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SCOTTISH ROAD WORKS COMMISSIONER

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The Scottish Road Works Commissioner has today issued a penalty of £8,000 to East Lothian Council in connection with a failure to keep its street gazetteer up to date over a number of years.

Councils have a duty to regularly update their street gazetteers in the Scottish Road Works Register which holds information on all road works in Scotland. The gazetteer is the reference system for the notification and co-ordination of road works. If not kept up to date, this can adversely affect utility companies who are required to place notices of road works in advance of them taking place.

Mrs Elspeth King, the Scottish Road Works Commissioner, said:

“I am disappointed that East Lothian Council hadn’t updated their street gazetteer. This is an offence and has warranted the issue of a penalty. I am however pleased to note that the Council has taken action to address this matter and I am assured that it is now up to date.”

NOTES FOR NEWS EDITORS

The post of Commissioner was established under the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 to improve the planning, co-ordination and quality of road works throughout Scotland. The Commissioner monitors performance, promotes compliance with legislation and good practice across both utility companies and roads authorities (Councils for local roads and Transport Scotland for the trunk road network).

The Commissioner has powers to issue penalties up to a maximum of £50,000 where a roads authority or utility company fails to comply with its duties under road works legislation.

The National Street Gazetteer is the list maintained by each roads authority of the roads within its area.

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