

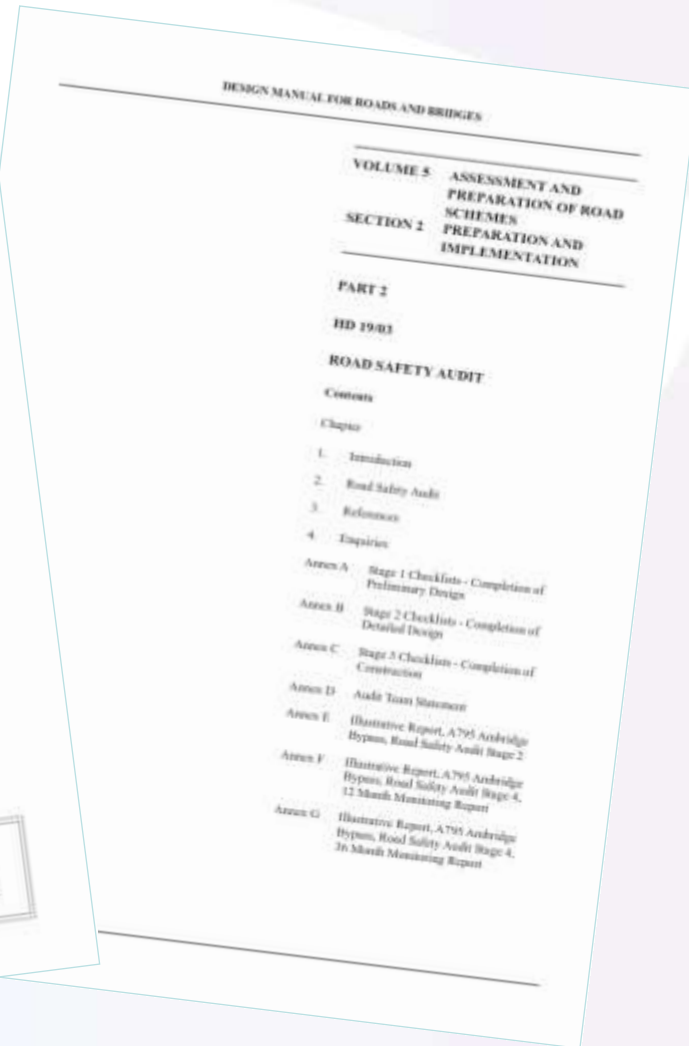
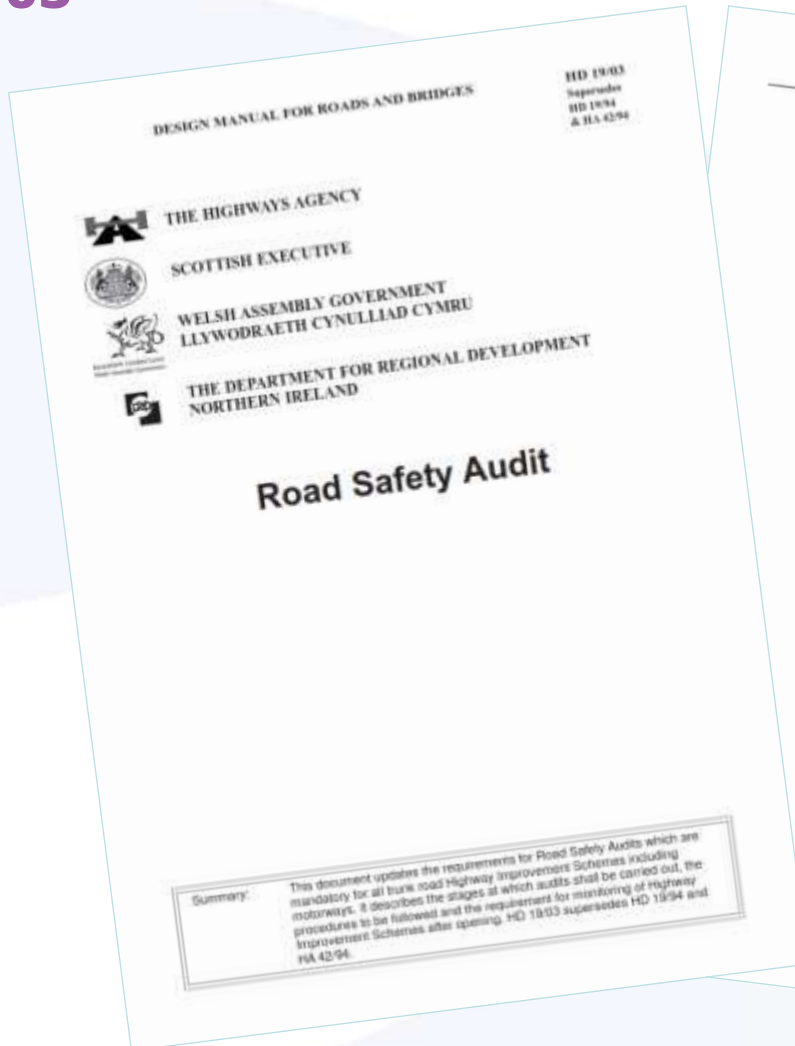


# **RSA – The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly**

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# RSA – The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

## HD19/03



## The Opening Paragraph

**HD19/03:** This report results from a Stage 2 Road Safety Audit carried out on the A795 Ambridge Bypass at the request of the Design Organisation: Ambridge Bypass Design Team, DLS Partnership (Highways Division), 12-14 Cathedral Close, Borchester. The Audit was carried out during November 2004.

