



<u>Policy Title</u>	Marking of Police Vehicles
<u>CCMT Sponsor</u>	ACC Local Policing
<u>Department/Area</u>	Transport
<u>Section/Sector</u>	Chiltern Transport Consortium

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NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**1.0 Rationale**

- 1.1 The primary reason for the marking of police vehicles is to act both as a deterrent to wrong-doers, supporting visible police present on the roads and help improve the safety for police and other road users ensuring the safety of officers engaged on mobile patrol duties. This is of particular relevance to officers who are likely to become involved in response, pursuits or who are required to deal with incidents on carriageways. In addition to improving the Conspicuity of police vehicles used for protection of scenes reduces the overall risk to all officers and other road users.
- 1.2 All police fleet vehicles provided by Chiltern Transport Consortium member Forces will adopt the ACPO national standards for the marking of police vehicles known as Full Battenburg Livery and Half Battenburg Livery.
- 1.3 The ACPO Full and Half Battenburg vehicle marking scheme was developed as a national standard by the Home Office Police Scientific Development Branch and signed off by ACPO as the national standard in 1998 with a small revision in 2004, the main objectives for the national vehicle marking standards were;
 - Enhance officer and public safety by reducing the likelihood of road accidents where Conspicuity of the police vehicle is a factor;
 - Be recognisable as a police vehicle up to a distance of 500 metres in normal daylight;
 - Assist in high visibility policing so as to reassure the public and enhance the potential deterrent benefits of proactive traffic patrol activity;
 - Be readily identifiable nationally as a police vehicle, but retain the ability to associate force corporate logos with it;
 - Capitalise on the latest materials and systems available and seek to achieve a cost-neutral option when compared with the average costs of current liveries; and be acceptable to at least 75% of the staff using it.

2.0 Intention

- 3 The intention of this policy is to;
 - Clearly identify the three standard categories of vehicle markings that will apply to all vehicles used by the Forces in the consortium arrangements;

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- Fully Battenburg – Roads Policing & Armed Response Vehicles
 - Half Battenburg – BCU & All Other Response Vehicles
 - Corporately Marked Vehicles – PCSO & Sponsored Vehicles
- To support the national standard ACPO Battenburg guidance and objectives.

3.0 General Principles

The general principles of this policy is to apply the agreed national and local standard vehicle markings to all vehicles used by the consortium Forces to provide a corporate highly visible presence that provides maximum Conspicuity where needed to promote safety and reduce the fear of crime.

3.1 Fully Battenburg – Roads Policing & Armed Response Vehicles

- 3.1.1 All Roads Policing & Armed Response vehicles, will have the following markings/livery:



The bonnet of all vehicles will display the force crest along with the force web site address as appropriate. On some vehicles which are fitted with visual recording equipment such as TSS Autovision these vehicles will also display the words 'VIDEO EQUIPPED' on the bonnet.

The two sides of the vehicle will be made up of Yellow and Blue blocks with the side outline completed by white material to the front vehicle A pillars where appropriate.

The rear of the vehicle will be fitted with a chevron pattern and the roof will in all cases show the force identifier along with the vehicle fleet number.

(The above livery represents the standard Home Office Police Scientific Development Branch & ACPO recommended full Battenburg livery PSDB Publication Number 10/04).

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3.2 Half Battenburg – BCU & All Other Response Vehicles

3.2.1 All, BCU & All Other Response Vehicles will have the following markings/livery:



The bonnet of all vehicles will display the force crest along with the force web site address as appropriate.

The two upper sides of the vehicle will be made up of Yellow and Blue blocks with the side outline completed by white material to the front vehicle A pillars where appropriate. The bottom half of the doors on each side will have the word 'POLICE' in Blue lettering.

The rear of the vehicle will be fitted with a chevron pattern and the roof will in all cases show the force identifier along with the vehicle fleet number.

(The above livery represents the standard Home Office Police Scientific Development Branch & ACPO recommended Half Battenburg livery PSDB Publication Number 10/04).

3.3 Other Corporately Marked Vehicles – PCSO & Sponsored Vehicles

3.3.1 All other police vehicles will permanently display the following marking on either side of the vehicle:



Other Appropriate wording may accompany the corporate marking if relevant e.g. 'Operational Radio Communications Department', 'Neighbourhood Policing' etc.

In the case of cars such as sponsored cars, loaned cars etc. they will be corporately marked as above in all cases. The sponsor name and or logo can be displayed on the vehicle along with appropriate wording such as "John Smith Ltd Supporting Thames Valley Police" but the company wording must be smaller than TVP and no non TVP contact telephone number or company web address can be displayed on a vehicle.

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3.3.2 While the intention of this policy is to corporately identify as many police vehicles as possible, the following categories of vehicle will remain unmarked:

- a) Vehicles that are routinely used for covert operations
- b) Area CID vehicles
- c) Vehicles used by HQ Crime Support Department
- d) Vehicles which are regularly used out of the Force area
- e) Vehicles which, through operational necessity are kept at officers' home addresses
- f) Vehicles which are not used on public roads
- g) Vehicles deemed by the Transport Department as inappropriate for marking due to the base colour of the vehicle not being suitable

3.4 Vehicles equipped with video, digital image recording equipment or sound recording devices

3.4.1 Any police vehicle equipped with video or digital image recording (used for the purposes of crime prevention and detection or prosecution/apprehension of offenders) for overt purposes must be marked to convey this fact.

