



**AXIELPD**

Response Driver Training



# Response Driving



# Theory Introduction

## Covering Response Driving

You are shown to be in an emergency response when you are displaying your Emergency Lighting System and/or legal exemptions to facilitate your dedicated response time.

Whilst incidents may be lined with force policy and procedure, you are ultimately responsible for assessing the response that is required. You are to decide that the incident you are due to deal with, grants the use of legal exemptions to the Road Traffic Act, 1988. You may also be required to justify your use of your Emergency Lighting System at a later stage.

Remember:

**No emergency is so urgent to justify a collision.**

Collisions can be fatal. It is better to arrive late, than to not arrive at all.



# Granted Exemptions

Qualified response drivers, prescribed by the Department of Transport, have specific exemptions that they may follow. They are exempt to certain factors of the following:

- Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984.
- Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions, 2016.
- Motorways Traffic Regulations, 1982.

The factors that response drivers may be exempt to are the following:

- Observing Speed Limits.
- Observing Keep Left/Right Signs.
- Complying With Traffic Lights.



## Attitude & Attention

Driving a marked police vehicle will expose you to areas of high-risk activity, nearly always conducted in the view of the public. With this in mind, all driving activity must be carefully considered and managed effectively. You are to conduct yourself in a careful and professional manner whilst setting examples in your driving.

Any sighting of unjust, unsafe and inappropriate driving is likely to be reported. Once this is reported, the command team will take swift and effective action on the driver in question. Driving standards teams will conduct an investigation into matters of such.



## Use Of ELS

Emergency lights and sirens should only be activated when necessary and in accordance with laws and Metropolitan Police regulations. Officers must use them responsibly and consider the impact on other road users.

The safety of officers, the public, and property takes priority over the urgency of the response. Officers must weigh the risks and benefits of responding with emergency equipment activated and adjust their speed and manoeuvres accordingly and sensibly.



# Visibility

Factors such as weather can impact your visibility. Therefore you need to always be aware of your surroundings, and how your visibility can affect any further actions you may take. If your visibility is for whatever reason reduced, you need to make a decision if you deem it safe for yourself to continue driving as you are, or if reducing speed and slowing the response will aid you.

When responding, you should constantly be thinking about how many vehicles and pedestrians are around you. This should heavily affect your speed and maneuvers. An example of this, may be something such as a built up area during rush hour traffic. Your speed must decrease by a significant amount for the benefit of public safety, and your safety.



# Response Tactics





# Lane Closures

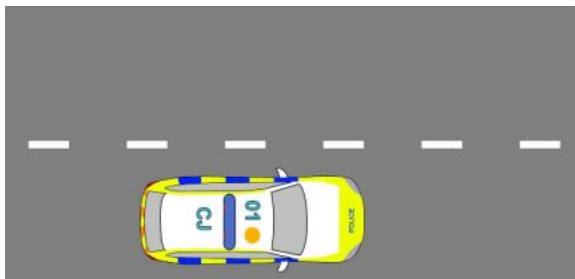
Roadways are often a high-risk environment. With this in mind, preparation and management of roadways will result in less of a risk for everyone involved.

When stopping on a carriageway, there are 2 main methods of positioning your vehicle:

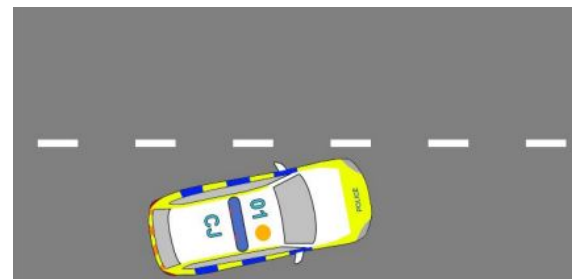
In-line: The police vehicle is parallel to the direction of travel.

Fend-off: The police vehicle is angled with the front end pointing towards the carriageway in the direction traffic should pass.

In-line



Fend-off





# Finalisation



## Useful Articles

Congratulations on completing your Response Driver Training theory document. We appreciate the time that you have taken to read through this. Connected below, are a few resourceful links to assist your knowledge on the use of blue lights. Give them a watch!

[Click here to watch the Blue Light Aware video.](#)

[Click here to watch the North Yorkshire Police respond to an incident.](#)

[Click here to watch an FRV respond to an incident.](#)



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