



NOTE: Due to changes to the relevant Code of Practice, the cross references shown within this document to the particular Section of that Code of Practice is not currently a correct one.

ROADS AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE
(SCOTLAND)

ADVICE NOTE 2

GUIDANCE ON THE REINSTATEMENT OF FRICTION
COATINGS AND COLOURED SURFACES

Version 1.01

July 2005

Guidance on the Reinstatement of Friction Coatings and Coloured Surfaces

Version History

Version	Date	Notes
1.00	Sep '98	Originally issued by COSLA
1.01	Jul '05	Note re cross reference added pending review

Roads Authorities & Utilities Committee (Scotland)

Advice Note 2

Guidance on the Reinstatement of Friction Coatings and Coloured Surfacing (to be read in conjunction with the Code of Practice for the Specification for the Reinstatement of Openings in Highways)

1. The Present Position:

Section 6.6 of the Code of Practice for the Specification of Reinstatements applies to Friction Coatings and Coloured Surfacing and states:

“1) Friction Coatings

In the event of notification by the authority, the permanent reinstatement of sections requiring special friction coatings shall have an agreed, equivalent, surface treatment applied within 10 working days following either the date of completion or the reinstatement, or the date on which the authority agreed equivalent treatment, if later.

2) Coloured Surfacing

Coloured Surfacing used to highlight particular highway features shall be restored, subject to the following:-

- a) the authority requests the use of such surfacing at either the planning or notice stage, or, in the event of immediate works, before permanent reinstatement; and
- b) where the local custom and practice has been to complete previous surface restoration using similar matching surfacing; and
- c) the authority is able to identify an appropriate source of equivalent coloured surfacing.”

2. Present Practice

The use of such materials has increased in recent years – traffic calming schemes, bus priority lanes, road safety schemes at bends and on the approach to pedestrian crossings being the main areas of use.

Roads authorities have made it clear to utilities that friction coatings or coloured surfacings should always be reinstated on a like-for-like basis. Any exceptions to this need to be agreed with the roads authorities, and this is accepted by the utilities. The location of these materials is to be included in the additional tables of the SRWR Gazetteer.

The timescale within which the reinstatement of such proprietary materials takes place has been accepted by the roads authorities as having to be more flexible than the Code of Practice would suggest.

There are a number of reasons why it is difficult at times to comply with a short time scale for reinstatement:-

- The time of year and the weather – most proprietary materials can only be laid in dry or dry and warm conditions.
- The availability of the material and specialist contractors – in addition to the seasonality, it can be difficult and expensive to obtain specialist services and materials for small items of work such as reinstatements.

Some utilities have asked that a flexible approach be taken to this issue and that roads authorities should be prepared to have such work carried out as part of their own programmes of work where they themselves are to employ specialist contractors and that utilities would pay pro-rata for this.

3. Proposed Guidance

It is recommended that:-

- 1) Friction coatings and Coloured Surfacings should always be reinstated in the same or an agreed equivalent material, unless the roads authority notifies the utility otherwise.
- 2) Statutory undertakers should, whenever possible, programme their work so that reinstatements of friction coatings in particular can be carried out timeously in the summer months.
- 3) Roads authorities should, where possible, include the reinstatement of Friction Coatings and coloured Surfacings in their own programmes of such work where this will allow their reinstatement on a timescale acceptable to the authority.
- 4) How this is to be recharged to or paid in advance by the utility will be agreed at local level.
- 5) Where the roads authority has no programme of such works, it will advise the utilities of the appropriate materials and contractors to be used in carrying out the reinstatements and agree an acceptable timescale.
- 6) Where/

- 6) Where the roads authorities requires it, for safety or other local reasons, the reinstatement should be carried out by the utility in accordance with Section 6.6 of the Code of Practice.