



# Driving Standards Policy

## 1. Scope

This policy dictates the standards of driving expected by staff employed by the British Transport Police. This policy applies whenever a member of staff is using a service issued vehicle.

## 2. Light/Siren fitted vehicles.

Vehicles fitted with visual and audible warning equipment may be driven by any officer who has been assessed by the BTP to be suitable to drive a service vehicle. Only Police Officers who have completed and passed a blue light driving course may operate a vehicle using blue lights and sirens. However, any member of staff may use blue and red lights, commonly known as “at scene mode” to aid in the direction of traffic, and to aid scene safety from a stationary position.

## 3. Armed Response Vehicles

Officers driving Armed Response Vehicles must possess an advanced driving ticket, as the vehicles used by CTSU are designated high power, or otherwise heavy to the point a standard driving ticket is not deemed appropriate.

## 4. Take home cars.

Senior officers may be issued with a non-liveried or light fitted service vehicle for transit to work commitments, and to and from work. These vehicles are registered under a company fleet insurance for the British Transport Police. The vehicle is the property of the BTP, however, responsibility for the safe use of the vehicle falls to the officer in possession of it. Any misuse or dangerous

use of the vehicle are grounds for the vehicle to be taken back, and permission to use it be revoked.

## **5. Pursuit policy**

No Driver, using a BTP issued vehicle shall at any time engage in any element of a fail to stop situation. In such instances where a vehicle fails to stop from a BTP vehicle, the local home force should be informed and the matter handed to them. Any breach of this policy is grounds for disciplinary action.

## **6. Enforcement**

It is the responsibility of BTP brass to ensure the standard of driving is sufficient and appropriate. Any breaches in this are grounds for disciplinary action.