GENERAL PREFACE TO THE VOLUME 10 SERIES OF ADVICE NOTES

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GENERAL PREFACE TO VOLUME 10 OF THE DMRB

Structure of the Guidance

0.1 This Advice Note, which forms Volume 10 of the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) provides guidance on the environmental design, implementation and management of trunk road schemes, including motorways, as well as management of the existing highway estate.

0.2 The Advice Note provides guidance to the Overseeing Organisation’s designers on the approach to the environmental design of improvement schemes and the performance requirements for the environmental measures that are proposed.

0.3 The parts of Volume 10 are as follows:

Section 0 – ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES

Part 1: HA 86/01 Principles & Guidance
Part 2: HA 87/01 Environmental Functions
Part 3: HA 88/01 Landscape Elements
Part 4: HA 89/01 Environmental Elements
Part 5: HA 90/1 Planning & Policy Features
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Section 1 – NEW ROADS

Part 1 HA 55/92 Landform and Alignment
Part 2 HA 56/92 Planting, Vegetation and Soils
Part 3 HA 57/92 Integration with Rural Landscapes
Part 4 HA 58/92 The Road Corridor
Part 5 HA 60/92 Heritage
Part 6 HA 96/01 Off-site Planting

Section 2 - IMPROVING EXISTING ROADS

Part 1: HA 85/01 Road Improvement within Limited Land Take
Part 2: HA 63/92 Improvement Techniques

Section 3 – LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT


Section 4 - NATURE CONSERVATION

Part 1: HA 84/01 Nature Conservation and Biodiversity
Part 2: HA 59/92 Mitigating Against Effects on Badgers
Part 3: HA 80/99 Nature Conservation in Relation to Bats
Part 4 HA 81/99 Nature Conservation Advice in Relation to Otters
Part 5: HA 97/01 Nature Conservation in Advice Relation to Dormice
Part 6: HA 98/01 Nature Conservation in Advice Relation to Amphibians

Section 5 - ENVIRONMENTAL BARRIERS

Part 2: HA 66/95 Environmental Barriers - Technical Requirements

Section 6 – ARCHAEOLOGY

Part 1 HA 75/01 Trunk Roads and Archaeological Mitigation

Section 7 – GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

Part 1 HA 99/01 Policy and Guidance

How to Use the Guidance

0.4 Many of the design ideas put forward in Section 1 – New Roads are also relevant to the other Sections and cross references have been provided.

0.5 The first Chapter of each Part of the Guidance reviews the issues and topics covered. The subsequent chapters deal with a particular topic. Within each chapter, the key issues are first listed and then discussed with illustrations drawn from roads throughout the UK.
0.6 The Guidance is not a step-by-step guide on how to build or maintain a road or a substitute for professional advice. It is intended to be used by the designer to help in the identification of areas and issues where careful consideration of environmental factors is required. The division of the Guidance into Parts and the Parts into topics has been done to aid this process.

0.7 Environmental design and management of roads is a matter of respecting the special character of each individual location. The illustrations included show solutions devised to meet the requirements of specific sites. The use of standard solutions, irrespective of the location, is not appropriate.

Implementation

0.8 The principles set out in this Advice Note should be taken into account in the preparation of all schemes for the construction, improvement, maintenance and operation of trunk roads, including motorways.

0.9 Where conflicts exist between environmental design and management, costs, engineering feasibility and safety requirements, and competing options are available, designers/managers will need to advise the overseeing organisation accordingly.

0.10 Certain parts of Section 0: Environmental Objectives provide guidance on Highways Agency procedures such as the Database, DBFO and D&B Requirements, that are specific to England and may not apply to Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland. Users will need to consult with the Overseeing Organisation on current policy, procedures and guidance.

Application in Wales

0.11 Requirements in Wales are primarily covered by the publications “Roads in Upland Areas: Design Guide” (published by the Welsh Office in 1990) and “Roads in Lowland Areas: Design Guide” (published by the Welsh Office in 1993). This Advice Note supplements these Design Guides.

Application in Scotland

0.12 The Scottish Executive Development Department, Transport and Planning Group endorse the general principles of landscape design given in this Advice Note but have set out a specific procedure to apply these principles. This procedure must be applied to all landscape design and management activities on Scotland’s trunk roads and motorways. The procedure is contained in ‘Cost Effective Landscape: Learning from Nature’. Copies can be obtained from S.O. or by contacting the Scottish Executive Development Department’s Landscape Advisor. The Landscape Advisor will also be able to detail other operational differences in relation to landscape management procedure.

Application in Northern Ireland

0.13 The principles set out in this Advice Note are endorsed as good practice by the Department for Regional Development. The Guidance will be taken into account in preparing schemes for the construction or improvement of all roads in Northern Ireland.