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To: Each County/City Chief Executive

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Circular RSD/03/2015

Updates to Traffic Signs Manual 2010

A Chara,

I am directed by Paschal Donohoe, T.D., Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport to issue this Circular together with updates for Chapters 0, 1, 4 and 5 of the Traffic Signs Manual 2010 (TSM). The TSM constitutes a direction given by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to road authorities under section 95(16) of the Road Traffic Act 1961 in relation to the provision of traffic signs.

The TSM is being updated to take account of the 2013 Speed Limits Review and the associated "Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland". A summary of the relevant updates are set out below.

<u>Chapter 0</u>: This is essentially a newly inserted 'Contents' chapter which will now also record (on page iii) when the latest update of each Chapter of the Manual was completed (e.g. it will now record that the latest versions of Chapters 1, 4 and 5 are those which are part of the current updating exercise as of [November] 2015).

<u>Chapter 1</u>: Divided into six sections: Introduction (including Legal Framework, General Responsibilities, Classification of Signs, Use of Irish on Traffic Signs), Sign Sizes, Sign Locations, Gantries and Variable Message Signs, Sign Construction and Mounting, Maintenance.

The main updates provided in this Chapter are:

- a) Amendments to Department name and website references;
- b) Removal of references to Borough Councils and Town Councils;
- c) Updating of references to the National Roads Authority (NRA) now part of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII); and
- d) Changes to layout and positioning of some directional signs.

<u>Chapter 4</u>: Provides details of the information signs (other than directional information signs) which may be used on roads in Ireland, including their layouts and symbols, the circumstances in which each sign may be used and guidance on positioning them.

The main updates provided in this Chapter are:

- a) Inclusion of the new 'Slow Zone' Sign (30km/h);
- b) Provision for Community Alert Signs;
- c) Spelling Amendments;
- d) Alterations to some sign symbol sizes; and
- e) Amendments to Department name and website references.

<u>Chapter 5</u>: Provides details of the regulatory signs which may be used on roads in Ireland, including their layouts and symbols, the circumstances in which each sign may be used and guidance on positioning them.

The main updates provided in this Chapter are:

- a) Inclusion of the new Rural Speed Limit Sign;
- b) Provision for use of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets;
- c) Provision for a 40km/h Special Speed limit;
- d) Provision for use of the new 'Slow Zone' Sign;
- e) Inclusion of a new Restriction on Parking Sign Specified Events;
- f) Amendments to Department name and website references; and
- g) Alternate sign size changes.

The updated chapters of the TSM will be applicable from the date of issue of this Circular. The updated chapters will be available for download on a chapter by chapter basis from the Department's websites www.dttas.ie and www.trafficsigns.ie.

The Traffic Signs Manual (2010) was printed in November 2010 and this date was located on the bottom of each page. The current updates to the Traffic Signs Manual can be printed on a page by page basis showing the new print date of November 2015 and substituting those pages in the ring binders for ready identification as to which print edition is being referred to. Details of revisions and amendments as they arise will also be available on the Department's website.

If you have any queries or require clarification on any aspect of this Circular please email trafficsigns@dttas.ie

Mise, le meas,

Decian Hayes Principal Officer Road Safety Division