



ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF POLICE OFFICERS IN SCOTLAND

NOTICE TO HAULIERS

ACPOS ABNORMAL LOADS WORKING GROUP

ACPOS Road Policing Standing Committee have endorsed the principle of self escorting abnormal indivisible loads on motorways and linking dual carriageways and on other roads deemed suitable by individual Chief Constables.

The self escorting of abnormal indivisible loads is acceptable only in the following circumstances:-

- The Haulier complying with the Department for Transport/Highways Agency Code of Practice.
- The Haulier must give written notice at the time of notification that the self escort personnel will not engage in the direction or control of traffic.
- The Haulier must give an assurance that they will not operate or move abnormal indivisible loads on urban motorways during peak traffic flows.

ROAD SAFETY UNDERPINS THE POLICY RELATIVE TO SELF ESCORTING. HAULIERS MUST ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY OF ALL ROAD USERS IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF SELF ESCORTING ACTIVITIES.

The draft code of conduct refers to Level 2 accredited persons. Level 2 accredited persons will not apply in Scotland. Chief Officers in England and Wales do not intend to accredit any individuals to Level 2 as referred to in the DfT Highways Agency Code of Practice.

The police service in Scotland are **not forcing** any haulier to self escort. Self escorting is an option available to all the hauliers using motorways and the linking dual carriageway network in Scotland. The savings in time will no doubt make self escorting very attractive to Hauliers.

As a result of the “no escort” policy being adopted by the police service in England and Wales from 1 January 2004, many private companies have been set up as providers of abnormal load escorts. Such companies are in the process of contacting individual police forces seeking some form of endorsement for their company. Scottish Forces will not

enter into any form of agreement with private abnormal load escort companies. The relevant legislation refers to the haulier and no provision is made for any agent or other person acting on behalf of the haulier. The onus relative to notification and indemnity rests with the haulier and with no other person.

ACPOS Road Policing Standing Committee **are not** requiring Hauliers to be members of any organisations or trade associations before they can operate self escorting.

It is essential that all Hauliers have insurance cover for the task of self escorting.

The onus for route planning and notification to both the Police and Roads Authorities remains with the Haulier.

Should any further information relative to the policy be required, contact should be made with the undersigned during normal office hours.

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