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Dear Chris and Harry,

Temporary Traffic Signals

Mike Talbot had agreed to write and clarify the Department's understanding of the legal position vis a vis the approvals needed by utilities to place and operate temporary traffic signals when carrying out street works. This letter was sent by David Padfield on 11 January 2006 and HAUC(UK) replied on 14 March with two specific questions. The Department would like to give the following response:

1. Could DfT confirm that the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 were considered in coming to this view?

The second paragraph clearly states that in coming to a view it is important to take account of the primary legislation, regulations and statutory guidance. The general reference to "regulations for traffic signs" was intended to include the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 although as a general rather than a specific reference.

2. Paragraph (5) of the letter refers to approval always being necessary "if the section operated by TTS includes a junction". Would it be possible to confirm whether this is a reference to all junctions?

The view of the Department is that this reference is to all junctions.

I must stress that the above and the contents of the letter of 11th January are the Department's view of the way the legislation works. The interpretation of legislation is ultimately a matter for the courts.

Yours sincerely

[treat as signed]

Ellen Duffy