

CLEAR

keeping Scotland's traffic moving

Kinning Park
Tradeston

Glasgow Airport & Greenock (M8)
Kilmarnock & Prestwick Airport (M77) M74

ACCIDENT M77 (S) AFTER J3



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May 2014



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland



Introduction

This document sets out the roles and responsibilities of the key organisations involved in traffic incident management on the strategic motorway and trunk road network, setting out a joint outcome.

This document will help improve the understanding of the responsibilities of each organisation, the collective joint working principles and shared priorities. This will lead to improved communications and collaboration, more effective incident management and a reduction in incident duration.



Collision

Collisions and other incidents can close carriageway lanes which adversely affects the economy

Lead

Effective leadership needs to be established to co-ordinate the incident response

Evaluate

Understanding the scale of the incident ensures a proportionate response

Act

All incident responders act in partnership, recognising and respecting differing organisational priorities

Re-opened

Carriageway lanes are re-opened ASAP to reduce the impact of incident closures on road users and the economy

In 2013 there were approximately 5,125 unplanned incidents recorded by Traffic Scotland that impacted the strategic motorway and trunk road network. This resulted in a significant cost to the Scottish economy.

All parties must recognise and drive the need to work together collectively in order to minimise the impact of closures, whilst recognising individual objectives.

To minimise the impact of incidents on road users and the economy through an integrated, co-ordinated approach to safe partnership working.

Joint Responsibilities

- ensure due regard for personal safety and the safety of others throughout the co-ordination of the incident response
- co-operate, co-ordinate and collaborate to ensure effective and efficient partnership working between responders
- support other responders in achieving their objectives, ultimately contributing to timely carriageway re-opening
- establish effective leadership from each responders' scene leader to co-ordinate the incident response
- warn and inform with regular updates to control rooms on:
 - incident management progress
 - traffic management measures
 - estimating accurate times for carriageway re-opening
 - off network issues
- participate in timely debriefing with handover of control and scene transfer to appropriate partner responder
- identify, agree and allocate time bound actions to address emerging issues
- execute allocated actions

Roles and Responsibilities

The responding organisations' individual roles and responsibilities are set out in the following pages.

Role

The Police will lead the resolution of incidents on the strategic motorway and trunk road network which involve:

- death or injury including collisions and suicides
- suspected, alleged or anticipated criminality
- threats to public order and public safety
- occurrences where the powers in law or skills of a constable are required

Responsibilities

- working with other agencies to create a safe and sterile rescue and work environment
- preserving the life of those present
- preventing escalation
- co-ordinating the emergency response with the other core responders and supporting agencies
- securing, protecting and preserving the scene, maintaining control and ensuring the integrity of the scene for any subsequent investigation where necessary
- acting on behalf of Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service
- investigating the incident in a timely fashion – this includes obtaining and securing evidence in conjunction with other investigatory bodies (where applicable)

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- without prejudicing the collection of material or the health and safety of those involved, ensure road closures are appropriate and proportionate to the needs of the investigation whilst being mindful of the economic pressures surrounding protracted road closures
 - handing over the scene or sections of the overall scene to Transport Scotland's Operating Company as soon as practicable
 - working with partners to restore safe use of the carriageway as soon as possible

Role

Transport Scotland (TS) is Scotland's National Transport Agency. On behalf of the Scottish Government they are responsible for:

- managing, maintaining and operating Scotland's motorway and trunk road
- overseeing the response to incidents
- keeping Scotland's motorway and trunk road network moving safely

Responsibilities

- supporting the lead agency
- ensuring incidents are effectively managed and adequately resourced
- maintaining public safety whilst being mindful of the economic pressures surrounding protracted road closures
- ensuring road users are provided with helpful, timely and accurate travel information
- updating Scottish Ministers and Scottish Government Resilience colleagues
- undertaking incident management debriefs to learn lessons and improve best practice
- maintaining and updating operational policy for the motorway and trunk road network, including high wind management and incident response planning and winter maintenance

Role

The Fire Services support incident resolution by:

- extinguishing fires and protecting life and property
- rescuing people from a fire and its consequences including a range of other hazards and road traffic collisions