3.4.2 Furthermore, any police vehicle equipped with any sound recording devices for overt purposes must display a suitable sign (e.g. "Conversations may be recorded") inside the vehicle where any passenger will see it.

4.0 Guidance, Procedures & Tactics

BCU/OCU Commanders and Department Heads have been consulted in relation to this policy and vehicles subject of exemptions to marking have been identified. The Force Transport Department will be responsible for marking vehicles deemed suitable and, as vehicles are replaced they will be marked on a 'like for like' basis unless authorised in writing by the Assistant Chief Constable, Territorial Policing.

4.1 Remit to deliver the policy

Transport is responsible for application, replacement, maintenance and delivery of the vehicle marking policy through the TVP workshops.

5.0 Challenges & Representations

5.1 Challenges/representations in respect of decisions made in applying this policy should be addressed to:

Assistant Chief Constable
Local Policing

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Thames Valley Police HQ
Oxford Road
Kidlington
Oxon.
OX5 2NX

6.0 Communication

6.1 Links to Police National Legal Database Other

- All policies will be published on the Policy Management Unit Intranet site.
- This Policy will be published on the Transport Intranet Site.
- New and reviewed policies will be promoted in Managers' Briefing.

6.2 Implementation Strategy

The Vehicle Marking Policy will be published on the following sites:

- TVP Force Policy Site
- Transport Intranet Site
- New Policy launch in Weekly Orders
- Circulated via email to all Transport Staff Involved in the implementation and management of the policy.

The Transport Department will implement the policy on all new vehicles being commissioned and re-marked through the in-house workshops in TVP. No other source for the fitting of vehicle markings to TVP vehicles will be allowed.

7.0 Compliance and Certification

7.1 Human Rights Certification

This policy has been drafted and audited in accordance with the Human Rights Act 1998 and the principles underpinning them. It is considered to have no potential for engaging any of the Articles of the Convention.

This policy does not have the potential for engaging the Articles of the European Convention on Human Rights, however under Article 2, the organisation does have a positive obligation to take preventative measures to protect an individual whose life is at risk from the criminal acts or omissions of others.

Audited by: Keron Harris
Audited on: 26 February 2003

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(i) Legal Basis

Although there is no specific legal basis for this policy, it is founded on the National PSDB/ACPO recommendations.

(ii) Human Rights Articles Engaged

This policy does not have the potential for engaging the Articles of the European Convention on Human Rights, however under Article 2, the organisation does have a positive obligation to take preventative measures to protect an individual whose life is at risk from the criminal acts or omissions of others.

(iii) Prohibition of Discrimination

This policy does not have the potential to discriminate any groups of people or third parties.

7.2 Diversity Impact Assessment

A diversity impact assessment has been completed for this policy confirming the policy has no negative effects on any particular groups.

7.3 Diversity (Human Resources)

In the application of this policy, the Force will not discriminate against any persons regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, race or ethnic origin, religion, age or disability.

7.4 Management of Police Information (MoPI) Compliance

This policy has no impact on the Management of Police Information (MoPI)

7.5 Community Engagement Strategy and Standards

This policy does not affect Community Engagement Strategy or Standards.

7.6 Data Protection

There are no Data Protection issues in respect of this policy and nothing to prevent it being made available to the public.

7.7 Freedom of Information Act

This policy is suitable to be made available to the public.

7.8 Protective Markings

There are no Data Protection issues in respect of this policy and nothing to prevent it being made available to the public.

7.9 Health & Safety at Work

Legislation that applies to vehicle livery schemes includes the Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations, 1989 ('the RVLR'), which restricts the colour, size and positioning of reflective materials to the rear and sides of vehicles. Regulations relating to the rear of vehicles are clear, whilst those relating to the sides are somewhat more vague.

Advice from the Department for transport (Working Group Report for ACPO Traffic, 1997) indicated that amendments to the RVLR would be possible, but only with ministerial support. Basically, the RVLR prohibits the fitment of any other than red retro-reflectors to the rear of vehicles, except in a few very specific instances. Clearly this has an impact on the police (and other Emergency Services) in that the liveries they employ for Health and Safety reasons and to promote public awareness demand fluorescent yellow-green and red retro-reflectors to the rear. Temporary exemptions to the RVLR are in place that permit the use of these markings.

Lettering used for the word "POLICE" to the sides – in the case of half Battenburg livery – and to the rear of police vehicles should be in block capitals and in a typeface similar to that applied to British road signs as specified in The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions, 2002 (refer specifically to Schedule 13, Parts I and II).

This policy has also been considered against the relevant Health & Safety Act and Regulations and as such it cuts across a number of generic TVP risk assessments relating to general driving, response driving, pursuing, actions on the highway, safer roads etc. these are all available on the TVP Health & Safety Intranet site.

8.0 Monitoring and Review

A full review will be carried out by the policy author annually in January of each year and will examine:

- Changes in any legislation
- Court rulings – Domestic, European and Human Rights
- Examples of good practice from other Forces or other organisations
- Changes in Home Office Circulars
- Developments with ACPO Policy Unit
- Police Scientific Development Branch Circulars
- Changes in Force polices or corporate image
- Representations made by individuals and relevant organisations