



From mountain to sea

Road markings

Policy

March 2022



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Policy Sponsor	P McKay, Head of Service, Roads & Infrastructure
Authorised by	Infrastructure Services Committee
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1 Introduction

Well designed and maintained road markings make a vital contribution to both safety and efficiency in our road network. They give drivers continuous guidance on the alignment of the road ahead, caution against dangerous overtaking and provide information on priorities at junctions and other interfaces with road users.

British and international studies consistently show that investment in appropriate road marking delivers significant reductions in accidents and one of the highest benefit-to-cost ratios of any road-safety measure. Over use of markings can lead to clutter, which reduces the effectiveness of critical markings and can detract from the quality of the local environment.

All traffic signs including road markings must comply with the current Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions however traffic authorities still have considerable discretion in the design of road-marking schemes.

This policy aims to achieve consistency in the use of road markings across the areas of Aberdeenshire. It furthermore seeks to achieve best value in the management and maintenance of road markings through the use of asset-management principles.

2 Policy statement

Aberdeenshire Council recognises the importance of good road markings and we will seek to manage and maintain appropriate road markings in a serviceable condition while achieving best value.

We will:

- **Only install or replace markings which comply with the guidance given in Aberdeenshire Council's "Road Markings Manual"**
- **Aim to inspect road markings annually to facilitate prioritisation of markings for renewal**
- **Create and maintain an inventory of road markings to be maintained**
- **Use appropriate materials to achieve acceptable service levels while minimising whole-life costs.**

3 Scope

This policy shall apply to:

- All works on Aberdeenshire's existing road network
- New roads constructed by or on behalf of Aberdeenshire Council
- New roads constructed by others for adoption by Aberdeenshire Council.

4 Implementation & compliance

Aberdeenshire Council's "Road Markings Manual" contains detailed guidance on the appropriate use of road markings and road-marking materials within Aberdeenshire

along with directions for inspections and for the records to be maintained in the inventory.

The Roads Policy and Asset Manager will be responsible for updating the manual to reflect changes in legislation, advances in material technology and any other improvements or amendments considered to be needed. Applications for departures from the standards set out in the manual shall be determined by the Roads Policy and Asset Manager after advice from the Roads Standards Group.

Local Roads and Landscape Managers shall be responsible for compliance within their areas, ensuring that guidance in the manual is complied with, inspections are undertaken and the inventory is maintained. The Roads Development Manager shall ensure that roads for adoption comply with the guidance and that the inventory is updated on adoption.
