

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document applies to the driving of Balfour Beatty vehicles on public roads, and is in addition to legal minimum standards. It refers, in a discretionary manner, principally to “professional drivers” i.e. people whose jobs involve a large proportion of driving duties, but it is mandatory for drivers who place numbers of operatives, or the public at risk, such as crew bus drivers.
- 1.2 Professional drivers are at almost as much risk as HGV drivers of causing injury to themselves and others in the event of a sudden collapse or other disability. The standards are therefore written to the same level, as recommended by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency, although with a little more discretion available.
- 1.3 Departmental Heads must ensure that any professional drivers under their control are likely to meet these standards. Any queries should be directed to the Occupational Health Provider via the Personnel Department.
- 1.4 Departmental Heads must assess individuals (professional drivers) who drive company cars against these standards. If they do not meet them, their fitness must be discussed with the Occupational Health Provider via the Personnel Department.

A questionnaire is available to assist with this process (See Appendix HS/12/07/A6).

2 Medical Conditions

- 2.1 Where there is a history of angina or heart attacks, or after heart surgery, the case will be referred to the Occupational Health Provider via the Personnel Department. This is particularly important on returning to work after the condition has been investigated.
- 2.2 High blood pressure, which has been fully treated, should not be a problem if the individual still holds a normal full driving licence.
- 2.3 Circulation disorders severe enough to lead to sickness absence would normally be a bar to professional driving, individual cases should be referred to the Personnel Department.

3 Neurological Conditions

- 3.1 An individual with a history of stroke must not drive professionally.
- 3.2 Any condition which affects coordination (e.g. multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease) is a bar to professional driving.

4 Mental Disorders

- 4.1 After any history of psychiatric problems severe enough to warrant medical examination, the case must be referred to the Occupational Health Provider via the Personnel Department.

- 4.2 Any driver who has had an alcohol problem must not drive professionally, and must not drive Company vehicles until there is clear evidence of successful treatment.

5 Other Conditions

- 5.1 Diabetes treated by tablets or injection is normally a bar to professional driving, individual cases should be referred to the Personnel Department.
- 5.2 A history of any type of epilepsy since the age of 5 is normally a bar to professional driving, individual cases should be referred to the Personnel Department
- 5.3 After any history of a head injury severe enough to require admission to hospital, the individual must be stopped from driving and the case referred to the Occupational Health Provider via the Personnel Department.

6 Vision

- 6.1 Professional drivers should be able to pass the number plate test wearing glasses or contact lenses, using only the better eye. This means that the individual must be able to read a clean number plate from 25 yards. If this is failed, then an optician's report must be obtained and the individual must have vision of 6/9 in the better eye and 6/12 in the poorer eye.
- 6.2 Professional drivers must have a full field of vision in both eyes, and minimum vision in both eyes such that they can read the top line of an optician's chart (6/60) without glasses.
- 6.3 After any form of eye surgery, the individual must be stopped from driving and the case referred to the Occupational Health Provider via the Personnel Department.