



Mike Wilson,
Chief Highway Engineer,
Safety, Engineering and Standards
Temple Quay,
Bristol

Date: 25th March 2021

ROAD SAFETY AUDITS – SITE VISITS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC (UPDATE)

This letter provides an update to a previous letter I wrote on 6th January 2021 and removes the relaxations introduced as part of our response to COVID-19.

Highways England Update

The Government have published their roadmap out of lockdown and on the 29th March 2021 rules around travel and outdoor activity will change.

During the height of the pandemic, Highways England introduced relaxations to undertaking site visits for Stage 1 and 2 Road Safety Audits. We also reduced the number of people that needed to be invited and attend site for Stage 3 Road Safety Audits.

From the 29th March 2021 these relaxations will no longer be in place. The only exception being that if an agreement has already been made with the Highways England Project Manager that a site visit will not be undertaken (this agreement must have been made before the 29th March 2021). In this event the Road Safety Audit can continue as planned.

Furthermore, any schemes that have not moved beyond the design stage since the relaxations were introduced are required to have a fully compliant Stage 1 or 2 Road Safety Audit to be undertaken.

We therefore advise you that Road Safety Audits are once again required to be undertaken fully in accordance with DMRB GG119 Road Safety Audits.

It is important to note, that as with all aspects of working and social life, site visits will need to be undertaken in accordance with the government guidelines, please see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19> for the latest government advice.

Contact details

Any questions relating to this letter please contact:

RoadSafetyAudit@highwaysengland.co.uk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Wilson".

Mike Wilson
Chief Highway Engineer