Responsibilities

- save life through search and rescue
- rescue people trapped in road traffic collisions and emergencies
- extinguish fires and protect life and property in the event of fires
- respond to, contain, mitigate effects and prevent further escalation of incidents involving hazardous materials and loads including radioactive substances
- assist with casualty handling
- undertake body recovery if it is in a dangerous position, such as road traffic collisions which are only accessible by Fire and Rescue Service equipment
- ensure the health and safety of persons within the inner cordon
- conduct mass de-contamination when required
- being mindful of the economic pressures surrounding protracted road closures



Role

The Ambulance Services support incident resolution by:

- ensuring the initial health needs of those people who become ill or injured whilst travelling on the network are met
- initiating and seamlessly delivering rapid assessment, response and where required, treatment of those individuals involved

Responsibilities

- save life together with the other emergency services
- accurately assess and triage calls received to incidents
- protect the health, safety and welfare of ambulance staff as far as is reasonably practicable
- provide triage, treatment, stabilisation and care of those injured at the scene
- treat those involved as individuals and respond to their needs as such
- arrange the most appropriate means of transporting those injured to the receiving and specialist hospitals (involving use of Helimed when required)
- provide a focal point at the incident for all National Health Service (NHS) and other medical resources
- where required, nominate and alert the receiving hospitals to receive those injured
- act as a portal into the wider health services including specialist health advice when required
- responsible for decontamination of casualties in a Hazmat or chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear incident
- being mindful of the economic pressures surrounding protracted road closures

Role

The Police manage, through their Recovery Agent, the recovery of broken down or damaged vehicles and their loads involved in incidents:

- the Police leads where the vehicle is (or is suspected to have been) involved in criminality, is otherwise the subject of investigation or is causing an obstruction
- Transport Scotland through their Operating Companies will provide assistance to the Police through the recovery process when requested which may include but is not limited to road closures and scene clearance
- Transport Scotland through their Operating Companies will manage the recovery of broken-down vehicles within traffic management arrangements

Responsibilities

On instruction, safe removal of vehicles and their loads that have been abandoned or are causing a danger or an obstruction to other road users and scene clearance.

- storage and, if necessary, disposal of vehicles that have been removed
- undertake forensic recovery of vehicles where investigation is required (Police recovery only)
- being mindful of the economic pressures surrounding protracted road closures

The recovery scene becomes the responsibility of the Recovery Contractor during recovery and it is the Recovery Contractor who has legal responsibility for personnel on scene under terms of current Health & Safety legislation.

Role

On behalf of Transport Scotland, Trunk Road Operating Companies (OCs) and DBFO (Design, Build, Finance and Operate) Contractors, support incident resolution by providing traffic management and restoring the road to a safe condition.

Responsibilities

- deploy traffic management at the inner and outer cordon
- respond in a timely manner to make safe damage to road infrastructure as a result of an incident with a view to full restoration as soon as possible
- deploy and operate pollution-control devices including emergency spill kits where available
- assist in assessing the need for additional or specialist resources, to help expedite a speedy restoration of normality and traffic flow
- assist the Emergency Services upon request with the implementation of Standard Incident Diversion Routes (SIDRs) following area network closures
- liaise closely with Traffic Scotland and affected local authorities to monitor the impact of the incident on the wider road network and implement additional measures where appropriate
- being mindful at all times of the economic pressures surrounding protracted road closures

Role

On behalf of Transport Scotland, Traffic Scotland use Intelligent Transport Systems equipment to improve trunk road journey time reliability and to keep drivers safe and informed.

Responsibilities

From the 24/7 National Control Centre in South Queensferry, they:

- monitor the trunk road network using tools such as CCTV, weather station cameras, induction loops, roadside emergency telephones and journey-time information
- gather information from the operational stakeholders such as the Trunk Road Operating Companies, Police Scotland, Local Authorities, broadcast media and the public
- implement response strategies to help manage live incidents, for example diversion routes, weather warnings and high wind management strategies for major bridges
- control trunk roads and motorways using the Traffic Scotland System of variable message signs, overhead motorway signal controls and speed signals
- provide real-time traffic information relating to live incidents taking place using variable message signs, radio broadcasts, social media, a customer care line and the Traffic Scotland website. Further information is passed to Transport Scotland and Scottish Ministers through Network Status Reports

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Further copies of this document are available, on request, in audio and large print formats and in community languages (Urdu; Bengali; Gaelic; Hindi; Punjabi; Cantonese; Arabic; Polish).

Transport Scotland, Buchanan House,
58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF
0141 272 7100
info@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk
www.transportscotland.gov.uk

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