. It is now accepted that this colour is not desirable in terms of visibility.

However, because the necessary modification to these signs would mean that every individual LED device is changed, it is proposed to supplement regulation 58 with a provision permitting a variable message sign mounted in or on a police vehicle to display a legend in red for a period of three years from the coming into effect of the amendment regulations. This would allow sufficient time for the existing signs to be modified or replaced.