



West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Service

Oakroyd Hall, Bradford Road, Birkenshaw,
West Yorkshire, BD11 2DY
Tel: 01274 682311 Fax: 01274 651315

OFFICIAL

FAO: Wayne Routledge
Willmott Dixon

Our Ref: FSHQ Condition No 28

Your Ref:

12 March 2024

Dear Wayne

FSHQ Planning Condition No 28

I am writing to you in response to your email dated the 11th March 2024 in reference to planning condition 28 which states:

Prior to commencement of the use of the Fire Station hereby approved, details of the policy relating to the use of sirens, horns or any other audible warning system on Fire Appliances/Vehicles accessing or egressing from the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The policy shall include the geographical range to which the policy applies, the circumstances under which sirens might be used and shall highlight measures to limit adverse noise impacts to residential properties on Whitehall Road West. The approved policy will be implemented and maintained throughout the operational lifetime of the Fire Station.

I have discussed this with our subject matter experts in our operational driver training team who have provided the following information:

Emergency vehicles will only leave the Fire Station with audible warnings such as sirens when responding to incidents and where a danger presents itself. The likelihood of this would be where there is a build-up of traffic at peak times along Whitehall Road.

West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service emergency response driving is bound by the following regulations.

Use of Audible and Visual warning Devices (construction and use) Regulations 1986

Regulation 37(5) (a) Permits vehicles used for Fire and Rescue, Ambulance or Police purposes to be fitted with a gong, siren, or two - tone horn. Continuous use may be justified in heavy traffic conditions; otherwise, it may be necessary to use them only when other road users need to be warned of the presence of the vehicle.

Regulation 99(5) (a) Prohibits the use of audible warning instruments e.g. (horns, gongs, bells, sirens or two - tone horns) on a vehicle which is stationary on a road at any time, other than at times of danger due to another moving vehicle on or near the road, or on a vehicle in motion on a restricted road between 23.30 hours and 07.00 hours the following morning except for a vehicle which is being used for one of the relevant purposes specified in regulation 37 (5) and it is necessary or desirable to do so either to indicate to other road users of the presence of the vehicle on the road.

The use of audible warning devices is not permitted where the vehicle is stationary, or when it is moving on a road between 2330 and 0700hrs.

However, vehicles are not prevented from using the above when it is necessary or desirable to do so either to indicate to other road users the urgency for which the vehicle is being used or to warn other road users of the presence of the vehicle on the road.

Discretion should be applied in the use of such devices with regard to the time of day or night and other road users. Sirens and two - tone horns must not be operated inside the appliance room, or in the vicinity of personnel, as this could lead to hearing damage to nearby persons.

Blue and Red Lights Policy – Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations 1989

Permit emergency vehicles the use of blue and red lights at the scene of emergency, or when it is necessary or desirable either to indicate to persons using the road the urgency for which the vehicle is being used, or to warn people of the presence of the vehicle or a hazard on the road.

Anthony Devine

Station Manager

01274 682311 (ex 670386)

Anthony.Devine@westyorksfire.gov.uk