



Asiant Cefnffyrdd Gogledd a Chanolbarth Cymru North & Mid Wales Trunk Road Agent

FROM: [REDACTED]	TO: [REDACTED]
DATE: 21/07/20	

BRIEFING NOTE

COVID-19, Revised Service Provision (Rev. 004)

Rationale - Rev.004 changes are shown in red.

In response to the developing COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on service provision within the Agents, Partner Authorities and the extended supply chain; it is considered prudent to implement service provision measures that provide resilience by maintaining staffing numbers and reducing demand for reactive services. To achieve this aim, it is proposed to revise the method and frequency of both highway and structures inspections with a view to maintaining a reduced service based on critical safety defect identification for the greatest period.

Highway assets

WGTRMM 2016 currently requires the undertaking of safety inspections and patrols as follows:

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|----------------------------|---|--|
| Dual Carriageway Network | - | Driven safety inspection every 7 days |
| | | Driven safety patrol every day |
| Single Carriageway Network | - | Driven safety inspection every 28 days |
| Urban Footways | - | Walked safety inspection every 28 days |

In order to maintain staffing resilience, implement social distancing and to provide safety inspection services, the following actions have been taken as agreed with WG:

- Inspection staff are to be allocated dedicated vehicles.
- Detailed inspection programmes are ongoing on both single and dual carriageway networks.
- Inspectors are continuing to travel in isolation and will maintain strict social distancing with colleagues and other operatives when undertaking site based activities

- Walked inspections of urban footways within 30 and 40mph sections and cycleways are to continue every 28 days whilst staffing resources permit. Where two inspectors are required for safety reasons, both will attend site in separate vehicles and maintain appropriate distancing.
- Safety inspections will be replaced by driven safety patrols as follows:
 - Dual carriageway network – Daily (7days)
 - Single carriageway network – From Friday 24th July, it is proposed to reduce the frequency of safety patrols from the current 3 times per week arrangement (Mon, Wed, Fri), to twice a week (Mon and Thurs). This will accommodate resource pressures arising from detailed inspection programmes and annual leave requests. The safety patrol arrangement (in lieu of 28day safety inspections) has proven to be effective and 2 patrols per week are considered to be sufficient.
- Dual carriageway safety patrols to be recorded on IRIS through VICII application. Safety critical defects identified on the single carriageway network to be raised as CAT1 ad-hoc defects by ARM
- Safety critical defects to be identified and Assistant Route Managers notified.
- ARM to arrange/manage remedial works through supply chain
- Revised inspection schedule for safety patrols to be closely coordinated to address fluctuating staffing levels.

Structures Assets

- Principal and General Inspection programmes are ongoing. Inspectors will travel to site in separate vehicles and will maintain strict social distancing measures when undertaking inspections.
- Structures routine maintenance activities are ongoing, with strict social distancing measures being applied by both NMWTRA and PA or 3rd party contractors.
- Any visible safety critical defects of structures assets, identified during the abovementioned safety patrols will be notified to the structures inspection team for further action and if appropriate a special/reactive structures inspection.
- Any defects of structures assets arising from an incident on the network will be notified to the structures inspection team for further investigation and if appropriate a special/reactive structures inspection.
- Existing monitoring regimes associated with sub-standard structures will continue.
- Post-flooding inspections are to be progressed on a prioritised basis as far as possible.

Review

The changes to both highway and structures inspection frequencies and methodology will be reviewed in line with Government direction and advice; any further proposals will be discussed and agreed before implementation.