



Refuse Collection Vehicle Drivers Safe Working Practices

1. GENERAL

To comply with the existing legislation, codes of practice and your employer's requirements on health and safety at work you must:-

- 1.1. Take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and your crew who may be affected by your acts or omissions.
- 1.2. Wear protective gloves and overalls provided at all times whilst at work.
- 1.3. Not interfere with or misuse anything provided in the interest of health and safety or welfare.
- 1.4. Take care that the public are not exposed to hazards.

2. H.G.V. DRIVERS

- 2.1. Do not drive a vehicle unless you are over 17 years of age, hold a current driving licence and are authorised and competent to drive a Heavy Goods Vehicle.
- 2.2. Before starting work ensure that the vehicle is roadworthy. The daily checks to be carried out shall include brakes, tyres, oil, emergency stops to packing gear and warning horn. Unroadworthy vehicles must not be used. Report defects to your immediate supervisor and make an appropriate entry in the Vehicle/Plant defects book.
- 2.3. Carry out prescribed weekly maintenance routines on the vehicle in your charge.
- 2.4. In the case of refuse vehicles fitted with B.R.C. lifting gear, check that the safe working loads (S.W.L.) is clearly marked on it, and ensure that you do not exceed it.
- 2.5. Unauthorised passengers and any animals must not be carried on Council vehicles.
- 2.6. Do not tow unless your vehicle is licensed for this purpose and is fitted with an authorised towing hitch.

3. HAZARDS FOR DRIVER AND CREW

- 3.1. The vehicle is not to be left when the packing gear is rotating.

- 3.2. The vehicle is not to be driven when the packing gear is rotating.
- 3.3. The vehicle must always be guided back when reversing the vehicle and the warning horn must be operated.
- 3.4. The Crew must be clear of the packing gear before operation.
- 3.5. A clear system of signals must be established between yourself and the crew – one to stop, two to operate.
- 3.6. Before proceeding to lift a B.R.C. bin ensure that it is securely held in position and then stand clear when raising and lower the bin.
- 3.7. Do not drive a vehicle with crew members on the rear steps.
- 3.8. Always prop all the rear of a vehicle before inspecting or working under it.
- 3.9. If work has to be carried out underneath your vehicle, ensure that it is chocked and otherwise retained to prevent movement. Do not work under vehicle on soft ground.
- 3.10. Vehicles must always be chocked when standing on an incline with driver away from vehicle.
- 3.11. If an accident occurs ensure that an Accident Form is completed and the details entered on the Accident Form.