

# Safety Alert

## Alleged Chapter 8 noncompliance of Vehicles on the M4, M23 & M25 Schemes

8 July 2019

### Background information

The Traffic Signs Manual 'Chapter 8' provides guidelines for companies on high visibility markings and vehicle warning systems (including beacons) when working on high speed roads.

It is a Highways England requirement that:-

- Vehicles should be equipped with either a roof-mounted flashing amber warning light bar (comprising at least two independent light sources) or two independent roof-mounted flashing amber warning beacons, visible through 360°.
- Roof-mounted flashing amber warning beacons comply with the requirements of *The Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations 1989* and with *The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Regulation 65 on Special Warning Lamps*.

A complaint has been received via the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) where it has been alleged that 'a large number of motorway vehicles on the M25, M4 and M23 are using warning lights that are not ECE R65 approved'.

### Actions

In relation to your work :-

- Ensure that all vehicles that stop on the highway for works purposes or inspections meet the requirements of Highways England and Chapter 8.
- Ensure that a compliance plan is implemented for any vehicles which do not meet these requirements.
- Ensure that all vehicle users and vehicle managers are re-briefed on the above requirements.

### Actions via Airsweb

- Supply chain working on M4, M23 & M25 schemes need to ensure that the above actions are confirmed as 'completed' on Airsweb (see attached guidance).
- If a compliance plan is implemented, annotate on Airsweb, a plan is in place under the 'description field'.