## A Thought - Who Are We Auditing For?

HD19/03 tells us we are auditing:

to ensure that the road safety implications of all Highways Improvement Schemes are fully considered for all users of the highway including those working on the highway

We are auditing for all users of the highway

We are auditing on behalf of the Overseeing Organisation  
– the Highway Authority

## The Opening Paragraph

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**Probably Non-HD19/03:** This report has been produced as a result of a Stage 2 Road Safety Audit carried out at the request of ABC Engineering Consultants Ltd, **on behalf of Big Developer Ltd**

But BOTH close with:

***I certify that this audit has been carried out in accordance with  
HD19/03***

## The Myth of HD19/03 Compliance

The Highways Agency Review:

Approximately 1200 Road Safety Audit reports reviewed:

**16%** fully conformed with HD19

**73%** mostly conformed to HD19 with a few minor non-compliances

**11%** failed to conform with HD19.

More than 1 in 10 didn't comply  
84% of us aren't getting it fully right

## The Report Recipe - Introduction

- Why was the audit undertaken?
- Who were the RSA Team?
  - roles
  - non-auditor involvement

## The Report Recipe - Introduction

- Why was the audit undertaken?
- Who were the RSA Team?
- Where and When was the audit undertaken?
- When was the site visited and by whom?
  - date, times, weather, road surface
  - traffic conditions
  - night visits



## The Report Recipe - Introduction

- Why was the audit undertaken?
- Who were the RSA Team?
- Where and When was the audit undertaken?
- When was the site visited and by whom?
- What is the scheme being audited?
- What did you audit?
  - plans
  - other documents
  - departures from standard
  - remember to note revision numbers!

## The Report Recipe - Introduction

- Why was the audit undertaken?
- Who were the RSA Team?
- Where and When was the audit undertaken?
- When was the site visited and by whom?
- What is the scheme being audited?
- What did you audit?
- What standard was the audit undertaken to?

## The Report Recipe – The Design Standards Trap

The HD19 Escape:

*The terms of reference of the audit are as described in HD 19/03. The team has examined and reported only on the road safety implications of the scheme as presented and has not examined or verified the compliance of the designs to any other criteria.*

An Alternative:

*The scheme has been examined and this report compiled only with regard to the safety implications for road users of the scheme as presented. It has not been examined or verified for compliance with any other Standards or criteria. However, in order to clearly explain a safety problem or the recommendation to resolve a problem, the Audit Team may on occasion have referred to a design standard for information only. Any audit comments should not be construed as implying that a technical audit has been undertaken in any respect.*

## The Report Recipe - Introduction

- Why was the audit undertaken?
- Who were the RSA Team?
- Where and When was the audit undertaken?
- When was the site visited and by whom?
- What is the scheme being audited?
- What did you audit?
- What standard was the audit undertaken to?
- What couldn't you audit?
- What style of report are you using?

## The Report Recipe – Problems: The 4 C's

- Cross Referenced
  - accurate location description
  - problem location plan
  - photographs

## The Report Recipe – Problems: The 4 C's

- Cross Referenced
- Clear
- Concise

## The Report Recipe – Problems: The 4 C's – Concise?

*By default, drivers are likely use the nearside lane around the bend adjacent the slip road divide and also approach the junction in the nearside lane. They will then naturally move across the offside lane to turn right, and possibly conflict with any drivers already in that lane. However, during the site visit it was also observed that sometimes both lanes are used and on occasions two vehicles were side by side, and drivers in lane 1 then changing to lane 2. This has the potential for conflict and collisions. There is also the possibility that two drivers might attempt to turn right together through the junction which is not designed for this. This conflict is likely to increase as more traffic accesses the industrial estate as it further develops. There is now virtually no traffic turning left from the slip road direction towards the town centre. The only direction sign for the northern slip road from the A99 is for right turning traffic towards the industrial estate, hence there is no need for the two lanes into the junction. Two lanes create a very wide carriageway and do not encourage good driver discipline, and it allows overtaking on the approach to the junction and some drivers may attempt to gain advantage at the traffic signals by doing this. There is currently only one set of lane dedication arrows on the carriageway, and these are close to the stop line. This gives very late information to drivers not familiar with the area who might then make a rash manoeuvre and cause conflict with other drivers.*

## The Report Recipe – Problems: The 4 C's

- Cross Referenced
- Clear
- Concise
- Complete



## The Report Recipe – Problems: The 4 C's – Complete?

Summary: Loss of control

There is evidence of skidding at the top of the slip road.

## The Report Recipe – Problems: The 4 C's

- Cross Referenced
- Clear
- Concise
- Complete
  - WHY is it a problem?
  - WHAT are the safety consequences?

## The Report Recipe – Recommendations

- Clear, Concise, Comprehensible
  - avoid ‘consider’ or ‘monitor’
- Proportionate & Viable
  - don’t re-design the whole scheme!
  - don’t ask for the earth
- Not prescriptive
  - there may be a better solution than yours

## The Report Recipe – To Avoid Arguments

*Any recommendations included within this report should not be regarded as being prescriptive design solutions to the problems raised. They are intended only to indicate a proportionate and viable means of eliminating or mitigating the identified problem, in accordance with HD19/03, and in no way imply that a formal design process has been undertaken. There may be alternative methods of addressing a problem which would be equally acceptable in achieving the desired elimination or mitigation and these should be considered when responding to this report.*

## The Report Recipe – Recommendations

- Clear, Concise, Comprehensible
  - avoid ‘consider’ or ‘monitor’
- Proportionate & Viable
  - don’t re-design the whole scheme!
  - don’t ask for the earth
- Not prescriptive
  - there may be a better solution than yours
- Avoid alternatives



**Please make sure your reports are  
'Write First Time'**

**Thank you for not falling asleep!**