

<b>Health and Safety Executive</b>		<b>Operational Minute</b>	
		<b>OM 2003/109</b>	
<b>Cancellation Date</b>	01/06/2011	<b>Open Government Status</b>	Fully Open
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Target Audience:

Operational Inspectors

Workplace Contact Officers

Heads of Operations

Heads of Operational Divisions

## **RESPONSE TO ENQUIRIES ON WORK RELATED ROAD SAFETY (WRRS)**

This OM reminds staff of the guidance on work related road safety and advises on the appropriate response to enquiries for further information. It replaces OM 2003/109 version 1 which should now be cancelled.

1 In 2003 the HSE published 'Driving at Work. Managing Work Related Road Safety' (INDG 382) jointly with the Department for Transport (DfT). This was part of the response to implement the recommendations of the inter departmental Work-related Road Safety Task Group. **It includes a statement which explains that the topic is not an HSC/E priority.**

2 Guidance on operational policy on work related road safety is in OM 2003/103. Each case should be considered on its merits and the detail of the OM considered. The police continue to take the lead in investigating accidents on the public highway, but may refer particular cases to HSE when there is reason to suspect that safety management failures were a significant contributory factor. New guidance recently adopted by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), based on work with HSE and the DfT, clarifies the circumstances in which this should happen.

3 Inspectors and other visiting staff are unlikely to have the knowledge of the relevant benchmarks and best practice so they should not normally engage duty holders in discussions about their responsibilities or performance on the topic of WRRS. If duty holders or employee representatives raise the issue of WRRS at a visit or telephone for advice, staff should refer them to INDG 383. Work is in hand, in partnership with DfT, to establish the evidence for safety management failures being a significant causal factor in road accidents and to identify the most effective remedial actions for duty holders to take.

4 It is recognised that the HSE/DfT guidance may lead to increased expectations of HSE action. In cases of difficulty or where the volume of enquiries are having a significant impact on operational plans then please contact Safety Unit.

5 There are other regulators in addition to the police to whom people may be referred. The current details of the Traffic Commissioners who license operators of goods vehicles and public service vehicles and the Vehicle and Operators Services Agency (formerly Vehicle Inspectorate) who have an interest in the roadworthiness of vehicles can be viewed at:

<http://www.tan.gov.uk/TANen/index.asp>

<http://www.vosa.gov.uk/vosa/>

For further information see also OC 789/4.

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